



THE DUKE



I'M NINETY-FIVE – 10 September 2015

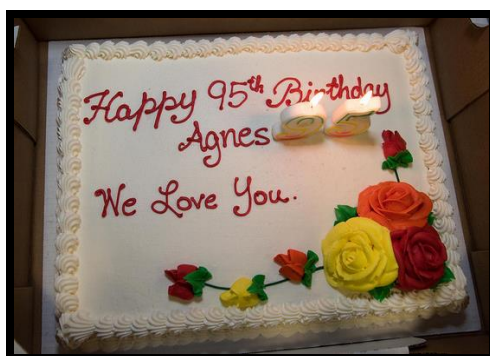
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Agnes Keegan's 95th Birthday Celebration

Photos courtesy of John Karmazinuk



The Stand To Parade for 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC was a great start to the new training year with the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, in attendance as the Reviewing Officer. Colonel Hawthorne conducted a brief inspection of the cadets and proceeded with a short address complimenting them on their turnout, drill and deportment and conveying the greetings of the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Major Douglas Evans. At the conclusion of the parade, the Commanding Officer of the unit, Major Jim Barrett, ordered an about turn and recognized the special birthday of Honorary Captain Agnes Keegan, along with her outstanding service and commitment. The cadets, officers, volunteers and guests then proceeded to sing Happy Birthday which was followed by three cheers, and the official cutting of the cakes (compliments of the Regimental Association) with the C/RSM's sabre. A brief reception followed with everyone enjoying this most enjoyable event. Others in attendance were Vice President Gayle Hawthorne representing the Regimental Association, BCR Cadet Governor Roger Prouse, Honours & Awards Executive of the Army Cadet League Louise Prouse and members of the Sponsoring Committee.

Our heartfelt congratulations to Agnes on the occasion of her 95th birthday and thank you for your over 35 years of service to our cadets and to the entire Regimental Family. Up the Dukes!

49th ANNUAL CEREMONIAL REVIEW 2781 BCR (DCO) RCACC (POWELL RIVER) – 23 May 2015

The Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, was the Reviewing Officer, at this year's ACR. The parade commander was C/RSM MWO Krissandra Berg and 16 cadets were on parade, all well turned out. The drill of the Cadet Corps was excellent. Numerous presentations were made, including the award of the Lord Strathcona Medal to Sgt K Masters by Colonel Hawthorne and award presentations by Cadet Governor Roger Prouse, Army Cadet League Honours & Awards Executive Louise Prouse and Vice President Gayle Hawthorne who presented the Cadet Development Certificate of Award to the Commanding Officer, Lt (N) Allan Walker. In his RO address, Colonel Hawthorne, complimented and acknowledged the contributions of the Cadets, the Commanding Officer, his Officers and Staff, the Sponsoring Committee, Volunteers and Parents. Colonel Hawthorne also presented his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin to the CO and to Capt (R) Larry Gemmill.

At the conclusion of the parade, there was a very informative tour of the many static displays. A very enjoyable reception followed the tour. The ACR was concluded by the presentation to the NCOs' Mess of a copy of the May 2015 edition of **The Duke** by Colonel Hawthorne, a symbolic gesture of continuing support to the unit and the newly refurbished Mess.

The annual Mess Dinner held at the RCL Branch was a complete success and a great evening was had by all of the Cadets and their many guests. Colonel Hawthorne complimented the Cadet Corps in his address and presented his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin to Capt (R) Paul Campbell for his many years of service to the unit.

Congratulations to 2781 BCR for an excellent ACR and many thanks for the wonderful hospitality!



CO'S PARADE (STAND DOWN) – 27 May 2015

The CO's Parade (Stand Down) held on 27 May 2015 was another full evening with over 75 members on parade and very well turned out. As usual, the Regiment looked in fine form!

Brief highlights of the evening included the following:

1. **Presentations, Honours & Awards**

Promotions to Corporal:	Cpl Corcoran Cpl Ocol Cpl Reymers Cpl To Cpl Volosatov Cpl Wu Cpl Zhou
CO's Commendations:	Mr. John Hawthorne (not present) Sgt Lee
European Battlefield Tour (Administrative/Planning):	Major John M. Perry Captain Jennifer L. Hillman Sgt Dwayne H. Snow (not present)
Commendation Mention:	Capt Hillman
Canadian Forces Decoration:	Sgt Cobb Cpl De la Garza
Canadian Forces Decoration – 1st Clasp:	Sgt Baker (not present) Sgt Patterson Maj Perry
Regimental Achievement Awards:	MCpl Canavan – Top Candidate ARCC Pte Spooner – Top Candidate BMQ-L
Physical Fitness – Spartan Helmut:	Cpl Fancy
Recce Sqn Awards:	LCol A.F. Lungley Award for Top Crewman – Cpl Delaat (not present) Brigadier Arthur G. Chubb Award for Top Crew – MCpl Corbett, Cpl Wright, Cpl Faber, Tpr Wu
Trg Sqn Awards:	Walter Stevenson Memorial Trophy – for Jr and Sr NCO Proficiency – MCpl Langone Sgt Pierangelo Dalmagro Memorial Trophy for Superior Leadership – Sgt Cobb
Officer Awards:	BCR Junior Officer Trophy for Excellence in Leadership (Col Gagne) – 2Lt Vinluan The Honorary Colonel's Cup for Outstanding Contribution to the Regiment – presented to Bill Diamond by Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne
LCol (Ret'd) David Sproule	Presented his sabre to the Regiment



2. The “Last Words” from the Honorary Colonel:

Colonel Hawthorne complimented the members on a great parade and turnout, congratulated all those who were promoted, all Commendation, Trophy and Medal recipients. Colonel Hawthorne

also acknowledged and thanked the Regimental Association and Charitable Trust for their excellent work.

The CO concluded the evening's agenda with his closing comments by complimenting the members of the Regiment for their service and commitment. The Honorary Colonel, President "Recce Bob" Remple and VP Gayle Hawthorne attended at the Junior Ranks Mess to circulate among the members and wish them all the best. A round was bought by Colonel Hawthorne in recognition of the exceptional service of the Junior Ranks.

CURRY LUNCHEON – 28 May 2015

The last Curry Luncheon for the training year was very well attended and was a most enjoyable time. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne greeted and welcomed all guests, including past Honorary Colonels Bill Ireland and Howe Lee, New Westminster Councillor Lorrie Williams and Community Projects Coordinator Ruby Campbell, 39 CBG COS LCol Ed Haverstock, Major Jim Barrett, CO of 2290 BCR and Captain Jackson Wong 2IC of 2381 BCR, President "Recce" Bob Remple, and Dr. and Mrs. Simon and Margaret Harris of The Hatfield Society. The Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Major Douglas Evans, acknowledged LCol (R) Andy Conradi, Councillor Lorrie Williams and Ruby Campbell by presenting each of them with a Certificate of Appreciation and the CO's Medallion for their dedicated work on the highly successful "The Wait for me, Daddy" Memorial project. The CO also acknowledged the support of retired Honorary Colonel Bill Ireland, Doctor and Lize Simon of The Hatfield Society, President Bob Remple for the Regimental Association, Band Governor Bill Diamond and Colonel Hawthorne, for their support of the very successful 2015 European Battlefield Studies Tour by presenting a beautiful framed photo montage of the Tour to each recipient.





Many thanks to all of our friends for supporting this successful event and a special thank you to the folks at "Two Peas in a Pod Catering" for an excellent "Taste of Singapore" luncheon.

See you on September 24th for the next scheduled Curry Luncheon.



THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION

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28 May 2015

Members of the Regimental Association, friends and supporters,

Dear colleagues:

I am pleased to announce that the following members were elected as directors of the Regimental Association at the annual general meeting of members held at the Drill Hall on 28 May 2015:

President	Bob Remple
Vice President	Gayle Hawthorne
Treasurer	Jerry Couling
Secretary	Sharel Fraser
Director at Large	Jim Barrett
Director at Large	Roger Prouse

I am confident that our strong board of directors will continue to follow the well-established policy or tradition of supporting the Commanding Officer, the Regiment, our Veterans, and our wider Regimental Family.

