



THE DUKE



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**THE HONOURABLE HARJIT SINGH SAJJAN,
PC, OMM, MSM, CD, MP
MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE**

The Honourable Harjit Singh Sajjan, late of The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own), was elected to Parliament as the Member for Vancouver South on 19 October 2015 and was appointed Minister of National Defence by the Prime Minister, The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, on 4 November 2015.

The Minister joined the Regiment as a Trooper in 1989 and completed his service upon his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and upon his appointment as the Commanding Officer for the period 2012 to 2014. Prior to commanding the Regiment, Minister Sajjan served on an operational tour in Bosnia-Herzegovina with the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) and three operational tours in Afghanistan. In addition, Minister Sajjan served as an Aide-de-Camp to the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia and served eleven years as a police officer with the Vancouver Police Department.

On behalf of the entire Regimental Family, our friends and supporters, it is my very great honour and privilege to congratulate Lieutenant Colonel (Retired), The Honourable Harjit Singh Sajjan, on his election victory and his appointment as Minister of National Defence and to thank him for his excellent service and commitment to the Regiment, the Regimental Family and to our country. We all know that our very great friend of the Canadian Armed Forces will continue to maintain his customary high level of service and dedication during his appointment as Minister.

Up the Dukes!

Ted Hawthorne, Honorary Colonel,
The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own)

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY THE CENOTAPH AT VICTORY SQUARE – 2015



Photos courtesy of John Karmazinuk

It was a beautiful sunny day in Vancouver at the annual ceremony of remembrance at the Cenotaph in Victory Square. Many thanks to our Right Marker, former RSM, CWO (R) Chris Johnson and the very strong contingent of members who joined us on parade, including our very own mounted unit consisting of Roi Hirtle on his mobility scooter. Our special thanks to The BC Regiment (DCO) Irish Pipes & Drums for leading the Regimental Association on parade. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne had the honour of leading the Regimental Association and President Bob Remple assisted as 2I/C. Vice President Gayle Hawthorne and SSM (R) Vern Salisbury, MM, laid the wreath at the Cenotaph on behalf of the Regimental Association. The Regiment, led by the Brass Band, looked great and in fine form on this great day of remembrance.



Upon the Regiment's return to The Drill Hall, the parade was dismissed and assembled around the Table of Remembrance where President Bob Remple delivered the traditional toast to the Fallen and Colonel Hawthorne gave the toast to the Regiment. The CO, Major Douglas Evans, and the RSM, CWO Huf Mullick addressed the members of the Regiment, families and friends. The Table of Remembrance was a focal point for the concluding formalities on Remembrance Day which included an eloquent address and recitation of In Flanders Fields by Cpl James Alexander. Congratulations to the Regiment, the Regimental Association, the Brass Band, the BCR Pipes & Drums, and the Regimental Family for a very fine Remembrance Day Parade! Well done indeed!

Many family and friends attended the post parade activities on the drill square and in all three messes. Dr. Kuljit Sajjan visited us with her two children, to the great delight of all of us. Understandably, the past CO, LCol (R) Harjit Sajjan, newly elected MP and newly appointed Minister of National Defence, was unable to attend due to his attendance at the National War Memorial in Ottawa. A beautiful arrangement of flowers was presented to Kuljit by the Commanding Officer. Also the Honourable Suzanne Anton, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of BC paid us an unexpected visit and was greeted by Major Evans and Colonel Hawthorne.



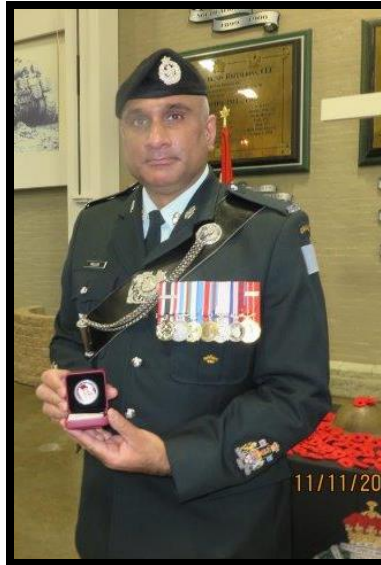
Photo courtesy of John Karmazinuk

Chili and sandwiches were then served to all participants compliments of all messes, the Regimental Association and both BCR Bands. All beverages for the toasts were provided compliments of the Regimental Association. It was truly a family affair and certainly makes you proud to be a Duke!

Next stop...the Junior Ranks Mess led by President Bob Remple who rang the bell and complimented our soldiers for the great parade and thanked them all for their service. Colonel Hawthorne was also in attendance and said a few congratulatory words.

“At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them”.





BCR ANNOUNCEMENT PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER – ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE (BC/YUKON)

By: Colonel Bryan H. Gagne, CD

In a recent ceremony held in Vancouver, Lieutenant-Colonel (Ret'd) Romano Acconci was appointed the Provincial Commissioner, St. John Ambulance Brigade for British Columbia and the Yukon.



Provincial Commissioner R.O. Acconci, CD



Provincial Commissioner Acconci will serve a tenure of three years and is now responsible for all aspects of Brigade activities including training and retention, the all-important provision of medical first response at community events, as well as serving as a member of the provincial committee for its own nationally recognised Honours and Awards - Order of St John.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade is a uniformed and disciplined service which consists of over 1600 personnel made up of adult volunteers and Cadets in BC and the Yukon. Brigade members support countless events and activities throughout the region and are a nationally recognized volunteer organization.

Commissioner Acconci plans on developing leadership, succession planning and strengthening the staff system within the Brigade. He is extremely proud of his new organization and was recently quoted as saying: "My biggest and most pleasant surprise was meeting so many genuinely nice people in the Brigade whose sole purpose is to provide excellent pre-hospital care".

A prominent former BCR Commanding Officer and Deputy Commander of the 39th Canadian Brigade Group, Commissioner Acconci served in the Regiment from 1978 to 2002 and afterwards deployed on UN missions to the Congo 2002/03 and the Sudan 2006/07. He also commanded 12 Service Battalion from 2005 to 2010. During his tenure as CO/BCR, Commissioner Acconci was instrumental in both the Regimental amalgamation process with the representatives of the Irish Fusiliers of Canada (The Vancouver Regiment) and with the celebratory activities surrounding the Drill Hall Centennial. He is currently the Chair for the CO's sub-committee on the replacement of our Regimental Guidon.

HCOL HAWTHORNE IS NOW A CONFIRMED CARING CANADIAN

By: HCol Bill Diamond, 39 CER

It is with great pleasure that we announce that HCol Hawthorne has been awarded the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award. The formal presentation will take place in the coming months.

The Governor General's web site describes the award as follows:

Created in 1995 and the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award recognizes individuals who volunteer their time to help others and to build a smarter and more caring nation. The award also highlights the fine example set by these volunteers, whose compassion and engagement are so much a part of our Canadian character. It allows us to thank them for their contributions and for the positive impact they have had on the lives of others.

The description on the lapel pin that each recipient receives is described as:

The award's emblem represents Canadians who selflessly give of their time and energy to others. The maple leaf symbolizes the people of Canada and their spirit; the heart depicts the open-heartedness of volunteers; and the outstretched hand portrays boundless generosity. The helping hand and heart support the maple leaf. The blue and gold colours, which appear on the viceregal flag, indicate the award's connection with the governor general.

We are most pleased to see the Honorary Colonel recognized for all the great work he does. He works tirelessly for the Regiment and Regimental Family as we all know, but there are many other organizations that benefit from his endless energy and efforts. I am confident that they all join us in congratulating HCol Hawthorne.

The following is the bio for HCol Hawthorne:

Edwin (Ted) A. Hawthorne

Ted was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and moved to Burnaby, British Columbia in 1954. He received his Juris Doctor from UBC and has been a partner in the law firm of Hawthorne, Piggott & Company since 1973.

He has been actively involved in numerous aspects of The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) for many years; initially serving in the Cadet Corps, joining the Regiment in 1961 and participating in all facets of the Regimental Family.

Ted is Chairman Emeritus of Columbus Long Term Care Society with over 30 years of service and also serves as a director or trustee of many other non-profit charitable organizations, including the Veterans' Care Facility, George Derby Care Society, Chacko & Lize Simon Scholarship Trust, The BC Regiment (DCO) Charitable Trust, Honorary Solicitor and past director of The Army Cadet League of Canada (BC Branch) and Past Chairman of the 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) Cadet Corps Executive Committee of the Sponsoring Committee.

He is a member of the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society, a member and past director and officer of the BC Veterans Commemorative Association, the prime mover in the establishment of the highly successful veterans' licence plate program and Veterans Affairs Canada "Year of the Veteran" program in 2005, the secretary of the Honorary Officers Association of BC, Royal United Services Institute-Vancouver, Life Member of The Royal Canadian Armoured Corps Association, BC Director of the Canadian Forces Liaison Council, Past President of The BC Regiment (DCO) Association, member and past director and officer of The BC Regiment (DCO) Museum Society and Royal City Youth Ballet Company Society, Chairman of the Commanding Officer's Committee, Governor and Past Chairman of The BC Regiment (DCO) Regimental Trust, Counsel Emeritus of Honour House Society and past Trustee of the Burnaby Art Gallery. Ted is also Special Counsel to the Vancouver Artillery Association, 15th Field Artillery Regimental Society, 15th Field Museum and Archives and Royal United Services Institute - Vancouver.

Ted has led two BC Regiment (DCO) Association Veterans' Battlefield Tours, including the 2007 Vimy Memorial Re-dedication and the 2008 BC Regiment (DCO) European Battlefield Tour where ten Regimental remembrance ceremonies were conducted and seven commemorative plaques dedicated. In addition, Ted represented the Regimental Association as President in the Regiment's European Battlefield Studies Tour in 2012 and as Honorary Colonel in the Regiment's European Battlefield Studies Tour in 2015. Ted was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in March 2012 in recognition of his contributions to Canada. In addition, Ted was appointed Honorary Colonel of The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) by the Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Peter MacKay, upon recommendation of the Chief of Defence Staff on 2 November 2012. Ted was awarded the Commanding Officer's Commendation on 11 December 2013. In 2015, Ted was awarded The Army Cadet League of Canada Volunteer Service Medal for "continuous and meritorious service".

Professionally, Ted is a member of the Law Society of British Columbia.

MONTHLY CURRY LUNCHEON – 24 September 2015

By: Capt Adam McLeod – PMC, Officers' Mess

Taking a break from a rainy Vancouver day, guests enjoyed a delicious "Taste of India" lunch, prepared by the always delicious Two Peas in a Pod Catering, and hosted by the BCR (DCO) Officers' Mess. Before feasting, the CO of the BCR (DCO), Maj Doug Evans, thanked our guests for coming, including Col Bryan Gagne, senior serving Duke, LCol Paul Ursich, CO of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, and Maj Jim Barrett, CO of the 2290 RCACC. The CO also gave a quick update on the Regiment, and reminded everyone of the Perpetuated Battalions parade this Saturday, the CO's Parade/Regimental Birthday on Oct 14th and the Association Remembrance and Birthday Dinner on Nov 10th. Everyone enjoyed the fantastic meal, the phenomenal comradery, and we look forward to hosting it again next month!

Curry Luncheons are open to all, and Curry Luncheon's this year will be held on the dates below:

Oct 29th, 2015

Nov 26th, 2015

Dec – Stood Down for Holidays!

Jan 28th, 2016

Feb 25th, 2016

Mar 31st, 2016

Apr 28th, 2016

May 26th, 2016

Many thanks to everyone who attended this month's Curry Luncheon!

PERPETUATED BATTALIONS CEREMONY – 26 September 2015

On Saturday, September 26, 2015 at 1000 the BC Regiment [DCO] Association conducted the Annual Memorial Service for those First World War perpetuated battalions, the 7th, 29th and 102nd. The service was held at the 29th Battalion cairn in Hastings Park also known as the PNE Grounds. There was representation from the Regiment, the Regimental Association, former Irish Fusiliers, cadets, parents and other guests. Dress for the serving members, band, and cadets was uniform with medals while former Fusiliers and Association members was blazer, beret or caubeen and medals.