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the new board on their election and for their strong background of service and commitment to the Regimental Association and the entire Regimental Family.

Sincerely yours,

R. A. Remple

R. A. (Bob) Remple, President

**5th ANNUAL CEREMONIAL REVIEW
888 AVENGER SQUADRON
ROYAL CANADIAN AIR CADETS – 30 May 2015**

The 2015 Annual Ceremonial Review (“ACR”) of 888 Avenger Squadron was held at The Drill Hall on Saturday, 30 May 2015. The ACR was a highlight at the conclusion of a very busy training year. The Reviewing Officer (“RO”) was Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne and the Parade Commander was WO1 Marcus Zheng. The unit was very well turned out with over 125 cadets on parade (elbow dressed which took up the entire length of the drill square) including the Band and Colour Party. The displays by the Drill Team, Physical Training, Band and Effective Speaking Teams were all very well executed and were well received by the many guests in attendance. The Awards and Presentations part of the program was truly an acknowledgment of the unit’s success. In the Address of the RO, Colonel Hawthorne complimented the cadets for their excellent performance and acknowledged the great work of the Commanding Officer, Captain Amar Tiwana, his Officers and Staff, the Sponsoring Committee and volunteers and parents. The RO presented his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin to the CO and the Parade Commander in recognition of their service and commitment to the unit. At the conclusion of the parade, the unit showcased extensive static displays for everyone’s edification.

A reception for the Cadet Corps and guests followed.

Congratulations 888 Avenger Squadron for an excellent ACR!



Photos courtesy of Anna Tse

ANNUAL CEREMONIAL REVIEW 2381 BCR (DCO) (IRISH FUSILIERS) RCACC – 31 May 2015

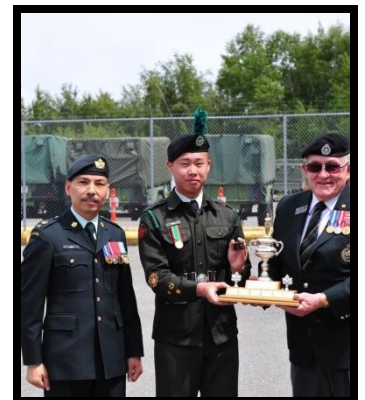
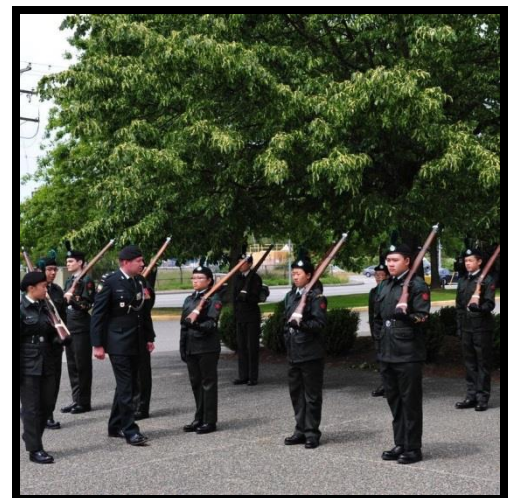
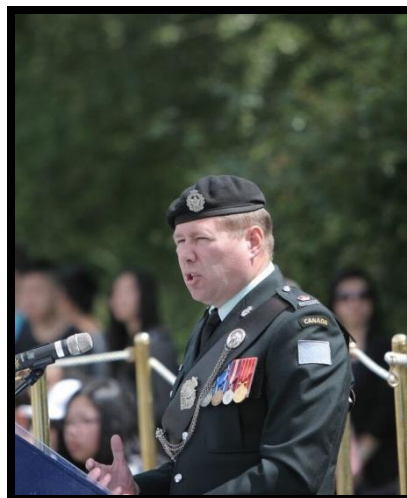


The Annual Ceremonial Review (“ACR”) was held at the Colonel Sherman Armouries in Richmond on Sunday, 31 May 2015. The Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Major Douglas Evans, was the Reviewing Officer and the Parade Commander was C/RSM CWO Oscar Wong. The Cadet Corps was very well turned out with over 90 cadets on parade, including the Band and the Colour Party.

Cadet Governor Roger Prouse, representing the Regimental Association, presented a Certificate of Award under the Cadet Development Program to the Commanding Officer of 2381 BCR, Major Gary Law. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne was part of the Reviewing Party and also presented during the Awards and Presentations.

The RO’s address to the Cadet Corps was very complimentary and acknowledged the great work of Major Law, his Officers and Staff, the Sponsoring Committee, volunteers and parents and of course the cadets. At the conclusion of the address, the CO presented his Commanding Officer’s Coin to the CO of the unit and the C/RSM.

Congratulations 2381 BCR for an excellent ACR!



3300 BCR (Bhai Kanhaiya) RCACC ANNUAL CEREMONIAL REVIEW – 4 June 2015

The 3rd Annual Ceremonial Review of 3300 BCR was held on a beautiful evening outside on the Parade Grounds at the Sikh Academy. The Reviewing Officer was the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Major Douglas Evans, accompanied by RSM, MWO Huf Mullick. The Parade Commander was C/RSM, C/CWO Bharbhoor Tumber. The Cadet Corps was well turned out with over 60 cadets on parade, including the Colour Party. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne was part of the Reviewing Party.

Cadet Governor Roger Prouse, representing the Regimental Association, presented a Certificate of Award under the Cadet Development Program to the Commanding Officer of 3300 BCR, Major Lee Taylor.

The RO's address to the Cadet Corps was very complimentary and acknowledged the great work of Major Taylor, his Officers and Staff, the Sponsoring Committee, volunteers and parents and of course the cadets. At the conclusion of the address, the CO presented his Commanding Officer's Coin to the CO of the unit and the C/RSM.

The ACR was followed by an excellent dinner/reception. Static displays in the gym were also a part of the evening's festivities.

Congratulations 3300 BCR for an excellent ACR!

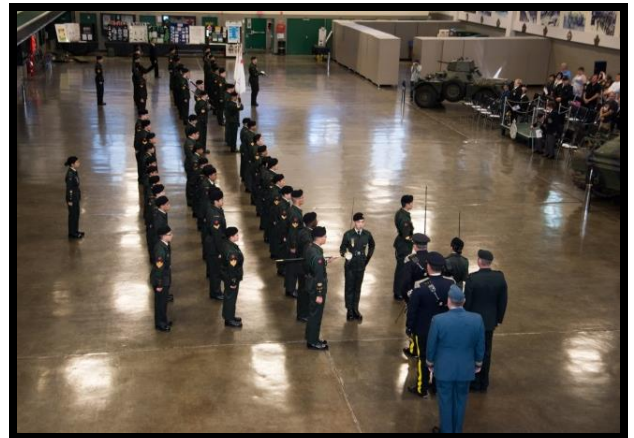
ANNUAL CEREMONIAL REVIEW 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC and 2827 BCR (PORT MOODY) RCACC – 6 June 2015

The combined Annual Ceremonial Review ("ACR") of 2290 BCR and 2827 BCR was held at The Drill Hall on Saturday, 6 June 2015. The Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, was the Reviewing Officer and the Parade Commander was C/RSM Sabrina Lim. The two units were very well turned out with over 60 cadets on parade, including the Colour Party.

Vice President Gayle Hawthorne, representing the Regimental Association, presented Certificates of Award under the Cadet Development Program to the Commanding Officers of each unit, Major Jim Barrett of 2290 BCR and Captain Rob Rothwell of 2827 BCR.

Colonel Hawthorne and Gayle Hawthorne were each presented with a Certificate of Volunteer Service and a Volunteer Service Medal awarded by The Army Cadet League of Canada for their "continuous and meritorious service".

In his RO address, Colonel Hawthorne, complimented and acknowledged the contributions of the Cadets, the Unit Commanding Officers, their Officers and Staff, the Sponsoring Committees, Volunteers and Parents.





The RO presented his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin to the unit COs, Major Jim Barrett and Captain Rob Rothwell. In addition, Colonel Hawthorne also recognized HCapt. Agnes Keegan for her continuing support of 2290 BCR and presented her with a coin as well.

A wonderful reception followed the excellent parade and demonstrations. Many thanks to Lisa Wroblewski and her Sponsoring Committee for their great work!

Congratulations 2290 BCR and 2827 BCR for an excellent ACR!



Photos courtesy of John Karmazinuk

DUKES 67th ANNUAL REGIMENTAL VETERANS' LUNCHEON RAMADA INN, KAMLOOPS, BC – 13 June 2015

It was a very special Veterans' Luncheon held in the Columbia Room of the Ramada Inn in Kamloops this year! 28th Armoured members Trooper (R) Keith Moore, WO2 (R) Vern Salisbury, MM and Douglas Cameron, the son of the late Sgt (R) Don Cameron, along with many family and friends attended. The Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Major Douglas Evans, and the Honorary Colonel, Ted Hawthorne, were also in attendance.

President "Recce Bob" Remple was the Master of Ceremonies. The luncheon program included the traditional welcome, introduction of special guests, the lighting of the Candles of Remembrance, the recitation of the names of the Dukes who had passed on since the last reunion, and those in hospital or on the mend, grace by Colonel Hawthorne, and a most enjoyable lunch. The traditional toasts were given (The Queen, by Graydon Young, The Fallen, by Jack Drake and the Regiment, by Vern Salisbury).

The CO delivered a State of the Regiment address and made particular reference to and acknowledgement of the great work of the Regimental Family at so many levels. Major Evans took the opportunity to present a framed photo montage commemorating the 2015 European Battlefield Studies Tour to Jack Drake in recognition of his support of the tour and his support of so many other initiatives for the Regiment. Colonel Hawthorne also acknowledged the excellent support of the Regimental Association and its Charitable Trust

during the past year. President “Recce Bob” concluded the speeches by providing a short précis of the Regimental Association’s activities and objectives and concluded with a brief sales pitch to the members to continue their great support.

Presentation of the Order of the Legion of Honour



The program concluded with the highlight of the afternoon, a medal presentation program, conducted by President Emeritus Archie Steacy. Archie provided background information on the wonderful recognition program by the Republic of France involving the award of the Order of the Legion of Honour and then called upon the Commanding Officer to officiate. Keith Moore and Douglas Cameron, on behalf of the late Don Cameron, were introduced as the medal recipients. Colonel Hawthorne delivered the address of Consul General Christophe Fleury who was unable to attend. The CO then proceeded to present the Order to Keith Moore and Douglas Cameron. President Remple then presented a Certificate of Recognition to each recipient and Archie presented a Commemorative Booklet marking the occasion to Keith and Doug.

The luncheon was concluded with the door prize draw conducted by Gayle Hawthorne (four winners of a bottle of “Black Beret”!). Gayle also announced the upcoming special raffle and draw for a beautiful “Armoured Corps Quilt” with proceeds going to 2781 BCR (Powell River) RCACC. Details will become available shortly.

It was truly a memorable reunion! Our special thanks to Gayle Hawthorne, OPI of the Veterans’ Luncheon, for all of her great work!





Photos courtesy of Lynda Steacy

BCR BRASS BAND WIND UP DINNER – 22 June 2015

After a successful year, the Brass Band decided to have a year-end social dinner in the WOs' & Sgts' Mess. Many thanks to the PMC for making the Mess available and to Sgt Baker for looking after the bar.



Prior to the start of the dinner, recently retired Bugle Major John More gave the attendees a brief overview of a Mess dinner. The band has played for many dinners, but this was the first time for many of them to be enjoying the dinner vs performing. Once the background was given, the head table entered the Mess so the dinner could begin. The band was pleased that HCol Ted Hawthorne and Association VP Gayle Hawthorne were able to join the dinner. Also seated at the head table were Band Governor Bill Diamond, his wife Audrey, Band President Peter Davidson and Band Director, Bombardier Brian Smith.

The dinner started with a nice salad followed by roast beef with all the trimmings and a fabulous dessert. Lori's Catering is to be commended for a great meal!

It was during the dinner that John More advised the attendees that this is his last year with the band and his final retirement as Bugle Major. He has retired from this appointment a few times, but was pressed back into service. The band will be making a recommendation to the CO for a replacement and they hope to have the appointment confirmed at a CO's Parade.

After the toasts the HCol was asked to say a few words. He thanked the band on behalf of the CO and all members of the Regimental Family for their time and dedication. The many hours that they volunteer is to be commended and is greatly appreciated. The bands are always a welcome addition to the dinners the Regiment hosts as well as their annual support of Remembrance Day. The HCol ended his comments by thanking Bill Diamond for taking on the Band Governor role and his efforts in ensuring the communication lines between the bands and the Regiment are always open.

As the dinner was winding down and coffee was being served, Frederica took the opportunity to formally thank John More for his many years of service to the band. He has been a member of the band for 29 years, has a great deal of knowledge and has been very committed to the band. She referred to him as the "Radar O'Reilly" of the band. For those band members that were too young to understand this reference, they were advised to watch an episode of MASH.

John appreciated the comments and said it has been a labour of love. He has enjoyed his time with the band but all good things must come to an end. He said that he was leaving on a very high note after being the bugler for the recent Battle Field Tour. It was a tremendous experience to walk the hallowed grounds of the veterans of the two world wars. Especially considering his father was a WWI veteran.

A great way to wind up the year!!

HMCS VANCOUVER CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY – 25 June 2015

The Change of Command Ceremony of HMCS Vancouver from Commander Jeffery Climenhaga to Commander Clive Butler took place at A2 Jetty, HMC Dockyard, Esquimalt on Thursday, 25 June 2015 at 1100 hrs.

The ceremony was attended by Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Major Douglas Evans, Vice President of the Regimental Association, Gayle Hawthorne and past President and Band Governor Bill Diamond. In addition, Mark Zwanski, the Chairman of the Friends of Vancouver and his contingent also attended.



The Reviewing Officer was Captain (N) Jeff Zwick, newly appointed Commander, Canadian Fleet Pacific.

A most enjoyable reception followed the ceremony on the flight deck and in the hangar. It was an excellent opportunity to visit and meet the many new members of the ship's company.

The BCR contingent was invited to visit the three "messes" aboard the ship (Wardroom, Petty Officers and Junior Ranks).

It was most certainly an excellent day aboard HMCS Vancouver and a successful opportunity to reconnect and strengthen our affiliation with the ship.

Congratulations to Commander Jeffery Climenhaga and Commander Clive Butler on an excellent Change of Command Ceremony and Reception. The hospitality of the entire ship's company was tremendous! We wish you and the entire crew aboard HMCS Vancouver fair winds and following seas and all the very best!



Photos courtesy of Bill Diamond

39 CANADIAN BRIGADE GROUP CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY – 28 June 2015

The Change of Command Ceremony from Colonel M.P. Haussmann, CD to Colonel D.R.A. Awalt, CD took place at HQ 39 CBG at 1100hrs. on a hot Sunday morning.

The Reviewing Officer was BGen W.D. Eyre, MSC, CD, Commander of 3 Canadian Division/Joint Task Force West.

The Regiment was represented at the ceremony by Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, the Commanding Officer, Major Douglas Evans and the RSM, MWO Huf Mullick.

Special guests included Her Honour, The Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC and BGen R.R. MacKenzie.



The Guard on parade included NCMs of 39 CBG. The Bands of 15 Field Artillery Regiment, RCA and Seaforth Highlanders of Canada Pipes & Drums were also in attendance.

A reception followed in the 39 CBG Combined Mess.

Congratulations to the incoming Commander, Colonel David Awalt!



Photos courtesy of 39 CBG

CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS PORT MOODY – 1 July 2015

The Port Moody Station Museum welcomed the community with a special tribute to their community heroes, Gloria Cuccione, OBC, Carol Todd and Korean War Veterans Warren Byrnell and Yang Woo Chung, at a beautiful sunny Canada Day Ceremony held at the Port Moody Station.