The day started off overcast, then came the rain and it looked like the service would be a wet event. Then Padre Bayley arrived and along with him came the sun. We were thankful to see both the Padre and the sun.

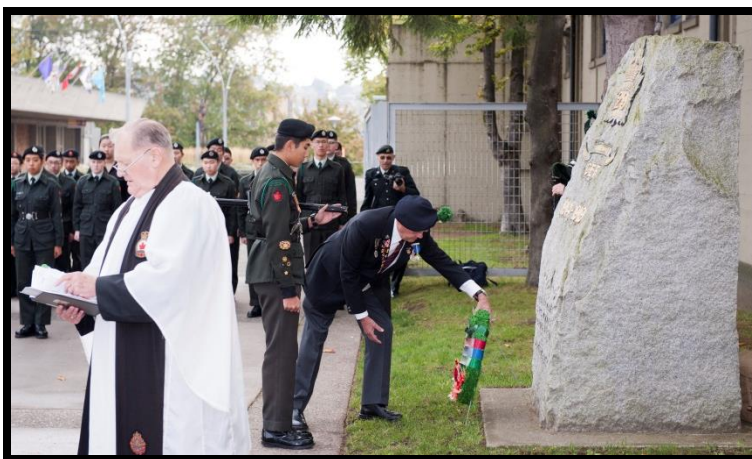


Major Barrett was the Parade Marshall and Master of Ceremonies and on schedule at 10:05 am, he called on the cadets. There were a total of 93 cadets from 2290 and 2381 that were led by the BC Regiment Irish Pipes and Drums. The Pipe Band and cadets formed up alongside the members of the Association and Regiment to form a halo square in front of the cairn.



Major Barrett started the service with a brief history of the 7th, 29th and 102nd Battalions and then mentioned the Battalions that went overseas and were disbanded to reinforce these three battalions.

The honour of laying the wreath was given to Jim Britt and the RSM of the 2290 Cadet Corps.



At 10:30 am the parade was dismissed, pictures were taken with the cairn and then it was off to the lobby of the Coliseum to enjoy the refreshments courtesy of the Association.

Many thanks to the following people for their efforts in making this event a success. Major Barrett for being the OPI, Master of Ceremonies and Parade Marshal, Gayle Hawthorne for liaising with the PNE and people handling the refreshments, Chris Hoskins for arranging and picking up the sandwiches, cakes and water, Calvin Lo (2381 parent) for the photos, Padre Bayley for his ongoing support and attendance at this service as well as Louise Prouse and members of the parent committee for ensuring the food was set out and cleaned up after, Bugler Chris Ahren and the Pipe Band.

Special mention is also required for Starbucks on Lonsdale and 13th in North Vancouver for graciously donating the coffee, cream, sugar and cups - this is greatly appreciated and was enjoyed by many - especially with the cold and rain at the start of the day.



WAIT FOR ME DADDY REDUX – 3 October 2015

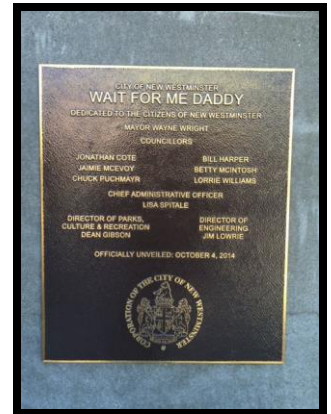
Submitted by: Major Don Bentley

On October 3, to celebrate the one year anniversary of the unveiling of the "Wait For Me Daddy" memorial, the City of New Westminster held a "Wait For Me Daddy Redux". The redux included a re-dedication of the memorial along with performances at the adjacent Anvil Centre of artistic works inspired by the "Wait For Me Daddy" photo. These performances included an orchestral piece written by New Westminster composer Brian Garbet and a performance by grade 4/5 students from Lord Tweedsmuir School entitled "On Freedom and Discipline. Say What?".



Special guest of honour was "Whitey" Bernard, the boy seen running towards his father's outstretched hand in the iconic photo taken on October 1, 1940.

The 39 CBG Commander's Conference (held the same day as the redux) precluded the CO & RSM's attendance; however the Regiment was represented by Honorary LCol Scott Shepherd, and the Regimental 2IC Maj Don Bentley, seen pictured here with the Honorary Col of the RWR, Karen Baker-MacGroddy and "Whitey" Bernard.



12 OCTOBER 1883



**THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT
(DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN)**



THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION

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12 October 2015

Members of the Regimental Association and the Regimental Family:

Dear friends:

Re: Happy Birthday BCR!

Today we celebrate the 132nd anniversary of the formation of our Regiment. We remember those many years of sacrifice, service and commitment by our members, both past and present.

I am certain that you share with me the very great pride of membership in our Regimental Family and also share in our stated purpose to support our veterans, the serving members of the Regiment, and our five cadet corps.

In order to remember and commemorate the significant role played by the Regiment in the history of our country, you are invited to attend a birthday celebration and the official cake cutting at the Drill Hall on Wednesday evening, 14 October 2015.

So happy 132nd to the Regiment and to its Citizen Soldiers in the third century of service to our country!

All the very best and I look forward to seeing you on October 14th.

Up the Dukes!

Sincerely yours,

R. A. (Bob) Remple, President

CO'S PARADE – 14 October 2015 HAPPY BIRTHDAY BCRs

The CO's Parade held on 14 October 2015 was a full evening with a very good turnout of members on parade and numerous members of the Regimental Association in attendance, including President "Recce Bob" Remple and Honorary Colonel 39 CER Bill Diamond. The Regiment looked great!

The Commanding Officer, Major Douglas Evans, emphasized the high tempo of Regimental activity with the successful exercises to date and those to follow, i.e. one exercise per month. The CO also emphasized the great importance of individual priorities (attendance on exercises and courses).

Brief highlights of the evening included the following:

1. **New Recruit:** The CO welcomed and presented one new member of the Regiment (previously sworn in), namely Private Sirica. The CO emphasized the importance of the new role in representing the Regiment as a CAF member.

2. **Presentations, Honours and Awards:**

Presentation of Armd Cap Badge:

Pte Albersteine
Pte Blouin (Not Present)

Pte Nam
Pte Wilson

Promotions:

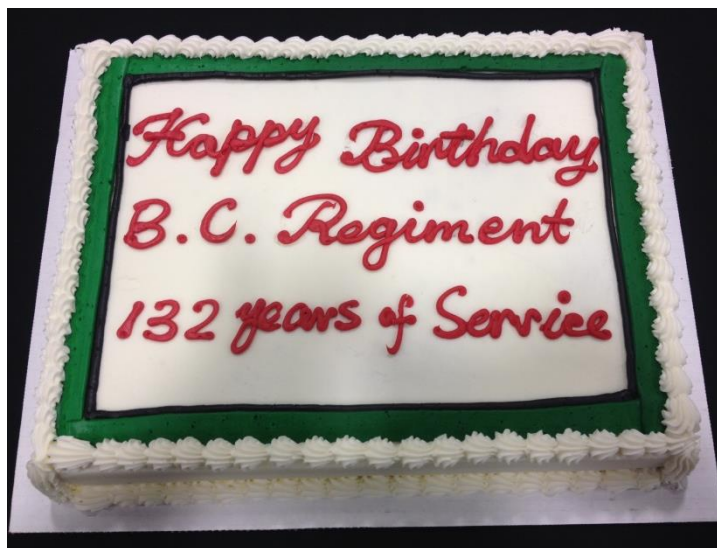
Tpr Bajwa
Tpr Fan
Tpr Li
Tpr Lum
Cpl Corcoran
Sgt Boxall

Tpr Pereyaslavsky
Tpr Redrov
Tpr Regala
Tpr Swanson
Cpl Edwards

3. **The "Last Word":** Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne congratulated the members for a fine turnout and for their service. Colonel Hawthorne also congratulated the many members who were recognized or promoted and also reported on the status of the Regimental Association's very successful Bursary Program. In conclusion, Colonel Hawthorne acknowledged the great work of the Regimental Association and the Charitable Trust.

4. **Happy Birthday BCRs:** The RSM, MWO Huf Mullick, led the Regiment in a memorable rendition of "Happy Birthday" which was followed by the official cake cutting with sabre by Cpl Palmer while Bugle Major (Retired) John More played the introduction. Everyone enjoyed a piece of cake (three large slab cakes in BCR colours proudly displaying 132 years of service which were provided by the Regimental Association).





Congratulations one and all on another exceptional evening to remember.

Up the Dukes

MAJ. (RTD) DAN THOMAS



Maj. Dan Thomas the Senior Public Affairs Officer at 3rd Canadian Div. Joint Task Force West retired at the end of September. Prior to his last posting Dan held positions at National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa.

Before Dan was just another pretty faced talking head (Paf O) he was a BCR. Dan was a keen young Troop Leader with liking for all things Buck. That would be Buck knives, Buck hatchets, Buck binocular harnesses, etcetera. He was damn handy to have as a hootch buddy as he could clear a sleeping space and supply all the camo and ridge poles you needed in minutes.

In 1987 Dan along with W.O. Chris Mullins (now Lt. Colonel) were tasked with creating a Troop to attend the Merritt Competition in Wainwright Alberta against Reserve and Regular force Troops. The following is Chris' tale:

This was the Merritt Competition where reservist recce soldiers competed nose - to - nose against regular force recce troops (only difference was that reservists competed using the Iltis while the regular force used the Lynx - correspondingly we were assessed on our ability to employ the GPMG in live fire while they were assessed on the .50 cal). This event took place in Wainwright (1987 I believe). Most of the troopers in our competition troop we're still taking their TQ1 Crewmen course at the time. As you can imagine, this complicated our troop training plan as we had to also teach these soldiers some very specific individual recce skills (tactical vehicle movement, comms, and wps handling that included the GPMG, M-72 and 84mm CG all of which individuals were selected to fire them). So this was no "hand-picked" group of highly experienced soldiers from the regiment but a perfect cross-section of Dukes in peace-time (both extremes of skills and competence). Although the unit had never taken part in this competition (no corporate memory or documentation to help us prepare) we beat every other reserve unit, attained a higher score than four reg force troops in the practical application of recce skills (a mini-six hour tactical exercise) and beat one regular force unit in overall score. Members of this troop included: CC's Sgt Chris Archer, and MCpl's Don Bentley (now Maj. and DCO), Jack McLeod and Steve Calnik (I'm missing one other CC who I can't recall as I think it was a seven car troop with 21 members); and Tpr's Gonzalez, Byrne, and Stuart to name a few.

Another interesting point is that Dan had not been a Tp Leader for many years prior to this competition. Part of the Tp Leader evaluation was a written exam in which his score, as I recall, equaled those of his regular force counterparts. He did us extremely proud.

Dan is leaving the Forces and has accepted a position as office manager at the Corps of Commissionaires.

I know we all wish Dan all the best.

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN) SERVING OFFICERS' DINNER – 16 October 2015

By: 2Lt Vanessa Vinluan

In light of celebrating its 132nd birthday on the preceding Monday, the officers of The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) were proud to host their annual Serving Officers' Dinner on the 16th of October. The dinner was hosted by HCol Ted Hawthorne, HLCol Scott Shepherd, and CO of the Regiment, Maj Douglas Evans, and the PMC, Capt Adam McLeod. Guests included CO of the BCDs, LCol Andy McQuilkan, and

members of the CO's Committee including Col Bryan Gagne (flying from Kingston to make the dinner), HCol Bill Diamond of 39 CER, LCol (R) Romano Acconci, LCol Bruce Kadonoff (in town from Ottawa), LCol Peter Bell, and CO of the 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC, Maj Jim Barrett, and our special guest for the evening, Maj (R) Dan Thomas. The head table was piped in by Band Sgt Rosalie MacDonald of our own Pipes and Drums. The feast started off with a delicious wild mushroom soup, followed by an enchanting braised lamb shank with sautéed vegetables and tiramisu for dessert. The dinner itself was very well attended by both junior and senior officers of the Regiment and was a most enjoyable time.