Dignitaries in attendance included Fin Donnelly, MP, Honorary Consul General of Belgium, Monique Poncelet-Gheleyns, Consul Sang Hun Lee, Korea, Consul General of the USA, Lynne Platt, Linda Reimer, MLA, Mayor Mike Clay, Chief Constable Chris Rattenbury, Honorary Colonel James Happer, 39 CER, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, The BC Regiment (DCO), Gloria Cuccione, Carol Todd, and leaders of Korea veterans' organizations and civic leaders.

The National Anthems of Canada, Korea and Belgium were played by the 15th Field Regiment, RCA Band. The program included speeches by Fin Donnelly, MP, Consuls Poncelet-Gheleyns, Lee and Platt, Linda Reimer, MLA, Mayor Mike Clay, Gloria Cuccione (Michael Cuccione Foundation) and Carol Todd (Amanda

Todd Legacy Society). The ceremony concluded with The Last Post and Reveille played by BCR Bugle Sgt Chris Ahern and the Lament by Piper Liam Hilder.

Numerous displays were set up for the very full day. Participants included Western Command Historical Society, The 78th Fraser Highlanders, Fort Fraser Garrison, 754 Phoenix Air Cadet Squadron, 15th Field Artillery Regiment Museum & Archives Society with a 25-Pounder Gun, very ably managed and fired by our good friend Bob Mugford and the Western Front Association. Scheduled performances by Dowco Triumph Street Pipe Band, 15th Field Regiment, RCA Band and Vancouver Firefighters Band were included.

Congratulations to The Port Moody Station Museum and, in particular, to Guy Black for an excellent celebration of Canada Day!



Photos courtesy of Cary Price

CANADA DAY PARADE, VANCOUVER – 1 July 2015

Canada Day was a busy day for the pipe band members as a number of members play in other bands and were out at parades and ceremonies that morning. Despite it being a very hot day, they were happy to come together to play in the annual Vancouver Canada Day Parade.

The organizers of the parade were kind enough to supply water and snacks for the participants and was enjoyed by the members as they started gathering shortly after 6 pm.

Special thanks to Corporal Sloan for storing drum and pipe cases in the G-Wagon and dropping them off at the Drill Hall after the parade. It saved them being hauled along the parade route.

The parade stepped off at 7 pm and was well organized from start to finish. The organizers have a sign for when music can start as well as when they need to stop playing as this helps with the marshalling of this large parade. As parades go, this is not a long parade so the band was playing from start to finish with very few water breaks along the way. This is great for the audience, but makes for tired and thirsty pipers and drummers at the end of the parade. Once dismissed, additional water was circulated and quickly consumed. Then it was off to the Drill Hall to pick up cases and visit the WOs' & Sgts' Mess. Special thanks once again to Sgt Baker for opening the Mess for the band and family members.



MCpl Carswell

At the Drill Hall the band was advised that the Junior Ranks' Mess was also open. They kindly invited the band members to the Mess and Pipe Major Matt Dolan played a few tunes in their Mess.

The support from the Regiment and Messes is greatly appreciated and a fine way to end a busy day.

CANADA DAY FIREWORKS RECEPTION HMCS CALGARY - 1 July 2015

The hospitality of the Royal Canadian Navy was clearly evident during the festive reception aboard HMCS Calgary which was docked at Burrard Drydock Pier at the foot of Lonsdale Avenue in North Vancouver. The host for the evening was Rear-Admiral W.S. Truelove, Maritime Forces Pacific, along with the Commander Julian Elbourne and the Coxswain, CPO 1 David Morse, of HMCS Calgary.



The Regiment was represented by Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne and the Regimental Association by VP Gayle Hawthorne and Past President Bill Diamond (with his wife Audrey). Friends of the Regimental Family included Honorary Colonel (Retired) Howe Lee, John Nosotti, Past President of RUSI Vancouver, Cam Cathcart, President of RUSI Vancouver, Mark Zwanski, Chairman of the Friends of HMCS Vancouver, Daniel Whittle, Past Chairman of the Friends of Vancouver. OCdt Ali Mansour also was able to attend after a very busy day managing the Army's community relations program at Canada Place in Vancouver.

It was a beautiful evening to enjoy the tremendous fireworks display and the hospitality of our good friends in the RCN. Love those cowboy hats!

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION USS STOCKDALE (DDG 106), NORTH VANCOUVER – 6 July 2015

A memorable evening in celebration of the 239th Anniversary of the United States Independence Day was hosted by the Consul General of the United States Lynne Platt and the Commanding Officer of the USS Stockdale (a guided missile destroyer), Commander Sean Grunwell. The reception was held at The Burrard Dry Dock Pier, 3 Wallace Mews in North Vancouver, on 6 July 2015 in the early evening.



The program included the presentation of colours by the guards of 39 CBG and Washington State Army National Guard, the National Anthems of Canada and the United States by Chor Leoni and remarks by Lynne Platt, US Consul General, Commander Sean Grunwell, USS Stockdale, Andrew Wilkinson, MLA, Darrell Mussatto, the Mayor of the City of North Vancouver and concluded with The Navy Hymn. The music before and after the ceremony was performed by the RCN Naden Band Jazz Quartet. The reception was a first class event.

The Regiment was represented by Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne and the Regimental Association by Vice President Gayle Hawthorne. Our good friend and colleague Farid Rohani was also in attendance.

Many thanks to Consul General Lynne Platt and to Commander Sean Grunwell and all the crew of USS Stockdale for their wonderful hospitality!

THE MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMENDATION PRESENTATION CEREMONY Richmond, BC – 13 July 2015

The 2015 Ceremony for the presentation of The Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation in British Columbia was held at The Westin Wall Centre Vancouver Airport in Richmond on Monday, 13 July 2015.

As the Ministry states in their information brochure, “the Commendation is awarded annually to individuals who have contributed in an exemplary manner to the care and well-being of Veterans or to the remembrance of the contributions, sacrifices and achievements of Veterans.”

Two of the ten recipients this year were our very own Major James D. Barrett, CD, Commanding Officer of 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC, and our good friend and colleague, retired RCMP Staff Sergeant Major Robert R. Underhill.

The Honourable Erin O'Toole, Minister of Veterans Affairs, delivered a splendid acknowledgement of the service and dedication of the recipients to the support of our Veterans' community.

The presentation ceremony was very well orchestrated with the citation being read out for each recipient and the beautifully framed citation certificate being presented by the Minister along with the Ministerial Commendation lapel pin and Commendation Bar.



Minister O'Toole and Major Barrett



Minister O'Toole, Beverley & Bob Underhill

A reception followed which provided an excellent opportunity to visit with the many guests and happy recipients. The Regiment and the Regimental Family were represented by Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne who attended the ceremony and reception.

Congratulations to Jim and Bob on this well-deserved recognition!

NB. Major James Barrett was also awarded his second bar to his CD by LCol Judy Peter at a ceremony in the combined messes in Vernon on 2 July 2015. Major Barrett is OC Charlie Company at VACSTC this summer.

Photos courtesy of VAC



CD Presentation



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

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14 July 2015

Members of the Regimental Family, Friends & Supporters

Re: Honorary Colonel W.R. Diamond, 39 CER

I am most pleased to advise you that our very good friend and colleague, Bill Diamond, has been appointed Honorary Colonel of the 39 Combat Engineer Regiment by the Minister of National Defence, The Honourable Jason Kenney, effective as of 28 June 2015.

On behalf of the Regiment and the Regimental Family, I wish to congratulate Colonel Bill on a well-deserved appointment! Our friends at 39 CER are most fortunate indeed to have you as their Honorary Colonel.

As most of you will know, Colonel Bill's support of our Regiment and the entire Regimental Family has been truly extraordinary and is greatly appreciated by us all!

All the very best Bill and Up the Dukes!

Sincerely,

E. A. (Ted) Hawthorne,
Honorary Colonel

EAH/C2059-BD1.012

**ALI SAMIR MANSOUR & BRITTANY DENISE BERGEVIN
WEDDING CELEBRATION – 8 August 2015**



OCdt Ali Mansour and Brittany Bergevin were married at the Drill Hall on Saturday, 8 August 2015, with our Padre, the Reverend Michael McGee, presiding. The service was well attended by many friends, family members and members of the RCMP and the Regiment. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the happy couple proceeded through a well-executed Arch of Swords by members of the Regiment and the RCMP.

A reception was held in the Officers' and WOs' & Sgts' Mess at 4:00pm until the dinner hour. The very fine dinner was enjoyed by all on the well decorated drill square. Head Table guests, which included the Bride and Groom, the Commanding Officer, Major Douglas Evans (Zinat), the RSM, MWO Huf Mullick (Surinder) and Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne (Gayle), were piped in by Pipe Major Matt Dolan.

After many fine speeches, traditional toasts and the official cake cutting with sabre by Ali, the formal part of the evening was concluded and the very popular dance segment commenced.

A great evening was enjoyed by all.

Congratulations Ali and Brittany!



W5 5TH ANNUAL REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION CADET BBQ FUNDRAISER – 9 August 2015



The W5 5th Annual BBQ fundraiser was held on Sunday August 9th at the home of Ken & Lynda Whitney. Once again it was a perfect day. It had just finished raining earlier in the morning and everything cleared up and then wasn't too hot or cold for the afternoon event. We were able to catch up with old friends and meet some new. There were many guests. To name a few: HCol Ted Hawthorne, VP Association Gayle Hawthorne, LCol (R) President Emeritus Archie Steacy & Lynda Steacy, Cadet Gov. Roger Prouse & Louise Prouse, Archie & Judy Pow, Carol Glover, Cameron Glover, Erika & Jemima Rouby, Agnes Keegan and a few new guests, Bob & Trudy Hanna and newly appointed 2290 BCR Sponsoring Committee Chair, Bernadette McGrath.

The BBQ consisted of your normal BBQ fixings, burgers, salads and desserts etc. Ken was once again able to put together some of his band members, who sounded great. We thank them all for taking time out of their busy schedules to play for us. There were many prizes to be won either by a door prize or a lucky draw raffle. Carol Glover won the scratch ticket tree this time (sorry Lynda S.), Bob Hanna won the Vancouver Canadians Baseball tickets and Bernadette was a double winner, with most attendees winning some type of prize. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne conveyed the Commanding Officer's greetings and thanked those present for the great support. Colonel Hawthorne presented Ken & Lynda Whitney and Graydon & Sandra Young with his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin for their ongoing efforts. A very special thank you to Ken & Lynda Whitney for again opening their home to us and preparing appetizers and chili, and to Dan & Ellen McKenzie for taking care of the door check-in. Thank you to everyone else who helped to make this event possible; Sandra & Graydon Young (BBQ, salad & set up), Lynda Steacy (salads), Gayle Hawthorne (zucchini cake), Louise Prouse (brownies), Tim Monchamp for giving Graydon a hand with the barbecuing and Jemima who helped to give out the prizes. Special thanks to all the guests for their ongoing contributions to help the Association fund the continuing and upcoming obligations of the training and development requirements of the Cadets. Thank you to everyone. Up the Dukes!



L to R: Graydon, Sandra, Colonel Ted, Linda and Ken



"Armoured" Quilt

VERNON ARMY CADET SUMMER TRAINING CENTRE FINAL PARADE & SUNSET CEREMONY – 13 August 2015

The annual parade at VACSTC was held on Dieppe Parade Square on a very warm summer evening, the hottest ever according to some. The Parade Appointments were the Reviewing Officer, Colonel Commandant Royal Canadian Army Cadets, BGen (R) R.R. Romses, OMM, CD, BA, MA and the Parade Commander, LCol Judy Peter, CD.

The program included a well-executed Feu de Joie by the Guard and concluded with the customary Sunset Ceremony (Amazing Grace, Lowering the Flag, Good Save the Queen, Advance in Review Order and General Salute).

The Regiment was represented by Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne and the Regimental Association by Vice President Gayle Hawthorne. Cadet League VP and BCR Cadet Governor Roger Prouse, League Honours & Awards Executive Louise Prouse and 2290 BCR Sponsoring Committee Member Agnes Keegan were also in attendance.

Congratulations to all of our cadets on another successful summer camp!



CHARLIE COMPANY PARADE – 14 August 2015

This year's VACSTC Pennant Winner, Charlie Company, held its Final Parade on Sicily Parade Square at 0830 hrs on Friday, 14 August 2015. The Parade Commander was our very own Major James Barrett, CD, OC Charlie Company. The Reviewing Officer was LCol (R) Philip Sherwin, CD, AdeC. A very good representation of the Regimental Family also attended this excellent parade.

Congratulations to Major Barrett and the Cadets of Charlie Company for their very successful camp!



V-J DAY, COMMEMORATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR – 15 August 2015

A commemoration ceremony to remember was held at the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Vancouver on Saturday, 15 August 2015. This special event aptly named "Remember History Cherish Peace" was presented and sponsored by The Chinese Benevolent Association of Vancouver, The Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society, ANAVETS Unit 280 and British Columbia Veterans Commemorative Association.

The program featured a resounding presentation of "O Canada" by Robert Chan, the Lighting of the Candles of Remembrance by WWII veterans, greetings by Raymond Chu (CBA President), a reading of the Proclamation from the City of Vancouver, the presentation of "Canada in the Pacific War" by Thomas Van Walleghem (written by LCol (R) Archie Steacy who was unable to attend due to illness), the presentation of "Unwanted to Unsung Heroes" by Colonel (R) Howe Lee, the Last Post and Rouse by BCR Bugler Major John More, the Benediction by The Reverend Ka Hyun MacKenzie Shin and "God Save the Queen" by Robert Chan.





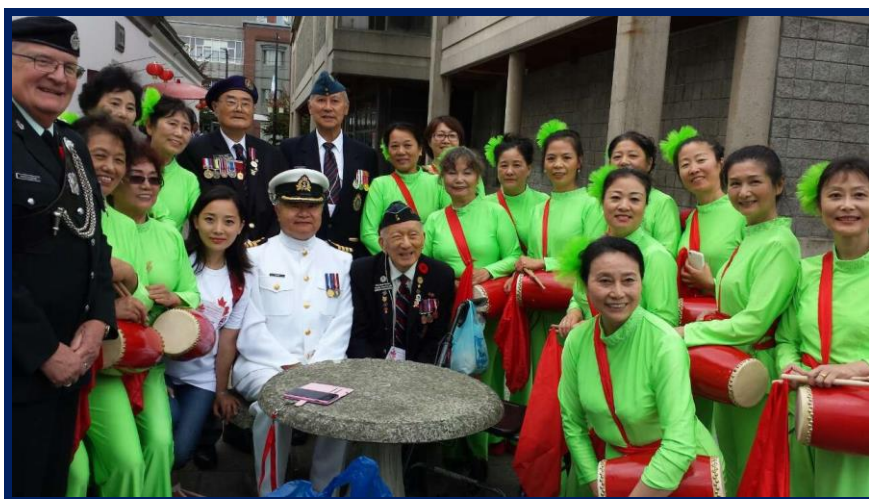
The program continued outside on Columbia Street with further speeches and entertainment. The Regimental Association was represented by Vice President Gayle Hawthorne and the Regiment by Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne. Our good friend and colleague, the Honorary Colonel of 39 CER, Bill Diamond, and family were also in attendance.

A reception was held in the centre after the street entertainment concluded.

It was truly an extraordinary day of commemoration!



Honorary Captain (N) Tung Chan and
Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne



V-J CELEBRATION BCVCA, STEACY, SPEECH – 15 August 2015

As Co-Chair of the V-J Day Commemoration Committee, I was requested to deliver a presentation, pertaining to “Canada in the Pacific War, 1939 -1945”, at the V-J Day Commemoration Ceremony, on 15 August 2015, held at the Chinese Cultural Centre in Vancouver.