The Dinner also saw the mugging-out of our very own Maj Dan Thomas, retiring after 42 years of service. LCol (R) Acconci was invited to say a few words, and remarked on Maj Thomas' contagious personality, signature laugh, and highlighted the caring, hardworking, honest and compassionate individual that he is. We thank Maj Dan Thomas for his long service to the Canadian Armed Forces, and for his contributions to the Regiment. We wish him the best in his future endeavours, and he will certainly be missed. The dinner concluded in the Officers' Mess with the usual sabrage, shenanigans and comradery until night's end.

Members of the Officers' Mess wish to extend their gratitude to the caterers, servers, and bartenders from 2 Peas in a Pod who made this dinner a memorable occasion. Special thanks to the members who participated in the organization and clean-up of the event, though their hours of silver polishing are far from over [Ed - The PMC did not put this last line in]. Finally, thank you to all those who attended the dinner and continue to contribute to the success and proud history of the BCRs. Up the Dukes!



L to R: HCol Ted Hawthorne, CO of the Regiment, Major Doug Evans, & LCol Bruce Kadonoff



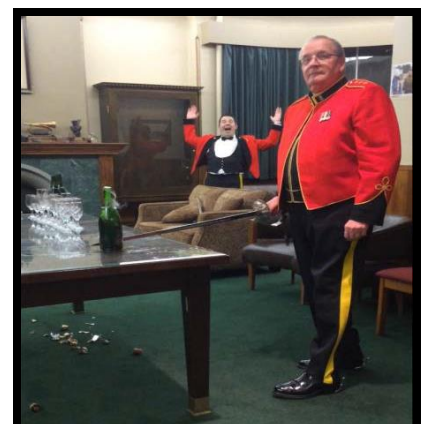
The head table: HCol Ted Hawthorne, HLCol Scott Shepherd, Col Bryan Gagne, and CO of the Regiment, Major Doug Evans and the PMC, Capt Adam McLeod



PMC, Capt Adam McLeod kicking off the sabrage



Capt Warren Kerek, Capt Adam McLeod, & LCol Peter demonstrating proper sabrage technique



HCol Ted Hawthorne after the successful beheading of a champagne bottle

2015 VANCOUVER HALLOWE'EN PARADE - 18 October 2015

The annual Vancouver Halloween Parade commenced on a cloudy Sunday morning at 11:00 and featured a number of components of the Regimental Family. In the lead as parade marshal was long time Regimental Association member Kelly Parkes riding his classic "Gold Wing" motorcycle complete with a very prominently displayed poppy, BCR hat badge and "Lest We Forget" on the rear fender. After a good showing of antique army vehicles from the Western Command Historical Society, a very strong contingent from the BCR Brass Band led the cadets from 2290 BCR (101DCOR) RCACC. Also in attendance in support of the cadets were Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne and the CO of 2290 BCR, Major Jim Barrett.

The cadets and band members returned to the Drill Hall where they enjoyed pizza and bottled water compliments of the Sponsoring Committee. Many thanks to Bernadette McGrath and her committee and congratulations to 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC and the BCR Brass Band for their great community support.



ELECTION DAY – 19 October 2015

Submitted by: 2Lt David Kim

The democratic right to vote is a privilege that we as Canadian citizens exercise every few years. On 19th October 2015, our Drill Hall was used as a voting station for the Federal Election. The day started early at 0530 for the troops who volunteered to come out and assist with setting up the Drill Hall for the election. Under the direction of Mr. Lorenz, the polling station coordinator, thirty desks and sixty chairs were brought up to serve as polls. As 0700 hit, people started to flood into the Drill Hall, by 0730 the lineup extended out to the Sherman tanks [Ed – Everyone is grateful for the doors being opened on time for this election]. Throughout the day many came to vote, and those leaving it to the last second were seen running into the

Drill Hall, and everyone in line was brought into the Drill Hall before the doors closed at 1900 sharp. As the last voter exited the building the count started.

Last Federal Election in 2011, had an all-time low 61% voter turnout. For a country that prides itself on its freedoms this was a disappointing result. This year Canadians, including our own troops are doing their best to change that result by going out and voting, even if it takes leaving the Drill Hall in the middle of work to get the votes in. This election saw a record turnout of voters, who in addition to doing their democratic duty, were able to see the rich history of the Regiment and the Drill Hall. As the voters started leaving, many commented that they enjoyed the Drill Hall and some have expressed interest in coming out for an information session on a Wednesday night.



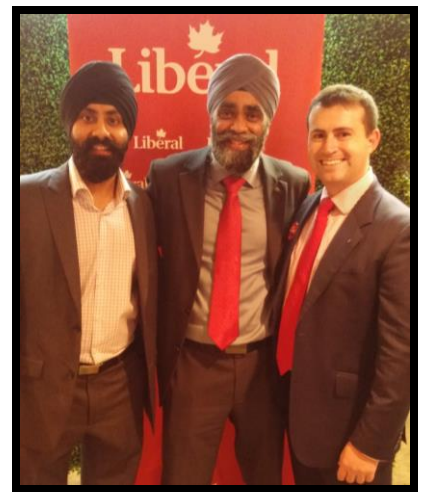
It was great to see thousands of people express their democratic right to vote for their leader. These rights were defended by our forefathers who went to war and fought against those who denied them such rights. The Drill Hall entrance once had soldiers flood out to defend our rights, and now in the twenty first century, civilians flood into the Drill Hall to exercise the very rights that were defended.

DUKE TO LEAD IN OTTAWA – 19 October 2015

Submitted by: 2Lt Jonathan Robinson

Former Commanding Officer, LCol Harjit Sajjan, was chosen this Monday to represent his home riding of Vancouver South in the 42nd parliament of Canada.

It was an incredible moment for now Member of Parliament-designate Harjit Sajjan who has spent the last ten months tirelessly knocking on doors, making phone calls, and inspiring volunteers and voters alike with his leadership and work ethic. MP- designate Sajjan was personally approached to run for office by Prime Minister-designate Justin Trudeau, who recognized him for his outstanding leadership ability, and commitment to public service.



MP-designate Sajjan grew up in South Vancouver, and patrolled it as a member of the Vancouver Police Department making him an ideal candidate to represent this riding. His 25 years of service with the Canadian Armed Forces include three tours in Afghanistan and one in Bosnia, culminating with his

command of the BCR (DCO) as the first Sikh CO in Canadian History. MP-designate will undoubtedly carry the BCR tradition of service with him as he serves Vancouver South in Ottawa.

On hand to celebrate MP-designate Harjit Sajjan's victory were MGen (R) Ed Fitch, HCol Ted Hawthorne, 2Lt Jonathan Robinson, Capt Adam McLeod, as well as campaign manager, Manjeet Vinning. When asked how he would celebrate the win, Capt Vinning stared blankly, and excused himself to go finish an assignment for the Army Operations Course (AOC).



THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN)

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26 October 2015

Members of the Regimental Family, Friends & Supporters

Re: 2015 Federal Election

It is my very great pleasure to acknowledge and congratulate two fellow Dukes who ran as candidates in the Federal Election held on 19 October 2015. LCol Harjit S. Sajjan ran in Vancouver South and was elected and Cpl (Retired) Tim Laidler who ran in Port Moody-Coquitlam and had a very strong showing.

My very best wishes to Colonel Sajjan, Member of Parliament, and to Cpl (Retired) Tim Laidler. The Regimental Family is indeed proud of you for your service and for participating in the democratic process.

Up the Dukes!

Sincerely,

E. A. (Ted) Hawthorne,
Honorary Colonel

EAH/C2059-BD/L016

MONTHLY CURRY LUNCHEON – 29 October 2015

By: Capt Adam McLeod – PMC, Officers' Mess

Everyone has re-adjusted from their summer vacation, the fall training year is in full swing and Remembrance Day is only two weeks away. With things back to their usual routine, it's no wonder that October's Monthly Curry Luncheon (hosted by the Officers' Mess and coordinated by the Regimental Association) was so well attended! Our guests enjoyed a delicious "Taste of Thailand" curry lunch, prepared by Two Peas in a Pod Catering. The Meet and Great was held in the Officers' Mess and the luncheon took place in the WOs' and Sgts' Mess.

Prior to the meal, Hon Col Hawthorne and Major Evans welcomed guests to the Regiment. The opportunity was taken to recognize and thank the Legion Foundation for their generous contribution towards the battlefield tour, earlier this year. On hand from the Legion Foundation was Mr. Joseph Waugh, to accept a gift from the Regiment. The gift was a framed set of pictures taken on the battlefield tour, which were surrounded by thoughts and recollections from the soldiers who'd attended the tour.



We were happy to host some new guests this month, including the CO and Cox'n of Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre (CFRC), Maj Adam Thomson, and his Cox'n PO1 Brown. Before settling into some excellent pad thai, the CO of the BCR(DCO), Maj Doug Evans, thanked our guests for coming, including Col Bryan Gagne, senior serving Duke, HCol(R) Bill Ireland, HCol (R) Jim Happer, LCol(R) Dave Sproule, LCol(R) Romano Acconci, and Maj Jim Barrett, CO of the 2290 RCACC. They were joined by several serving officers, including: Maj Don Bentley, Maj Vince Virk, Capt Jennifer Hillman, and the hardest working PMC in the Brigade, Capt Adam McLeod. The luncheon was also the venue for the civilian debut of one of Canada's most recent retirees, Mr. (Maj Retired) Dan Thomas, Esq.

The CO also gave a quick update on the Regiment, and reminded everyone of the Regimental Association Remembrance Dinner on Nov 10th, as well as the Remembrance Day ceremony on Wednesday, November 11th.

Everyone enjoyed the great food and the usual excellent comradery. The next curry luncheon will be held on Thursday, Nov 26th, 2015. Many thanks to everyone who attended this month's Curry Luncheon!

3rd CANADIAN DIVISION HONORARY COLONELS' CONFERENCE CALGARY, ALBERTA – 29-31 OCTOBER 2015

The Honorary Colonels' Conference was held at a most splendid venue this year, namely The Military Museums of Calgary (formerly, the "Museums of the Regiments of Calgary") on Crowchild Trail in southwest Calgary.

The conference started with a Meet & Greet reception at the downtown Hyatt Regency on Thursday evening (29 October 2015) where the Honoraries of the Division had the great opportunity to network and to visit with the Commander of 3rd Canadian Division, Brigadier General Wayne Eyre, and the Deputy Commander of the Division, Brigadier General Nic Stanton. It was a most enjoyable evening with much discussed, important contacts made or reinforced and camaraderie well established.

The well organized and timely agenda of the conference started early on Friday morning at the museum with an opening address by General Eyre who provided a thorough presentation concerning domestic operations, readiness, the road to high readiness, Op Honour, performance optimization, recruiting, retention and re-enrollment, stakeholder engagement and civilian hiring.

Immediately after their arrival from the airport, the special guests of the conference, the Commander of the Army, Lieutenant-General Marquis Hainse, and the Honorary Colonel of the Army, Blake Goldring, each addressed the attendees. All present were most pleased to hear of the unqualified support accorded to the Honoraries by the speakers. In addition, it was appreciated by all to be able to discuss openly with the Commander the important issues facing the CAF today. The Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, presented his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin to General Hainse and thanked him for his presentation and for his support of the role of the Honoraries.

After a group photo and a brief break, our special guest and speaker, General Hainse, departed with his team for the airport for their return flight.

The attendees enjoyed an excellent buffet luncheon in one of the large museum rooms and were treated to a wonderful display of World War I Uniforms from the collection of Victor Taboika. The entire museum is truly an extraordinary experience and a wonderful place to visit.

The conference resumed with a most informative address by General Nic Stanton, Deputy Commander and the main advisor to the Division on all matters relating to the Army Reserve. General Stanton provided a thorough briefing regarding his objectives to increase the capability of the Reserve Army and to improve the integration of the Reserve Army with the Regular Force.

Further presentations were made by the Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the Regiment, Scott Shepherd, in his capacity as National Chairman of the Canadian Forces Liaison Council, along with our good friend of the Regiment, Colonel Nigel Whittaker, RLO Pacific and Colonel Malcolm Young, RLO Prairies.

At the Open Forum, Colonel Hawthorne provided the attendees with complimentary copies of **The Duke** and suggested that the newsletter may be of assistance to other Honoraries considering different ways in which to engage with the public and with the Regimental Family of their respective units.