The talk expounds on Canada's participation, though minimal compared with the United States and Great Britain, in the Battle of Hong Kong, shelling of Estevan Lighthouse, Civil Defence (ARP - Air Raid Precaution), the Aleutian Islands Kiska Landing, Japanese fire balloons, coastal defence of British Columbia and the three Canadians who were awarded posthumous Victoria Crosses.

“Good Morning Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, we mark the 70th anniversary of VJ – Day, 15 August 1945, when Japan capitulated to Allied Armed Forces; the end of World War II.

However, I want to journey you back 70 to 76 years when the Second World War was a global war lasting from 1 September 1939 to 2 September 1945, 6 years and 1 day.

*1939 to 1945, though related conflicts began earlier, involved the vast majority of the world's nations, including all of the great powers, eventually **forming two opposing military alliances**; the **Allies** and the **Axis**.*

*It was the most widespread war in history, and directly involved more than 100 million people from over 30 countries, In a state of **"total war"**, the major participants threw their entire economic, industrial, and scientific capabilities behind the war effort, erasing the distinction between civilian and military resources.*

Marked by mass deaths of approximately 11 million civilians and the strategic bombing of industrial and population centres, during which approximately one million people were killed, including the two nuclear bombs, resulting in an estimated 50 to 85 million fatalities, made World War II the deadliest conflict in human history.

The end of the war in Europe in May 1945 did not mean the end of the Second World War. Fighting dragged on in Asia until the atom bombs destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945.

So let's turn a page to broach Canada's involvement during World War II in the Pacific Theatre.

Attack on Pearl Harbour (See Photo 1)

The Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, on 7 Dec. 1941, turned a European conflict into a global war.

*At this time, British Columbia's coastline was largely undefended, and the province's citizens **clamored** for action In January 1942.*

What transpired? (See Photos 2 - 8)

- *Two Canadian Infantry Battalions had already been sent to reinforce Hong Kong.*
- *Japanese Canadian citizens were stripped of their possessions and removed from the Pacific coast to internment camps at least 100 miles inland.*
- *A massive expansion of RCAF bases was planned to secure the west coast from Japanese aerial assault.*
- *Artillery fortifications were strengthened and constructed at strategic locations in Victoria/Esquimalt, Vancouver, Vancouver Island West Coast, Yorke Island and Prince Rupert.*

- *Air Raid Precaution (Civil Defense) was organized involving Wardens, Auxiliary Police, Firefighters, Medical, and Scout Runner Teams. School children were trained with gas masks and air raid sirens announced many "Blackout" sessions.*
- *Army personnel strength in the Pacific Command was increased to 34,315 all ranks; with 10,000 serving in action in the Pacific Theatre.*
- *The naval establishment on the west coast had been tiny since the war began in September 1939, and the dispatch of the River class destroyers to the east coast, left B.C. essentially defenseless.*
- *Following sinking and capture of German merchant ships off Peru and Mexico, in 1939/40, RCN operations in the Pacific were concentrated on defense of the west coast by the Armed Merchant Cruiser, HMCS Prince Robert and other smaller naval vessels.*
- *Ship building increased with Burrard Dry Dock, in North Vancouver, building half of Canada's freighters, corvettes, fairmiles and destroyers.*
- *Boeing Sea Island plant built Catalina Flying Boats and B29 fuselage centre sections.*
- *The construction of the 1,700 mile long. Alaska Highway, from. 8 March to 28 Oct 1942, by US Army Engineers, through British Columbia and the Yukon Territory to Alaska to support defense and lend lease military equipment to Russia.*
- *The establishment of Army Cadet Corps in High Schools.*

The Battle of Hong Kong, 8–25 December 1941 (See Photos 9 - 11)

In Autumn 1941, the British government accepted an offer by the Canadian Government to send two infantry battalions and a brigade headquarters personnel), to reinforce the Hong Kong garrison. "C Force", as it was known,

On 27 October 1941, HMS Awatea escorted by HMCS Prince Robert, embarked from Vancouver with 1,975 officers and men of the Winnipeg Grenadiers, from Manitoba, and the Royal Rifles of Canada, from Québec, for Hong Kong, arriving on 16 November 1941. It was one of the first battles of the Pacific campaign of World War II, and a first for Canadians.

NOTES: *A New Zealand cruise liner; 545 feet long displacing 13,500 tons. While leaving Vancouver, in Aug 1941, she was holed by a US Oil tanker, returned to Vancouver, repaired and repainted in Burrard Dry Dock, North Vancouver, then commandeered by the Admiralty as a troopship for the war's duration. It was sunk in the Eastern Mediterranean at the end of the war.*

NOTES: *HMCS Prince Robert, David and Henry, 5,700 tons, were former CNR B.C. coastal cruise ships, purchased by the Federal Government and converted to Armed Merchant Cruisers.*

The Japanese Attack (See Photo 12 - 14)

On 8 December 1941, the British Colony of Hong Kong also suffered a surprise attack by the Japanese across the frontier of the New Territories. The attack was in violation of international law, as Japan had not declared war against the British Empire.

The attack was met with stiff resistance from Hong Kong's Garrison of local troops as well as British, Canadian and Indian units. Not even the best troops could have stopped the more numerous and better-prepared Japanese troops.

Within ten days the Japanese 38th Division, supported by extra artillery and infantry, overran the defenses on the mainland portion of the colony.

On December 18, the Japanese landed on Hong Kong Island itself. The defenders fought back as best they could, grimly holding onto their positions and counterattacking repeatedly.

After seventeen days of bitter fighting, the Canadians, along with their British, Chinese and Indian allies, capitulated on Christmas night.

290 Canadians had been killed and are buried in San Wan Bay Cemetery. 500 were wounded. The losses would have been less heavy if the Japanese had not killed injured men and prisoners.

The survivors subsequently were faced with abominable conditions that prevailed in the prison camps. They were assigned to construction of a landing strip at Kai Tak (in Hong Kong), or to work in the coal mines of Niigata or at the Yokohama shipyards.

Suffering from malnutrition, disease and the violence of their guards, 260 Canadians perished from neglect or from harsh treatment. 1,428 survivors were repatriated to Canada via HMCS Prince Robert and the Empress of New Zealand shortly after war's end.

Attack on the Estevan Lighthouse (See Photos 15 - 17)

During the evening of 20 June 1942, the remote Estevan Point Lighthouse on the West Coast of Vancouver Island was shelled with 17 rounds from the 5.5 inch deck gun from the Japanese submarine, I-26, commanded by Lieutenant Commander Yokota Minoru.

His gunners were not very accurate: although they bracketed the lighthouse and broke windows in its tower, they did little damage to the facilities the shells fell harmlessly offshore or, exploded in the bush behind the lighthouse.

This was the only occasion, in either the First or Second World Wars, when enemy shells fell on Canadian soil. Nevertheless, the military authorities and residents were very concerned and the attack seemed to justify defense preparations being carried out on B.C.'s Pacific Coast.

It's interesting to note that Mrs. Linda Weeden, a lighthouse keeper's wife, found a stray unexploded shell from the incident, while walking in the woods in 1973.

Attack on the Aleutian Island of Kiska (See Photo 17 - 21)

Kiska is a small island almost at the western end of the Aleutian Island chain.

*On 15 & 16 August, 1943, a US Canadian invasion force of 34,426 Allied troops landed on Kiska, code named "**Operation Cottage**".*

*Major General George Pearkes, VC commanded the 6th Canadian Infantry Division. The 5,300 Canadians, primarily from the **The Canadian Fusiliers, Winnipeg Grenadiers, Rocky Mountain Rangers** and the **Regiment de Hull**, all of the 13th Canadian Infantry Brigade, commanded by Brigadier Harry Foster, sailed on US Transports from Chemainus and Nanaimo, B.C. The Canadian forces also included 594 all ranks of the Canadian Component of the **First Special Service Force**.*

The invasion force landed in heavy fog on the north and western sides only to find the island abandoned. On 28 July under the cover of dense fog, the Japanese had successfully removed their 6,000 troops, without the Allies noticing.