At the conclusion of the conference, many continued their tour of the museum and all in due course returned to the hotel for a quick rest and change to mess dress for the evening.



**THE CALGARY HIGHLANDERS OFFICERS' MESS DINNER
COMMEMORATING THE 71ST ANNIVERSARY OF
THE BATTLE OF WALCHEREN CAUSEWAY**

The mess dinner was held at Mewata Armoury, the home of The Calgary Highlanders.

It was a classic highland dinner indeed (including Haggis!), memorable foot on the table toasts and excellent piping. The dinner was very well attended with the Commander and Deputy of the Division in attendance with Honoraries, including Lieutenant Governors from Saskatchewan (Her Honour Vaughn Schofield) and BC (Her Honour Judith Guichon). Also, the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Her Honour Lois Mitchell was in attendance. It was a very long head table indeed!

Mr. Mark Zuehike, renowned Military Author and Speaker, provided an excellent description of the battle and the actions of two soldiers who were decorated for their heroic deeds during the battle.

Colonel Hawthorne presented his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin to Generals Eyre and Stanton and thanked them for their great support of Honoraries and for the support of our soldiers.

In discussions with many of the Honoraries who attended the conference, it was clearly evident that this year's Honorary Colonels' Conference was a tremendous success in every sense of the word.

Congratulations and our many thanks to the Command Team of 3rd Canadian Division and specifically to Generals Eyre and Stanton.



All photos courtesy of HCol W.R. Diamond

REMEMBRANCE DAY EVENTS ACROSS VANCOUVER

Article by Sandra Thomas
Reproduced courtesy of Vancouver Courier



Honorary Colonels Ted Hawthorne, Bill Diamond and Michael Shields and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Allan De Genova will wear their working uniforms for the entirety of Veteran's Week as part of a Canada-wide initiative. Photo Dan Toulgoet.

Due to several acts of aggression towards military personnel in Canada last year, some members had been warned to limit wearing their uniforms to official duties.

That's something Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Allan De Genova of 15th Field Regiment wants to change.

"I'm of the feeling we don't need to hide, but we should stand with honour," said De Genova. "I'm proud to represent all of the men and women who give of themselves every day. It's our duty to be able to recognize that."

To that end, De Genova wants all honorary officers across Canada to wear their camouflage work uniform for the entirety of Veteran's Week, Nov. 5 to 11. De Genova, a realtor by trade, plans to wear his uniform to all military events, on personal errands and to meetings.

"People will not only see the poppy, but also the uniform," said De Genova. "And when someone stops me to ask about it or thank me, I'll tell them, 'I'm an honorary, but I'm very happy to convey that message to the men and women who serve every day.'"

VISIT TO THE DRILL HALL BY THE COMMANDER OF 39 CBG – 4 November 2015

It was certainly a special evening for the Dukes on the regular weekly parade night at the Drill Hall. The evening included a special visit by the Commander of 39 CBG, Colonel David Awalt. The visit commenced with the showing of the swearing in ceremony early in the day on the large screen of the immediate past Commanding Officer of the Regiment, LCol (Retired) Harjit S. Sajjan, as Minister of Defence. The Minister received a big congratulatory applause from all those present.

The Commander then proceeded to promote RSM Huf Mullick to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer. A very happy moment indeed for the RSM and for all of us!

The Commander addressed the soldiers regarding Op Honour and engaged in an open question session which was very well received.

Also in attendance were COS, 39 CBG, LCol Ed Haverstock, BSM Mark Arden and both Honoraries, HCol Ted Hawthorne and HLCOL Scott Shepherd.

Congratulations to fellow Dukes, our new Minister of National Defence, Harjit S. Sajjan and to the RSM, CWO Huf Mullick!

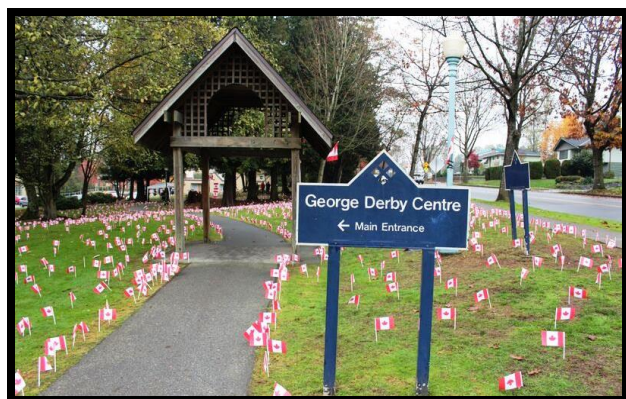


GEORGE DERBY CARE SOCIETY PLANT A FLAG DAY - 5 November 2015

It was a busy morning at the beginning of Veterans' Week, when George Derby Care Facility partnered with neighbouring schools, Cariboo Hill Secondary and Armstrong Elementary, to "plant" 5,000 Canadian Flags on the front lawn and grounds of the facility in order to honour the service and sacrifice of our veterans to Canada and to remember our Fallen.

Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, a director of George Derby, was on hand (appropriately dressed for Veterans' Week as with other Honoraries of 39 CBG) to celebrate the occasion and to meet so many supporters of the facility and this very meaningful event.

Congratulations George Derby for a job well done and for your many years of support of our veterans!



EQUITAS DISABLED SOLDIERS FUNDING SOCIETY 5TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER EVENING - 6 November 2015

This year's annual fundraiser/dinner was held at Morgan Creek Golf Club in South Surrey on Friday evening, 6 November 2015. The very well attended event featured a full agenda, including a fine reception, silent auction, live auction, a grand dinner and some excellent speakers, including Don Sorochan, Lead Counsel (Miller Thompson), Tracey Kerr, wife of Veteran Billy Kerr, the featured speaker, and Jim Scott, President of Equitas.

President Jim Scott presented Certificates of Appreciation to Ted Hawthorne (HPLaw) for his corporate legal support, Jim Garrison for his accounting expertise and to Billy and Tracey Kerr, special guests for the evening.



Photos courtesy of Tricia Dong



Congratulations to all of the many fine supporters of Equitas and to Equitas for a most enjoyable evening!

CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE GURDWARA DUKH NIVARAN SAHIB - 7 November 2015

A moving ceremony of remembrance was held outside the temple of Gurdwara Dukh Nivaran Sahib in Surrey on a rainy Saturday morning. Many veterans were in attendance along with a good number of cadets from 3300 BCR (Bahi Kanhaiya) RCACC along with the CO of the unit, Major Lee Taylor and staff.

MCpl Chandra from the Regiment was also in attendance. It was an excellent opportunity to visit with the contingent of Veterans and well-wishers.

Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, representing the Commander of 3rd Canadian Division, Brigadier General Wayne Eyre, was the guest of honour.

The program consisted of the parade of cadets, the address of Giyani Narinder Singh Ji, the piping of the Lament, a Minute of Silence and the singing of O Canada by the youth choir.

The service in the Temple was conducted by Giyani Ji who addressed the many attendees. The President of the Veterans' Association also spoke. The translation into English clearly emphasized the service and sacrifice of our Veterans and the Remembrance of our Fallen. In addition, many references to the core values of Canada were heard throughout the presentations.



Colonel Hawthorne was then honoured by the presentation of a Kirpan by Giyani Ji and the President of the Veteran's Association. The main address was delivered by Colonel Hawthorne who conveyed the greetings of Brigadier General Wayne Eyre, Commander of 3rd Canadian Division, thanked the community for the invitation to attend the ceremony and acknowledged the legacy of honour, commitment and sacrifice of the Sikh Community in both World Wars. Colonel Hawthorne added that such legacies of the Community are now a part of the Canadian Armed Forces and continue to make Canada strong. The Cadets and Officers of 3300 BCR (Bahi Kanhaiya) RCACC were also acknowledged as well a son of the Indo-Canadian community, retired Lieutenant Colonel

Harjit Singh Sajjan, recently elected as a Member of Parliament for Vancouver South and newly appointed Minister of National Defence. At the conclusion of the service, the Children's Choir once again sang O Canada. It was truly, a very poignant and uplifting service!



The gathering then proceeded downstairs to review the collection of very impressive photographs depicting the extraordinary contribution of Sikh Soldiers during World War I and II.

A delightful luncheon was then enjoyed by all participants. It was truly a day to remember!!

REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY ICBC HEAD OFFICE – 9 November 2015

The annual ceremony of remembrance was held at the Head Office of ICBC in North Vancouver on Monday, November 9th at 10:30 in the morning. Veteran members of the British Columbia Veterans Commemorative Association and Archie Steacy, President, were led to the rotunda for the ceremony by the JP Fell Pipe Band. The observance was conducted by Padre Gord Barrett and the Parade was commanded by Major Jim Barrett, the Commanding Officer of 2290 BCR (101DCOR) RCACC. Also in attendance were the Honorary Colonel of 39 CER, Bill Diamond, and Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne. Mark Blucher, President and CEO of ICBC, addressed the large audience and participants and provided a very meaningful address on the significance of our duty to remember. Congratulations to ICBC for the wonderful ceremony!



REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION REMEMBRANCE DINNER MOXIES BALLROOM, THE SANDMAN HOTEL – 10 November 2015

It was a great turnout for this year's Remembrance Dinner held once again at The Sandman Hotel in Vancouver, a venue so very convenient for our members; being a short walk to the Drill Hall and to the Cenotaph for Remembrance Day services on November 11th. A strong showing from serving members of the Regiment was also evident and acknowledged by the evening's Master of Ceremonies, Jim Barrett. Honorary Colonel of 39 CER, Bill Diamond, also attended. The support of our serving members is always greatly appreciated.

The evening commenced with the customary reception which was followed by the Head Table, consisting of the Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne (Vice President Gayle), the Commanding Officer, Major Douglas Evans (Zinat and Aidan), Chief of Staff (Reserves), 1st Canadian Division, Colonel Bryan Gagne (Erika) and President Bob Remple, being piped in to the dining room by Pipe Sergeant Rosalie MacDonald of the BCR Irish Pipes & Drums. Colonel Hawthorne said grace which was then followed by the lighting of the Candle

of Remembrance at the Table of Remembrance by Ken Whitney (Candles of Remembrance were also lit at each table). Due to a minor delay in dinner service, the customary speeches were fitted in very smoothly by the Commanding Officer, with his comprehensive State of the Regiment message, the President, with highlights of the year and future planning and the Honorary Colonel acknowledging the very great support of the Regimental Association and its Charitable Trust to the Commanding Officer, the Regiment and the entire Regimental Family. Colonel Hawthorne concluded his remarks by acknowledging the service and tireless commitment of Dan McKenzie for so many years and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation and the Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin. Many thanks Dan for your great support!

An excellent dinner was then enjoyed by all. The toasts followed with The Queen by the MC Jim Barrett, the Last Post by Bugler Chris Arhen, The Fallen by Graydon Young and The Regiment by Jack Drake.

During the break, dessert was provided and draw tickets sold. The draws for the door prizes and the lucky tickets were conducted by VP Gayle Hawthorne, which was followed by a presentation of a framed photograph to the Commanding Officer by Jack Drake. The photograph captures a BCR soldier, in a contemplative pose, while visiting a cemetery during the 2015 Battlefield Tour with an engraved presentation plate entitled "RESPECT". Very touching indeed!

The eagerly awaited Quilt Draw took place under the supervision of Gayle Hawthorne, OPI for this fundraiser for 2781 BCR (DCO (RCACC) Powell River which raised over \$1,100.00. Aidan Evans drew the lucky ticket! Many thanks to Gayle for all of her work and congratulations to Jack Drake who had the winning ticket and then donated the "Armoured Corps Quilt" to the Senior NCOs' Mess of the 2781 BCR. The quilt was handmade by a parent of a 2781 BCR cadet.

The evening was concluded by the Master of Ceremonies acknowledging the great work of Gayle Hawthorne coordinating the dinner. The entire room and tables were so artfully decorated and consistent with the theme of remembrance. A standing ovation was accorded Gayle which was so richly deserved. Well done indeed Gayle and thank you!