The landing forces did not know the Japanese had left Kiska, and the battle raged for two nerve-wracking days, in virtual silence, cold temperatures and dense fog, as the Allied soldiers slowly and awkwardly gained ground in the difficult mountainous terrain.

The deadly silence of an invisible enemy was only a trick to lure careless soldiers up from the beaches to higher ground and present themselves for easy slaughter. There were no Japanese; Americans and Canadians had only been shooting at each other

Allied casualties during the operation numbered 313, including 28 Americans and 4 Canadians killed. All of these casualties were the result of so-called friendly fire, booby traps set out by the Japanese, disease, and frostbite.

The 13th Canadian Infantry Brigade remained on Kiska until January 1944, while the Special Services Force left at the end of August en-route to Italy.

The Japanese Balloon Bomb (Fire Balloon) attacks in 1944-45 (See Photo 22)

Between November 1944 and April 1945, the Japanese Navy launched over 9,000 fire balloons toward North America. Carried by the recently discovered Pacific jet stream, they were to sail over the Pacific Ocean and land in North America, where the Japanese hoped they would start forest fires and cause other damage. About 300 were reported as reaching North America, with little damage to property.

Fire balloons were reported over the Yukon, North West Territories British, Columbia, and as far inland as Manitoba. Many were also seen over the West Coast of the US.

A woman and five children became the only deaths due to enemy action to occur on mainland America during World War II, when one of the children tampered with a bomb from a balloon, near Bly, Oregon, and it exploded.

Canadian Valour in the Pacific War

Three (3) Posthumous Victoria Crosses Awarded (See Photos 23 – 25)

On 19 December 1941, during the battle of Hong Kong, Sergeant Major John Osborn of the Winnipeg Grenadiers died when he threw himself on a Japanese hand grenade to save his comrades. His bravery was recognized with a posthumous Victoria Cross; Canada's first VC during WW II.

On 16 February 1944, Major Charles Ferguson Hoey VC MC of Duncan, B.C. while serving with the 1st Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment, British Army near the Ngakyedauk Pass, Arakan, Burma, Major Hoey's company came under devastating machine-gun fire, but Major Hoey did not waver in his advance on the objective. Although wounded in the head and leg he went forward alone and tackled a troublesome enemy strong point, destroying it and killing all the occupants, but he was mortally wounded and subsequently awarded the VC

On 9 August 1945, Lieutenant Robert Hampton Gray of Nelson, B.C., flying with the British Fleet Air Arm, sank a Japanese destroyer in Onagawa Bay, Japan. His bombs struck the ship amidships and it quickly sank. Gray crashed a short distance away, and was subsequently awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross.

Conclusion

VJ Day is a day for the world to celebrate the Allied victory of good over evil fascist regimes that stained history with the atrocities they committed.

All of the battles, atrocities and loss of life speak loudly of the futility and tragedy of war.

*"As we remember this victory, let us offer our heartfelt gratitude to the one million Canadians who served their country during the Second World War and **NEVER** forget the 45,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen and*

merchant sailors who made the ultimate sacrifice, and their families, who put the interests of our great nation ahead of their own”.

Canadians stood up for what is just in the world. “It is part of what defines us as a nation”.

For their actions and sacrifices, all Canadians stand **Proud Strong and Free**.

Thank you.”

PHOTO 1



PHOTO 2



PHOTO 3



PHOTO 4



PHOTO 5



PHOTO 6



PHOTO 7



PHOTO 8



PHOTO 9



PHOTO 10



PHOTO 11



PHOTO 12



PHOTO 13



PHOTO 14



PHOTO 15



PHOTO 16



PHOTO 17



PHOTO 18

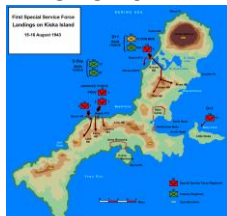


PHOTO 19



PHOTO 20



PHOTO 21



PHOTO 22



PHOTO 23



PHOTO 24



PHOTO 25



LCol (Ret'd) Archie M. Steacy, CD UE
President
British Columbia Veterans Commemorative Association

CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE AND COMMEMORATION OF THE WARSAW UPRISING AND PRESENTATION OF THE GOLDEN CROSS OF MERIT TO VETERANS – 16 August 2015

A most memorable ceremony of remembrance and commemoration was held at the Cenotaph at Victory Square in Vancouver at 11:00 am on 16 August 2015. The program opened with the march on of the flag parties from ANAVETS and the RCL. The National Anthems of Canada and Poland were sung by the very large crowd in attendance. The Golden Cross of Merit was presented by the Consul General of Poland to five veterans of the Warsaw Uprising in August of 1944. The recipients were Private Kasimierz Duchowski, Ensign Andrzej Miedzianowski, Sergeant Boguslaw Nizio, Private Jerzy Piros, Private Zenon Przybylak and Private Jerzy Steinmetz. Speakers included Elizbieta Skrzewska, president of the SPK Polish Veterans' Association of BC, Amb. Krzysztof Olendzki, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Vancouver, and Major (R) Wes Bowers, President of the RCAF Officers' Association. Two official wreaths were laid by the Consul General of Poland and the Polish Veterans' Association. Our friend and colleague Ben Nizio placed a wreath on behalf of the British Columbia Veterans Commemorative Association with the assistance of BCVCA members Bill Newton and Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne.

Congratulations to all recipients of the Golden Cross of Merit and thank you for your service and commitment! Also, congratulations to Cam Cathcart for his fine work as master of ceremonies.



BCR IRISH PIPES & DRUMS SUMMER BBQ – 25 August 2015



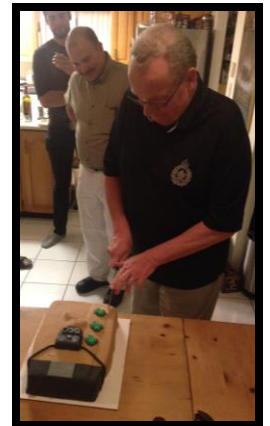
The annual summer BBQ for the BCR Irish Pipes & Drums was hosted by Rob and Alison Greenslade at their home on Capitol Hill.

Pipe Major Matt Dolan started the evening off with a rousing practice with those members attending the upcoming 40th annual Bowfest Festival held on Bowen Island on Saturday, 29 August 2015. Piping ceased promptly at 8:30pm in the interests of good neighbourly relations. The entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed by all of the guests and the neighbours!

The evening's program transitioned into the BBQ phase compliments of the band's chef, Chris Hoskin. A delightful dinner indeed!

After dinner, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne conveyed the greetings of the Commanding Officer, Major Douglas Evans and delivered a toast to the Regiment. MCpl Duke A. Bear's friend Jameson ensured that the toast was very traditional and memorable. In addition, Colonel Hawthorne acknowledged the great work of the Band Governor, Bill Diamond, and presented him with the Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin in recognition of Bill's great work with the bands, the Regiment and the wider Regimental Family.

Photos courtesy of Matt Dolan and Bill Diamond



Many thanks to Rob and Allison for a great evening and for the exceptional hospitality!

CO'S PARADE – 9 September 2015

The Regimental Stand To was held at the Drill Hall on 9 September 2015 and was a very full evening. The Regimental Association and Charitable Trust held their meetings in the Officers' Mess. The Regimental Association table, complete with many Kit Shop items, complementary issues of **The Duke** and various information material, was well received by the members of the Regiment. The CO's Parade which followed the various administration matters was well attended and the Regiment looked great.