MONTHLY CURRY LUNCHEON – 26 November 2015

By: Capt Adam McLeod – PMC, Officers' Mess

With Remembrance Day only two short weeks behind us, and a busy Holiday season on the horizon, it was delightful to see such a well-attended luncheon this month! November's Monthly Curry Luncheon (hosted by the Officers' Mess and coordinated by the Regimental Association) featured a delicious "Taste of Korea" curry lunch, prepared by Two Peas in a Pod Catering. The Meet and Greet was held in the Officers' Mess and the luncheon took place in the WOs' and Sgts' Mess.

Prior to the meal, Hon Col Hawthorne and Major Evans welcomed guests to the Regiment. The CO took the time to recognize and thank Mr. Bob Rai and Mr. Ranjiv Sandhu (pictured) for their generous contribution towards the battlefield tour, and presented them with framed pictures of the tour.

Speaking of framed pictures, LCol(R) David Sproule very generously donated a 19th Century print of Wellington at Waterloo, which he had restored and framed (pictured). LCol(R) Sproule's gift to the Mess Art Collection will be placed above the etching of Napoleon on the Champs de Mars. Wellington's placement above Napoleon is appropriate both in that Wellington won the battle, but also because it raises it high enough on the wall that subbies can't damage it by accident.

We were also very happy to host some new guests this month, including many of our friends from 39 Canadian Brigade Group (39 CBG) Headquarters, including the Bde G3, Maj Tom Compton, the G7, Maj Richard "Mike" Soley, Capt Mike Bain, Capt Kim Ficke-Funk, and Lt Jeff Nichols. Also in attendance were Col Bryan Gagne, senior serving Duke, and LCol(R) Dave Sproule.

The CO gave a quick update on the Regiment, and reminded everyone of the Regimental Association Christmas Luncheon on Dec 3rd, as well as the Soldiers' Appreciation Dinner on December 12th.

The next curry luncheon will be held on Thursday, Jan 28th, 2016. Many thanks to everyone who attended this month's Curry Luncheon!



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**ANAVETS UNIT #100, KINGSWAY
2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC FUNDRAISER – 29 November 2015**



Another cadet fundraiser was held at the ANAVETS Unit #100 in support of 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC (“2290”). The very successful fundraiser was once again organized and run by longtime member of ANAVETS Sergeant at Arms, Agnes Keegan, also a longstanding member of the Sponsoring Committee of 2290. The event was well supported by a full house of our friends at ANAVETS. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Regimental Association Vice President Gayle Hawthorne (also a member of the Sponsoring Committee of 2290), Major Jim Barrett, the Commanding Officer of 2290, with his wife Patricia, attended the very enjoyable affair. Colonel Hawthorne and Major Barrett were acknowledged as special guests and both Colonel Hawthorne and Major Barrett took the opportunity to thank ANAVETS for their grand support of 2290 and the Cadet Program in general. Colonel Hawthorne also acknowledged the great work of Agnes Keegan which naturally was very well received by the unit.

Congratulations Agnes for a job very well done indeed and to the members of Unit #100 for their wonderful support and tremendous hospitality.

**888 AVENGER SQUADRON, ROYAL CANADIAN AIR CADETS
CO's PARADE – 1 DECEMBER 2015**

The second CO's Parade of the training year was held at Walter Moberly Elementary School in Vancouver and was very well attended with over 148 cadets on parade. The gymnasium was filled to capacity with elbow dressing in effect in order to fit! The cadets were well turned out complete with a Flag Party and full Band. Very impressive indeed!





The evening included an inspection by the Reviewing Officer, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, and a March Past with the outgoing Parade Commander, WO1 Marcus Zheng. Numerous promotions were awarded by the Commanding Officer of the unit, Captain Amar Tiwana. The promotion ceremony of four Flight Sergeants to the rank of WO2 was conducted by Colonel Hawthorne. The four very pleased recipients were WO2 Kent Reyes, WO2 Kabir Dhillon, WO2 Tiffany Kuok, and WO2 Ruth Liu. Another highlight of the evening was the Change of Command from WO1 Marcus Zheng to the incoming Parade Commander of the unit, WO2 Ruth Liu, followed by another March Past lead by the incoming Parade Commander and an Advance in Review Order. A number of speeches were delivered recognizing the beginnings of the unit some five years ago and the aging out of two of the original cadets. Past Commanding Officer Captain Jag Masoun recounted the very small beginnings of the unit with four members compared to today's strength of some 182 cadets. Colonel Hawthorne conveyed the greetings of the Commanding Officer of the Regiment and complimented the Cadets on a great parade, for their excellent dress, drill and deportment and the Cadet Officers, Volunteers and Sponsoring Committee for the great support.

Congratulations 888 Avengers for a great evening!

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER – 3 December 2015

The Annual Christmas Fundraiser was another success this year with over 90 guests in attendance, over \$10,000.00 raised and still counting, and many additional cash donations. This is all in support of the many programs sponsored by the Regimental Association Charitable Trust such as Bursaries, Cadet Development, Commemoration and Community Outreach. The food, hospitality and camaraderie were first class and everyone had a great time. As usual the silent auction was a complete success with numerous items hotly contested. In addition, there were several door prizes and a multitude of excellent draw prizes.



A special thank you to the Commanding Officer, Major Douglas Evans, the day staff, serving members and all three messes (Officers', WOs' and Sgts' and Junior Ranks) for their great assistance of this signature event. In addition, we wish to acknowledge the support of our members and friends, including the continuing strong support of Brooke Campbell with his NOABC colleagues, two ReMax tables (Francis & Hawthorne Team and Team Leo Bruneau), Hawthorne, Piggott & Company, and Brian Archer and his team from Citadel Therapy Canine Society.



The Regimental Association also wishes to acknowledge the great work of Vice President Gayle Hawthorne, the OPI for this event for the past three years and initiator of the highly successful silent auction for many years. Congratulations Gayle for a job very well done! Many thanks to all of our many volunteers assisting Gayle, both before and at the fundraiser, including Archie and Lynda Steacy, Bob Remple, Kim Varnam, our MC, Jim Barrett and our reception/check-in team of Dan and Ellen McKenzie and Gloria Murphy. Many thanks to the Junior Ranks Mess for maintaining the excellent bar service throughout the event and finally a large thank you to Lori's Catering who always does such a fine job every year!

ST BARBARA'S DAY – 15 FIELD ARTILLERY DINNER – 5 December 2015

The annual St Barbara's Special Guest Dinner held at Bessborough Armoury was very well attended. Members of the Regimental Family in attendance included the Commanding Officer, Major Douglas Evans, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Band Governor, Honorary Colonel Bill Diamond, 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC Commanding Officer, Major Jim Barrett, Colonel (R) Keith Maxwell and Major (R) Ken Whitney. An excellent dinner was served and guests were treated to an enjoyable evening with a standout performance by the 15th Field Band. Great camaraderie and hospitality all around!



CO'S PARADE (STAND DOWN) – 9 December 2015

The Stand Down parade ended another very busy training year for the Regiment. The Commanding Officer, Major Douglas Evans, addressed the members and congratulated them for their very high level of accomplishment and reminded everyone of the last few events for this training year, namely the upcoming

PD Day, Soldiers' Appreciation Dinner, Santa Duke and the Food Bank Program. Also, the CO noted that the next training year will also be a very busy one with quite a number of exercises planned.

The Commanding Officer then called upon Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Chairman of the Regimental Association Charitable Trust, to proceed with the results of the 2015 Annual Bursary Program. Colonel Hawthorne announced the names of the nine recipients, as follows:

1. Sgt. Stephen Clews – The Private Michael James O'Rourke, VC Memorial Bursary;
2. Sgt. Jessica Schultz – The Sergeant Pierangelo Dal Magro, CD Memorial Bursary;
3. MCpl. Joe Rusen – The Sergeant Major Robert H. Hanna, VC Memorial Bursary;
4. MCpl Sebastien Therrien – The Hawthorne, Piggott & Company Bursary;
5. Cpl. Matthew Kovacs – The Lieutenant William H. Bicknell Memorial Bursary;
6. Cpl. Justin Lee – The Dr. P.C. Simon Bursary;
7. Tpr. Troy Ocol – The Dan and Ellen McKenzie Bursary;
8. Pte. Yongcheng Fan – The William E. Schmidt Memorial Bursary; and
9. Pte. Yaniv Pereyaslavsky – The H/Major Raymond Ernest Glover Memorial Bursary.

The Honorary Colonel and the Vice President of the Regimental Association, Gayle Hawthorne, then proceeded with the presentation of the certificates to members in attendance. Each recipient received a cheque in the amount of \$1,000.00. Congratulations to all recipients and continued success in their studies!



The CO then presented a Certificate of Achievement to Cpl Burgess in recognition of his completion of the Nijmegen March. The March is seen as “a test of physical fitness and mental stamina.” The CO also announced the award of two Commanding Officer’s Commendations to Kay Ming Ng of the Brass Band (which was presented) and Rob Greenslade of the BCR Irish Pipes & Drums which will be presented at a later date.

Band Governor, Honorary Colonel Bill Diamond, Pipe Major Matt Dolan, Cadet Governor Roger Prouse and League Honours & Awards Executive Louise Prouse, and Dan and Ellen McKenzie were also in attendance.

Congratulations to all recipients!

2015 EUROPEAN BATTLEFIELD STUDIES TOUR CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION – 9 December 2015

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to outgoing President Keith Maxwell and incoming President Bob Hall after the Annual General Meeting of the BCR Museum Society in recognition of their invaluable support of the highly successful tour. Congratulations to Keith and Bob for their many years of service to the BCR Museum and the Regiment!



GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY DERBY MANOR – 10 December 2015

The official groundbreaking ceremony took place in the George Derby Care Society facility and at the construction site of the new Derby Manor on Thursday, 10 December 2015 at 10:00am. The ceremony conducted by Ricky Kwan included speeches by Richard Lee, MLA Burnaby North, Rich Coleman, Minister of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing, Derek Corrigan, Mayor of Burnaby, and Joanne Reid, Chair of George Derby Care Society (“George Derby”), an official cake cutting and Sod Turning Ceremony on the construction site.



The project, ten years in the making, is now under way and is expected to complete in the spring of 2017. The project will provide 122 units of affordable independent seniors' housing.

Also in attendance representing the Regimental Family were past director of George Derby Cam Cathcart and Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, a director of George Derby.

Certainly a most memorable day!



THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN)

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12 December 2015

Members of the Regimental Family, Friends & Supporters

Re: Honorary Colonel Patrick Reid, OC, MC, CD, late of
The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own)

I am saddened to report the news of the passing of our very good friend and colleague Colonel Patrick Reid who passed away last Saturday, 5 December 2015. I have attached the obituary which was published in **The Vancouver Sun**, for your information, and I have included the website link www.legacy.com/obituararies/vancouver.sun.aspx

I join with the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Major Douglas Evans, all serving members and the entire Regimental Family, in conveying our condolences to Patrick's wife Alison, daughter Amanda (Rick Hansen), son Mike and grandchildren Emma (Aaron VandenBrink), Alana, Rebecca, Carter and Mason.

Colonel Patrick was an indefatigable supporter of the Regiment and we owe much to him as a result. Truly a great Duke!

No funeral arrangements have been announced at this time.

Faugh a Ballagh!

E. A. (Ted) Hawthorne,
Honorary Colonel

EAH/C2059-BD/L019

Patrick REID

REID, Patrick

November 14, 1924 – December 5, 2015

After 91 incredible years of love and service to his family and countries, Patrick passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 5, 2015 surrounded by his beloved wife, Alison, and his children, Amanda and Mike. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Alison; his daughter, Amanda (Rick Hansen); his son, Mike;

and his grandchildren Emma (Aaron VandenBrink), Alana, Rebecca, Carter, and Mason. Patrick was predeceased by his parents William and Kathleen; his sister Muriel (Geoff Froude); and his cherished great-grandson Reid.

Patrick Reid was born in Ireland and raised on a horse farm in Co. Donegal. He entered the Law Faculty of Queen's University, Belfast, when he was 15, enlisted the following year in the British Army, graduated from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, in 1944 as the top cadet with the Belt of Honour, joined the North Irish Horse in Italy, and by early 1945 had been wounded twice, escaped capture, and awarded the Military Cross. His regiment became the tank support for the 2nd Brigade of the 1st Canadian Division, which included Vancouver's Seaforth Highlanders. His unit received the maple leaf emblem as a badge of honour and, until his passing, was the only person in this country entitled to that personal recognition.

He was involved in the reoccupation of Malaya and commanded the provost company responsible for the policing of post-war Singapore. By 1946, he was acting as Provost Marshal of Malaya and became the youngest Major in the British Army at the age of 21. After service as Adjutant of the 14th/20th King's Hussars in Britain, he was a NATO staff officer at Allied Headquarters Northern Europe in Oslo.

From 1948-1954 he served in or visited some fifty countries on a variety of assignments and both boxed and played rugby for the Army. In 1954 he studied at the Canadian Army Staff College in Kingston, Ontario and decided to resign from the British Army and return to Canada as an immigrant. He was first a labourer and then a director and actor in the first television commercials made in the country. He moved west to Vancouver in 1956 to join O'Brien Advertising. He married Alison in 1958 in Vancouver, where their two children, Amanda and Michael, were born. He also served as militia Squadron Leader in the British Columbia Regiment.

In 1962, he left Vancouver for Ottawa. This was the start of a public service career, which covered virtually every facet of the promotion of Canada abroad and included his direct involvement in such momentous events at home as the Canadian Centennial, Expo 67, and the creation of Canada's flag.

Patrick was responsible for Canada's involvement in world expositions and international fairs for nearly two decades and he served as Canada's Commissioner General at numerous world expositions. He was Chairman of the College of Commissioners General, representing all the foreign participants at Osaka and Spokane.

In 1978, he was posted to London, England, as the Minister in charge of Canada House. He was elected President of the Paris based International Bureau of Expositions the same year, the first non-European to hold the position, and the first international official ever to be jointly nominated by the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R.

At the request of the Canadian Government, he returned to Vancouver to plan the 1986 World Exposition. He served for five years as Ambassador and Commissioner General of Expo 86, where he had overall responsibility for the exposition. Expo 86 had involvement from all corners of the globe-54 international participants. This response from the world community represented the largest number of nations ever to participate in a specialized world exposition. At its conclusion, he was posted to San Francisco as Consul General of Canada, after which he returned to Vancouver in 1988.

He was elected Chairman of the Board of Airshow Canada, Globe '90, the Rick Hansen Man In Motion Society, Foundation, and Institute, the Vancouver Port Corporation, the Vancouver Stock Exchange, and the Fraser Basin Council. He served on numerous other boards over the course of his lifetime and his most recently held position was Honorary Colonel of the BC Regiment.

Patrick Reid is an Officer of the Order of Canada. He also holds the Military Cross, the Canadian Forces Decoration, and the Centennial, Confederation and Jubilee Medals. Foreign decorations include the Great Cross of the Order of Merit of Peru, the Order of the Chrysanthemum, and the Order of the Rising Sun of Japan.

His memoir, *Wild Colonial Boy*, was published in 1995. He also co-authored a major revision of the international reference work, *Great Exhibitions*, in 2001.

Beyond his many accomplishments and recognitions, Patrick was proud of his Irish roots, a passionate Canadian committed to the betterment of his country and its citizens, and a devoted family man. Patrick always had a twinkle in his eye, a large dose of Irish charm, an eloquent turn of phrase, and a wicked sense of humour. The world is a better place for his time here. A kind and gentle giant-he will be missed but not forgotten.

"If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings-nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And-which is more-you'll be a Man, my son!"
- Rudyard Kipling

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the Rick Hansen Foundation or charity of choice.

Published in Vancouver Sun and/or The Province from Dec. 11 to Dec. 12, 2015

SOLDIERS APPRECIATION DINNER – 12 December 2015

By: 2Lt David Kim

As the year of 2015 comes to a close, we look back and think of all the achievements and goals that the Regiment has met, and ask ourselves how was this all possible? There can be many ways of answering these questions, but if we were to choose one answer it would be the soldiers of this Regiment. Without the extra time invested and the relentless volunteerism from our troops, the Regiment would not be here right now.

The history and the tradition of reversing the roles can be dated all the way back to the Roman times. However, the traditions of the Soldiers Appreciation Dinner (“Men’s Dinner”) started in the Canadian Armed Forces. It was an effort to raise morale and show general appreciation for the soldiers. Every unit may have different traditions than others but the meaning is mutual.

The members of the Regiment arrived at the Drill Hall at 1300, the soldiers were conducting professional development training with the Regimental Sergeant Major and the Officers and Senior NCOs of the Regiment had a discussion regarding the new training year coming up. Once the meeting was complete, individual tasks were handed out for the dinner to the Officers and Senior NCOs and the set up for the Dinner starts! This is one way of showing thanks to our soldiers who go out of their way to make this Regiment better every day. All the silver was polished, dinnerware all set up and the Christmas feeling was in the air. Everyone from the Commanding Officer to the most junior Sergeants was out to assist with the set up. The set up was a collaborative effort and the outcome was beautiful and exceeded standards just like our Regiment.



The dinner set up was complete and a special presentation was available for the members of the Regiment. The Veterans Transition Network, featured our own Sergeant Clews acting in a short play, which showed the hardships the soldiers experienced overseas and the continuing pain and injury once the soldiers came back from a warzone. The presentation was not only informative but shows the public and members of the Canadian Armed Forces that the pain is not only physical but mental as well.



The Regiment now changed into their dress uniforms to start the dinner, the serving crew was getting ready, and the food prep was done. A three course meal was prepared for the soldiers including wine or other beverages. The Regimental Pipe Band and Brass Band were out in full force putting on a show while the soldiers enjoyed their dinner. The dinner went smoothly without any issues. Once the dinner was finished the toasts were conducted. One toast that stood out was the toast to the Regiment by Corporal Fancy, the

short speech was done with passion, calling the Regiment a place he can call home and we all felt the same way. A special Christmas carol was sung by the Regimental Sergeant Major, a title was not given for this song, but it would be safe to call it the "AK47 in my Face" song. In addition to the song, there were two promotions at the dinner, congratulations to Master Warrant Officer Harris and Warrant Officer McWilliams on their promotions, well earned. Concluding remarks and greetings were given by the Commanding Officer, Major Douglas Evans, and the Honorary Colonel, Ted Hawthorne.

During the promotions a very special guest made a surprise visit to the Regiment. The Minister of National Defense, a former Commanding Officer of the Regiment, the Honourable Harjit Sajjan. Although it was a short visit, the Minister left the Regiment with some great words.

The conclusion of the dinner came with the Guidon being marched off, and head table piped off. This also means clean up time for the Officers and Senior NCOs. Clean up was quickly done and all were able to head to their respective messes. The night was not over for the soldiers. The Gingerbread house making competitions was done and the popular horse race game. The pot ended up being approximately \$450 for the winning horse.

The dinner was successful; everyone had a great time at the dinner. The act of thanking our soldiers through the means of the dinner is a good way to conclude the year. It is a well-deserved break over the holidays for all.

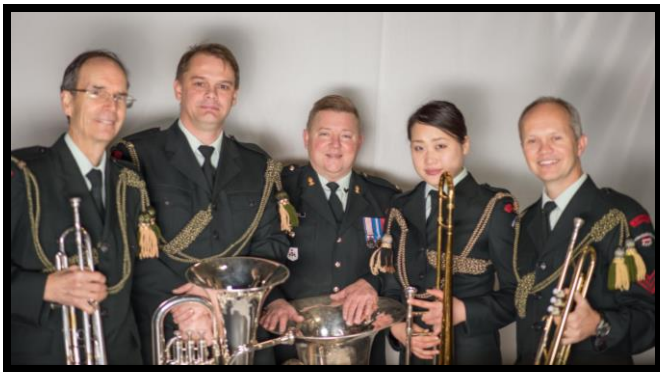
SANTA DUKE – 13 December 2015



Santa Duke paid his annual visit to the Drill Hall and was greeted by some very enthusiastic boys and girls and very proud moms and dads. MCpl Duke A. Bear and his girlfriend Colleen, both decked out as "Mr. and Mrs. Claus", were Santa's helpers along with the Commanding Officer, Major Douglas Evans. It was a most enjoyable family event and a perfect ending to the training year! Lots of presents, a very popular craft table for the children, a scrumptious buffet and enthusiastic singing led by the CO was the order of the day. Merry Christmas to all from Santa Duke!

2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC CHRISTMAS DINNER – 13 December 2015

The annual Christmas Dinner for 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC was held at the Drill Hall in a traditional Regimental fashion. Congratulations to the Commanding Officer, Major Jim Barrett, Officers, volunteers and the Sponsoring Committee of the unit for a very enjoyable and successful dinner for the cadets! All attendees were treated to an excellent production of Christmas music provided by a quartet from the BCR Brass Band led by Director of Music, Brian Smith.



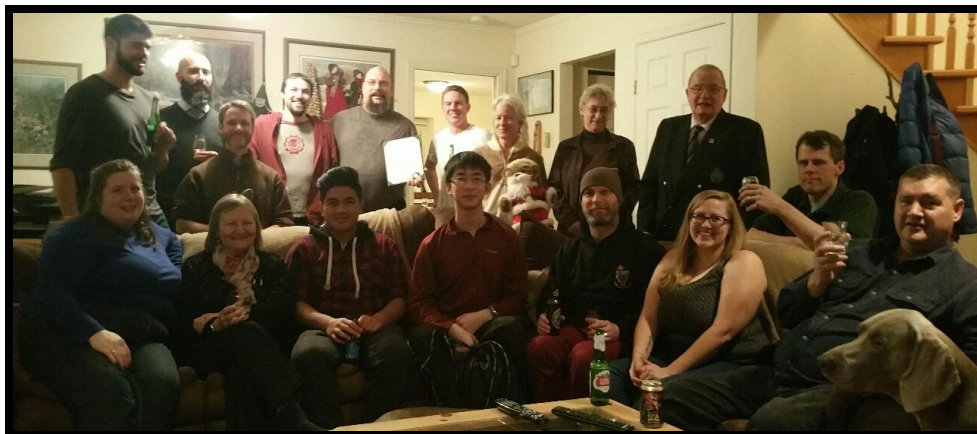
Photos courtesy of John Karmazinuk



Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne attended with his wife Gayle, Vice President of the Regimental Association and a member of the Sponsoring Committee of the unit. Colonel Hawthorne delivered the greetings of the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Major Douglas Evans, and complimented the cadets on their great turnout, hospitality, service and commitment to the Cadet Program. Head table guests also included Cadet Governor Roger Prouse, Cadet League Honours and Awards Executive, Louise Prouse, Major Jim Barrett and his wife Patricia, 2IC Captain Tony Liem and his wife Rainnie and Agnes Keegan.

THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) IRISH PIPES & DRUMS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY – 15 December 2015

The annual Christmas party of the Band was held at the home of Rob and Alison Greenslade. The full house enjoyed another evening of hospitality, camaraderie and a tremendous array of food!



The Honorary Colonel spoke to the group and conveyed the greetings of the Commanding Officer and thanked Pipe Major Matt Dolan and the Band for their excellent service and commitment to the Regiment. Colonel Hawthorne then presented the Commanding Officer's Commendation and Medallion to Rob Greenslade in recognition of his service to the Band and the Regiment. In addition, Colonel Hawthorne presented his Regimental Coin to Pipe Major Matt Dolan for his leadership and service to the Band and the Regiment.

Toasts to the Regiment, the Band and to the Honorary Colonel were given compliments of MCpl Duke A. Bear (dressed as Santa Duke) and his good friend "Jameson".

Special guests for the evening also included Major Jim Barrett, CO of 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC and Honorary Colonel Bill Diamond of 39 CER.



Many thanks to the Band and the Greenslades for a truly memorable evening!

HMCS VANCOUVER CHRISTMAS DINNER – 17 December 2015

Over the past number of years the Association has been building the relationship with the Friends of Vancouver to enhance the affiliation between the Regiment and the HMCS Vancouver. This has included attending events such as the Change of Command earlier this summer and supporting the request for gifts for the Ship's Company.

Most recently, Association members Andy Conradi and Bill Diamond had the privilege of attending the annual Christmas party hosted by the HMCS Vancouver. Bill and Andy were part of a small group of Friends of the Vancouver who attended the dinner led by Mark Zwanski, Chair of the Friends of Vancouver.



The dinner was held at the Delta Ocean Pointe Resort and Spa - a lovely hotel on the Victoria Harbour. The evening started off with a cocktail hour which provided an opportunity to reacquaint with old friends and meet new friends. As Andy now lives in Victoria he was the first one to arrive and enjoyed the opportunity to mingle with the crew.

The Friends of Vancouver shared a table with the Captain, Cdr Clive Butler, the Executive Officer, LCdr Jeff Dargave and the Coxswain PO1 Pierre Picard and their guests. This provided an opportunity to hear more about the upcoming 2016 ship deployments while we enjoying the fabulous buffet prepared by the hotel.



After dinner there were door prize draws and the evening was then turned over to the DJ to get people up dancing. It was a fine evening and many thanks to our friends at the HMCS Vancouver for their great hospitality.



THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION

620 Beatty Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada V6B 2L9

Telephone: 360-223-9623

Email: rremple@hotmail.com

17 December 2015

Members of the Regimental Association,
Regimental Family, friends and supporters

Fellow Dukes:

I have attached your annual dues renewal form for completion by you. I look forward to your continuing support of the Regimental Association and the Charitable Trust. As you know, the Regimental Association and Charitable Trust are actively involved in numerous programs and activities supporting our veterans, our serving soldiers and the five cadet corps the Regiment sponsors. As it is imperative that these activities be maintained and supported, I strongly urge you to renew your membership and consider making a donation, large or small, in order to be a part of what we do for the Regimental Family.

I also wish to take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Up the Dukes!

Sincerely yours,

R. A. (Bob) Remple, President



The BC Regiment (DCO) Association Annual Dues – 2016

Dear Duke,

Thank you for your continued support of the Regimental Association's goals and commemorative activities.

Please complete the information section so that our information is current. In addition, also ensure that your military service information has been forwarded to us so that your information is current and available to the Archives Committee of the Regimental Museum. We want you and your military service remembered.

Please provide us with your e-mail address.

NOTE: Please return this form and your payment to #208 – 1899 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. V5C 5T1. Do not tear-off any portion of the form.

Many thanks

Personal Information Up-date:

Service Number _____ Rank _____

Surname _____ First _____ Initial _____

Spouse/Partner Name _____ First _____

Address _____ City _____ Province _____

Postal Code _____ Telephone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please print your e-mail address clearly.

Donations to the BC Regiment (DCO) Charitable Trust

The primary responsibility of the Association is to serve its members, support the Regiment, our five Army Cadet Corps, provide bursaries opportunities for our soldiers, ensure community links and commemorative activities are maintained and that peace and wartime service is respected, remembered and honoured. To fulfill these obligations, the Association's Charitable Trust needs your support.

1. Annual Dues: \$35.00 _____

2. Charitable Trust Donation \$ _____

Please note: If you wish to make a donation, please enclose a separate cheque from your dues, and make payable to The BC Regiment (DCO) Charitable Trust. Tax receipts will be provided. Thank you for your support and thoughtfulness.

Up the Dukes!



**THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT
(DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN)**

620 Beatty Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada V6B 2L9

Telephone: 604-638-3181
Fax: 604-299-1523
Email: ted@hplaw.ca

18 December 2015

To: The Commanding Officer, Major Douglas Evans, CD,
Members of The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own),
the Regimental Family, friends and supporters

Greetings,

During this festive season, we are always mindful of our numerous and important relationships with others, as we reflect upon the greater meaning of our very busy lives. In particular, I am always so very impressed with the many accomplishments of the members of the Regiment and the tremendous support of the Regimental Family during the past year. It is nothing short of amazing to see the sustained operationally high tempo of the Regiment with all of the extra time and effort so freely given by so many who make our Regiment what it is today. It is the relationships created by our committed people who forge the strong bonds needed for the common good of all of us. Undoubtedly, this helps to create the strength and dynamism of the Regiment which ultimately is an extension of us all. Thank you so very much for all you do!

In summation, it is indeed an honour for me to serve with our members and to acknowledge their service and commitment to the Regiment and to our great country. It is also my very great pleasure to wish one and all the very best, Happy Holidays, a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year!

Up the Dukes!

E. A. (Ted) Hawthorne,
Honorary Colonel

CADET GOVERNOR'S REPORT

By: Major (Ret'd) Roger W. Prouse CD

BCR CADETS LEAVE A LARGE "FOOTPRINT" IN OUR COMMUNITIES

The training for another year calendar year is now behind the Cadets, and they can now look forward to spending time with their family and friends over the Christmas break. We are very fortunate to have a number of dedicated CIC officers, Civilian Instructors and Volunteers, working with the Cadets at the Corps level.

No one will dispute the fact that the Army Cadet Programme and its delivery are important; however, there is another important aspect as well and that is volunteerism and community events participation. These activities play a large role in the development of the Cadets and no organization does it better than our five BCR Cadet Corps.

This part of Cadet Development teaches the importance of “giving back” to the community in which they live. There are folks in our communities that need our help in so many ways and our Cadets help fill that need. Through our Cadets Corps efforts, the Regimental Family benefits on many fronts as well.

Here is just sample of activities and volunteerism in which our Corps are engaged:

2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC

- 26 September BCR Perpetuated WW1 Battalions Parade and Ceremony at the PNE.
- 18 October Vancouver Halloween Parade. Led the parade with the BCR Brass Band.
- 30 & 31 October, 6 & 7 November supported Royal Canadian Legion through Poppy Tagging in downtown Vancouver. On 30 & 31 October and at the Vancouver Giants Game on the 6th, followed by the Kingsgate Mall on 7 Nov through Poppy Tagging.
- 11 November good turnout for Remembrance Day and participated in Regimental observances back at the Drill Hall.
- 6 December: Supported ANAVets and RCL flag parties at the Rogers Santa Claus Parade.
- 13 December: Collected donations of food items for Food Bank and the 2290 Christmas Dinner.
- 19 March anticipate participation in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade.
- 10 April anticipate full participation in the Vancouver Vimy Parade.

2781 BCR (Powell River) RCACC

- Legion Children’s Christmas Party
- School Cenotaph Duty
- November 11 Cenotaph at Powell River and Texada Island
- Legion Candle Light Service at the cemetery
- Legion Poppy Drive
- Kinsman Soap Box Derby
- Salvation Army Christmas Kettles
- Pitch IN (Community clean-up – 12 dumpsters vs 5 dumpsters last year)

2827 BCR (Port Moody) RCACC

- Remembrance Day Poppy drive for the RCL #113 – Port Moody
- Remembrance Day Poppy drive for the RCL #263 Coquitlam
- River Days shore clean up in Tri Cities
- Non-perishable donation to the local food bank in Port Moody.

3300 BCR (Bhai Kanhaiya) RCACC

- Vaisakhi Parade in April every year (Largest community event in Surrey) 3300 BCR’s open the parade by leading the contingent down the main street.
- Remembrance Day activities at Surrey Gurdwara’s (temples) tribute to Community vets.
- November 11: Remembrance Day parade in Surrey.
- Honour guard for Nov 10th school morning assembly (Remembrance Day tribute).
- Christmas gift wrapping event for under privileged families. Some Cadets volunteer with community volunteers to wrap gifts for low income families at Christmas.
- Volunteer serving hot meals in Vancouver Hastings area. Some cadets volunteer with the local community volunteer group that provides meals in winter months to the homeless.
- Corps trip to Victoria supporting tribute to Sikh veterans presented and honoured by Premier Christy Clark.
- Re-enactment tribute to Sikh vets unable to attend the Victoria event (performed at the Surrey Temple).

A very large “footprint” indeed. We can all be very proud of their community involvement and achievements.

On behalf of our BCR Cadets Corps, we wish all members of the BCR family a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2016.

THE START LINE

By: David Sproule

LEST WE FORGET

In the past, I have written about my Families service in wartime but in fairness there are others I should write about as well. My wife's father, Captain Vilmos (Bill) Yull-Stuart, worked for British Military Intelligence in WW2. Although he was born in Bosnia at the turn of the 20th century, of Scottish/ Hungarian parentage he was a British subject who immigrated to Canada after WW1 and because he spoke Serbo-Croatian, worked for the CNR in Winnipeg helping settle Yugoslav immigrants in Manitoba. When war was declared he was quickly recruited by the Canadian spymaster Sir William Stephenson to be an agent. After his training at Camp X in Ajax, Ontario, he was sent to Britain to work for British Military Intelligence and soon was on his way, along with others, parachuting into Montenegro to rendezvous with Tito. They did just that but over the next weeks and months were constantly harassed by the German army. Bill Yull-Stuart was standing beside Tito and zigged when he should have zagged and was killed in June 1943 in a place called Sutjeska. Tito was slightly wounded as was the other British officer Captain Deakin. To this day we do not know where his remains are buried although we know that he along with others are memorialized at the Commonwealth Cemetery in Athens, Greece. The British do not provide replacement medals to families of veterans and so we were able to obtain a set of the medals Bill Yull-Stuart was entitled to through a medals company in England. For us it was important to obtain these medals so that we might remember him and his service.

Jean's Mother made her way to Cairo through what was then Palestine while her husband was doing such dangerous work and throughout much of the war she ran Canada House a leave centre for Canadian servicemen serving in the Middle and Far East. Most of these men were RCAF aircrew either flying fighters in the Desert Airforce or flying transport missions to India and Malaya. There was a significant RCAF Command HQ in Cairo. One of the RCAF fighter pilots hanging-out in Cairo was Flt/Lt "Jake" Woolgar. Jake was flying Spitfires and Hurricanes in the Western Desert and then close air support in both the Allied invasions on Sicily and Italy. Jake was from Yellowknife, NWT. He went north in 1936, learned to fly in 1938 and enlisted in the RCAF in 1939 in Edmonton. He was a sergeant pilot but soon all pilots were commissioned officers and he found himself in England training on fighters ready for deployment to the Middle East. It was there that he met Jean's mother, "Didy" Yull-Stuart, a young woman whose Canadian husband had been killed in Yugoslavia. Didy continued to run Canada House throughout the war and Jake moved with his squadron to Sicily and then Italy and then to Britain. At one stage Jake was awarded an MID for shooting down an ME109 somewhere over Italy.

Jake was repatriated in June 1945 followed by Didy in August and they were married in Yellowknife by the liquor agent who happened to be the local JP. Jake was a prospector and had a gold property he had staked and so after the "I do's" they flew out to the tundra as Jake had work to do. Like most veterans, Jake never talked about his wartime experiences and all that we have learned we have learned through examining his effects after he passed away. He was a modest man. When he died, the Yellowknife Legion was supposed to ensure that he had a headstone but that never happened and so I made representation to the Last Post Fund and they provided a headstone within the year. Our family is grateful for this as he is now suitably memorialized in the Military Section of the Yellowknife cemetery. After the war, Jake had received his medals from Veterans Affairs but I honestly believe they were not a big deal to him. He didn't go to war to win medals. Back in the early 1960s Jake lost the medals in a fire and so we had little to remember his service by but fortunately we were able to obtain a replacement set so that we can remember and honour his service.

Recently my wife and I were in a kitchen store in Victoria and were talking with the store owner and we were talking about remembrance and service. She knew little or nothing about her father's service but after her father died, her Mother told her a bit about his service. He was a tank driver in the First Hussars and went ashore at D day and went all the way with the Regiment into Germany. The First Hussars had an outstanding record during the war and this woman knew little about it or her dad's contribution to Victory. I told her that she could research her Dads service through the archives in Ottawa and how to obtain a

replacement set of medals. She thanked me and I will follow up with her. I'm attempting to get a First Hussars hat badge for her so that she might have some memento of the Regiment in which her father spent time in uniform serving Canada.

There must be countless stories like this. Sons and daughters, grandsons and granddaughters who know little or nothing about a family member's wartime service. It was something never talked about. Either the memories were too personal, too horrendous and could not be appreciated by others who did not share the experience. Certainly not to be discussed in front of the children. Although I understand all of these reasons, it is sad that so much personal history has been lost. Thanks to the Memory Project for at least some of this history has been saved from obscurity.

Lest we forget.

FROM THE BARRETT BUNKER – December 2015

Major Jim Barrett

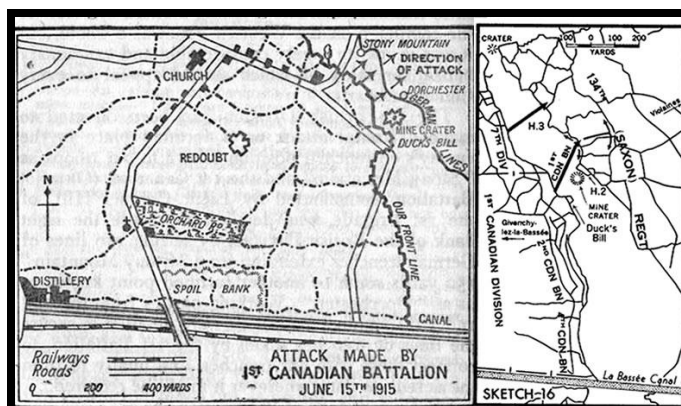
For this edition of The Duke, we recall the words of our long time Regimental Padre, Major Harry Lennox, a Great War veteran who served our unit until his passing in 1997. Padre Lennox always finished his sermons with reminding us all, "...to be ever mindful of the needs of others."

This article will cover the great sacrifice of one of our officers from the Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles, Lieutenant Robert Buscombe. You will find his portrait in full Rifle Dress framed in a brass coloured metal frame bearing the cap badge of the 7th Battalion CEF. The portrait is one we walk by every time we enter the Officers' Mess at the Drill Hall exactly where I hung it just over thirty years ago at the bottom of the stairs leading up to the third floor offices. It is also my recollection that the 130 year old French clock perched on the mantel in the Officers' Mess was brought in from the family home by Lieutenant Buscombe to replace the German clock that he tossed out onto the front street when war was declared in August 1914.



Our story begins following the Battle of Festubert when the 7th was marched away to Reserve dugouts on the 1st of June with the intention of taking over trenches from one of the 1st Brigade's units. On the 17th the Regiment moved to take part in the Battle of Givenchy by moving into "Duck's Bill Trench."

Bodies of several 1st Brigade men were located and buried, but many more were located over the parapet in No-Man's Land. Over sixty lay fallen at a point where our lines were separated from the Germans by only forty metres and an intervening shell crater.



Battle of Givenchy 1915

A plan was crafted by the 7th Battalion HQ to bring in the dead. Then next morning at 0245 hrs after artillery preparations a feint was made further down the line near German strong point H2 with ladders and rifles shown above the parapet. Whistles sounded, caps were slowly raised on sticks and artillery fire recommenced. Whilst the Germans were distracted by these activities, a party of volunteers from the 7th Battalion CEF, by Lieutenant Brooks went over the top, and brought in 52 bodies. Lieutenant H.H. Owen, the Battalion Scouting Officer, rescued Pte Adams of the 3rd Bn CEF who had been lying wounded in front of the trenches for three days.



Right: Burial of British Dead Great War



The dead were buried just behind the trenches and just as Captain Barton finished the Funeral service, Lieutenant Robert Buscombe was struck and killed by a sniper's bullet. He was buried with the comrades that he helped to bring in.

Sergeant-Major Bert Ward recalled the event as follows, "At the conclusion of the burial service we stood for a moment with bowed heads, then we stood erect. A bullet from a sniper hit Lieutenant Buscombe in the neck. He gave a sudden gasp and never moved again."

Buscombe's father was the Mayor of the City of Vancouver and a great supporter of the DCOR.

Left: Lieutenant Robert Buscombe

Brigadier-General Currie:

"Dear Colonel Odlum:

I want to tell you how much I appreciate the gallant conduct of your officers and men in bringing in and burying so many of the First Brigade. Please tell your brave fellows that it was a noble deed, and impress upon them that the second Brigade will never leave a wounded man succoured or the dead unburied, if it be within the power of mortal men to do otherwise.

A.W. Currie, Brigadier
2nd Inf. Bde"

Right: General A.W. Currie



The 7th Battalion CEF had to look forward back to returning to the Area near Hill 63 near Ploegsteert following the fighting at Givinchy, and a somewhat 'quiet' period rebuilding trenches and maintaining the line. July 1915 also saw the creation of the first edition of the Regimental Newspaper, "The listening Post",

and in November, we initiate a major trench raid at Petite Douve Farm. But that is another story and is covered in an excellent fashion in Swift & Strong.

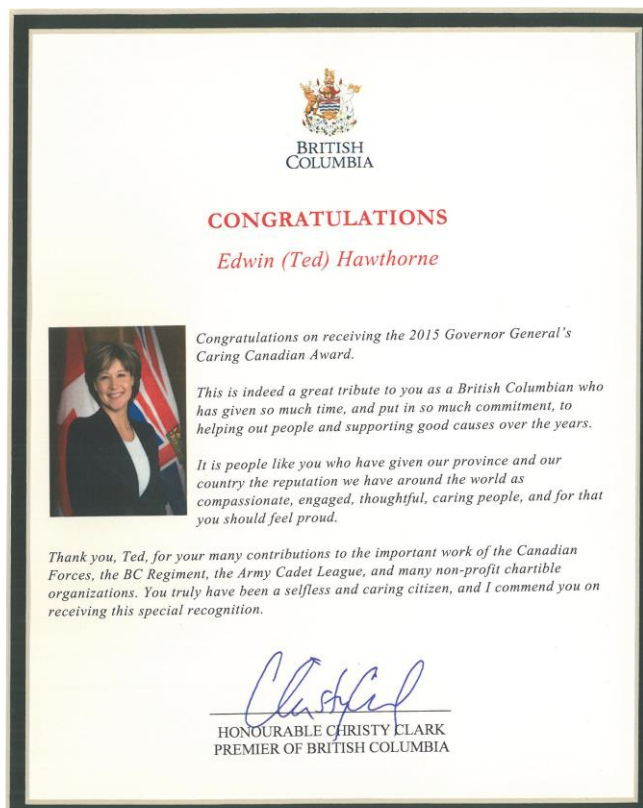
The 7th Battalion's second Christmas overseas was celebrated with the Regiment in Corps Reserve at Westoutre. Christmas day 1915 was very quiet with no artillery fire with Holy Communion at 0100, 0200, 0300, and 0400 hrs , and a visit from General Currie in the trenches at 0600 hrs.

It is at this time of year that we remember the needs of others before self, and honour the memory of those like Lieutenant Robert Buscombe, who died doing honour and service for others who fallen on the battlefield in 1915.

Sources for this article were obtained from Major Harker's Book, The Dukes, 1972, and from various photos obtained from the internet.

PRESENTATION BY RICHARD T. LEE, MLA – 23 December 2015

On behalf of Premier Christy Clark, Richard T. Lee, MLA for Burnaby North, presented a congratulatory certificate to Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne at his office in Burnaby.



2381 BCR (IRISH FUSILIERS) RCACC CHRISTMAS DINNER - 8 December 2015

The annual Christmas Potluck Dinner of the 2381 BCR (Irish Fusiliers) RCACC ("Unit") was held at the Colonel Sherman Armoury in Richmond on Tuesday, 8 December 2015. The drill square was full with over 200 guests in attendance. The evening's festivities included an extraordinary buffet, mini band recital, led by Ken Whitney, which included many Christmas Carols, prize draws, contests, and skits. The Commanding Officer of the Unit, Major Gary Law, complimented the Cadet Corps and all supporters. The

guest of honour for the evening, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, also congratulated the cadets, officers, volunteers and sponsoring committee for their service and commitment and for organizing such a memorable evening. The speeches were followed by many desserts, a balloon auction and toasts to the Queen, the Regiment and the Unit. Other guests included Major Rob Thompson, ACICO Trg Gp Delta, Honorary Colonel (Retired) Howe Lee, and Regimental Association members Ken and Linda Whitney and Archie and Judy Pow. It was a very eventful evening and the cadets had a great time. Well done 2381 BCR!

FOOD BANK

The Regimental Association, with the support of the Regiment and 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC, is engaged in the 2015 Food Bank initiative. Further details will be published in the April 2016 edition of The Duke.

ASSOCIATION KIT SHOP

The Kit Shop has the following items for sale:

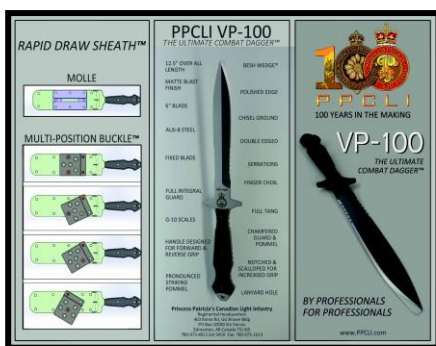
1. Mini Guidons - \$115.00. Once we have 10 confirmed requests, the order will be placed.
2. Custom designed BCR Knife - \$140.00 - **Only 20 left!**
3. Crests - \$35; Lapel Pins - \$10.00; BCR Ties - \$45.00; and Flags - \$12.00.
4. **NEW:** BCR Hoodie (cap badge embroidered on left chest) - \$40.00. Once we have 12 confirmed requests, the order will be placed.

To place an order, please e-mail Bill Diamond at Bill@DukeABear.com

Mini Guidons - \$115.00



BCR Knife - \$140.00



BCR Hoodie - \$40.00



ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

<i>DIRECTORS</i>	<i>THE DUKE</i>
President – Bob Remple Vice President – Gayle Hawthorne Treasurer – Jerry Couling Secretary – Sandra Young Director at Large – Jim Barrett Director at Large – Roger Prouse	Editor & Publisher: The BC Regiment (DCO) Association

ASSOCIATION SPECIAL PROJECTS

The Association continues to support, through its Charitable Trust, various annual initiatives such as our Bursary Program for serving members of the Regiment and our community outreach program in the month of December. In addition, the Charitable Trust supports various projects which assist in maintaining our link with the history of the Regiment (i.e. commemorative ceremonies, dedication of memorial plaques and support of our five Cadet Corps). The Association has increased its support of the Cadet Corps by the establishment of the Cadet Development Program. Further information will be published as these programs develop.

A special thank you to all of those members who support the Charitable Trust! Your generosity has made it possible to accomplish many of the commemorative projects your Association has undertaken.

We also wish to thank our supporters for their "In Memoriam" donations. This is a very effective way to remember our loved ones.

DUKE'S DEN

After a 13 hour 40 minute Emirates flight (SeaTac/Dubai), Duke arrived in Dubai to visit and board his ship, Oceania's "Insignia" for a cruise to Singapore. Ports of call included Fujairah, UAE, Bombay, Goa, Mangalore and Cochin in India, Colombo, Sri Lanka, Rangoon, Burma, Phuket, Thailand and Singapore. Upon his return to Vancouver, Duke immediately resumed his duties to celebrate the Regiment's 132nd Birthday.



Andrea and Duke



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
from MCpl Duke A. Bear!



ASLEEP

Honourary Colonel (Ret'd) Patrick Reid, OC, MC CD, foreign decorations, the Great Cross of the Order of Merit of Peru, Order of the Chrysanthemum and Order of Rising Sun of Japan, passed away on 5 December 2015. Patrick served with The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) RCAC as a Squadron Commander from 1956 to 1962. During World War II, Patrick served with the North Irish Horse, initially supporting the 2nd Brigade, 1st Canadian Division in Italy. In the battles of the Hitler Line, he was a Donegal born Lieutenant Patrick Reid, MC, who in later life would immigrate to Canada, held many significant senior appointments in Canadian national affairs, during which he chaired the committee which choose the Maple Leaf design for the new national Flag of Canada. Patrick, Alison and children Amanda and Mike resided in numerous cities during his career, but Vancouver was home.

Colonel Reid was truly an outstanding citizen soldier.

Thank you for your service to the Regiment and Canada.

At the going down of the sun,
and in the morning,
We shall remember them.