Brief highlights of the evening were as follows:

CO's Parade - 9 Sep 15 - Presentations, Honours & Awards

New Recruits:

Pte Brewer, Steven
Pte Symes, Zachary

Pte Parker, Christopher
Pte Singh, Gurkirat

Pte Luro, Adam
Pte Kim, Byunghoom

Cpl Palmer, Nathan

Canadian Forces Decoration:

Cpl Laidler Cpl de la Garza

Certificates of Achievement:

Pte Hogan - Top candidate on BMQ-L

Commendations:

Cpl Fancy - Comd CA Coin (presented for participation in the National Sentry Program)

Sgt McKee - Comd 39 CBG Commendation (presented at Ex CD 15)

MCpl Canavan - CO's Commendation

WO Matibag - CO's Commendation

Cap Badges - (in Officer's Mess post-parade):

2Lt D. Kim

2Lt K. Kim

2Lt J. Robinson

2Lt V. Vinluan

Congratulations on another exceptional CO's Parade!

COQUITLAM CRUNCH CHALLENGE FOR DIVERSITY – 12 September 2015

The 6th Annual Coquitlam Crunch Challenge in support of the Coquitlam Foundation's Diversity Fund was held on a sunny Saturday morning (9:30 am start time), 12 September 2015. The Coquitlam Crunch is a steep urban trail following the route of the hydro power lines (4.5 km return) from Lansdowne Drive up to Eagle Mountain Drive.

The Honorary Colonel participated in the challenge and walked with Robert Simons (Port Moody Heritage Society), Lt. John Karmazinuk and two senior cadets from 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC. All participants had a great workout and a true sense of accomplishment.

Our many thanks go to Guy Black for organizing this enjoyable and successful event for such a worthy cause. We hope to see you next year at the Coquitlam Crunch Challenge for Diversity!



L to R: Lt Karmazinuk, Robert Simons, C/MCpl Liem, C/MCpl Lai and HCol Hawthorne

Photo courtesy of John Karmazinuk

FROM THE BARRETT BUNKER

By: Major Jim Barrett

Having returned home recently from Vernon Cadet Training Centre where I spent the summer as a Company Commander, I thought that it would be interesting to explore the significance of Vernon Army Camp and its links the history of the BC Regiment and its affiliated units during the First World War.

Why Vernon? Vernon became an important transportation hub following 1892, when the CPR built a spur line from Sicamous to the head of Okanagan Landing which became the major transfer point for goods and people from rail to water transportation serving communities from Vernon to the border with Washington State.

Why an Army base? With the outbreak of the South African War from 1899 to 1902, an interest in the military had been sparked by the returning veterans and businessmen of the small community. This led to the creation of The Okanagan Mounted Rifles in the spring of 1908 (later the 30th & 31st BC Horse, now known as the BC Dragoons). Early military camps were held just east of the Okanagan Landing near what

is now Kin Beach, but by 1910, the locals were petitioning Ottawa to establish a permanent training camp to be built near the Town of Vernon. This came into fruition when the city leased lands on Mission Hill and allowed DND use of the site without cost. A new armoury was opened in September 1913, and the subsequent tent camps were erected upon the site of the current Cadet Camp.

The Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles from our Drill Hall on Beatty Street entrained with the other mainland militia units (72nd Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, 11th Irish Fusiliers of Canada, 104th Westminster Fusiliers) and headed north to Vernon where they joined the 30th & 31st BC Horse, the 102nd Rocky Mountain Rangers for a two week military camp starting 24th of May 1914.



The 6th Regiment Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles march through Vernon May 1914

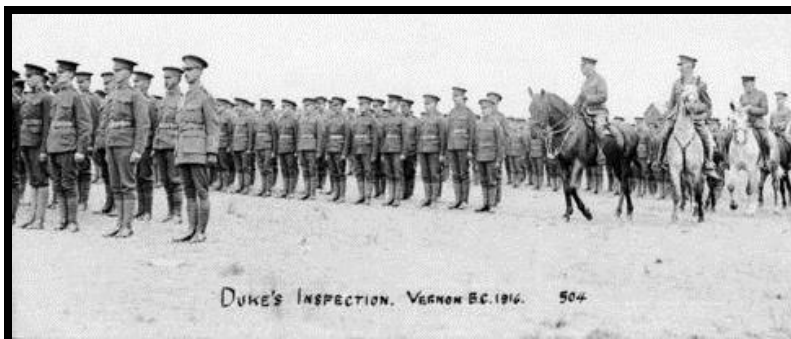
Soldiers of the 23rd Infantry Brigade numbering some 1,800 to 2,000 strong trained in the hills around Vernon before returning to Vancouver. That summer Canada trained over 55,000 militiamen in the spring and summer camps held just prior to the outbreak of the Great War.

With the outbreak of war, Vernon Army Camp grew in significance and became the training centre for a number of our perpetuated battalions on their way to the Western Front. At its height in 1916 almost 5,000 troops were training at the Camp practicing trench warfare.

The 62nd Battalion CEF, 158th DCOR Overseas Battalion CEF, and the 121st Western Irish Battalions CEF, all trained at Vernon Army Camp in 1916, before heading off to Britain where their fate was to be broken up as reinforcements for the 7th & 29th Battalions following the losses at the Somme in 1916.



158th DCOR (Overseas) Battalion 1916



Field Marshal H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught, K.G. including Lieutenant Colonel Charles Milne inspecting the 158th DCOR 1916



The Duke of Connaught and Lt. Col.
H.D. Hulme inspect the 62nd
Battalion, C.E.F.



121st Battalion (Western Irish) CEF Vernon 1916

One lesser known fact is that Vernon was also the site for an internment camp for Austro-Hungarians, Germans, and Prisoners of War. In September 1915 Major A. Rowan 6th DCOR was appointed the Camp Commandant.



The tail end of our story is that after the Second World War, Vernon Army Camp saw the arrival of Army Cadets in 1949 and Reservists, and continues to perform those duties to the current day. I recall in the mid-1980s annually recruiting and sending thirty BCR Recruits off to Vernon Army Camp on the Summer Youth Employment Programme (SYEP), and more recently Recce Crewman courses have been run there in conjunction with the BCDs. Our BCR Cadets continue to train there each summer and the Camp continues both its links to the military and the community of Vernon.

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DCO) BRASS BAND

By: Peter Davidson, President

The Brass Band has conventionally taken a recess during the summer, wrapping up the spring session with the Point Grey Fiesta Days Parade. This year, however, a group of brass musicians led by Chris Ahern continued through the summer, performing at several public venues. These venues included the Haywood Bandstand near English Bay Beach and the Vancouver Showboat (a Vancouver tradition celebrating its 80th anniversary).

The Brass Band has resumed its fall rehearsal schedule and kicked off the season by performing a selection of upbeat tunes to keep the cyclists moving in the annual Whistler Gran Fondo (pictured below). We're looking forward to its next booking: an appearance in the Vancouver Halloween Parade on October 18th.



The band is always looking to recruit new members; all skill levels are welcome. It's a very fun way to get back into playing that instrument you stored away oh so many years ago. We have parts for just about any instrument you'd find in a high school concert band, and we are particularly in need of low brass, clarinets, and flutes.

THE PIPE MAJOR'S REPORT

By: Matt Dolan, Pipe Major
BCR Irish Pipes and Drums

The BCR Irish Pipes & Drums had a very quiet, but good summer. We enjoyed a relaxed summer schedule with practices every couple of weeks or so at Trout Lake, the Grandview Legion 179 on Commercial or Legion 118 in North Vancouver. The President of the Band's society Robert Greenslade and his better half Alison hosted a BBQ/practice at their home. At the BBQ practice we were lucky and happy to have HCol Ted Hawthorne, Duke A. Bear, and a bottle of Jameson in our presence. The HCol Ted Hawthorne made a presentation to Bill Diamond and gave his HCol coin to him. The HCol and Duke A. Bear enjoyed the practice and the band enjoyed the bottle of Jameson and their presence. Thank you, Ted.

As for gigs, the band took part in the 2015 Vancouver Canada Day Parade and participated in Bowfest. The band has been going to Bowfest to perform since 2004 and it all started with Hank Strubin contacting the band. Since that year Hank brought the band over until his passing a couple of years ago, but Bowen Island kept up with the tradition and continues to bring us over. We pay homage to Hank every year now with a performance and a toast to him (much like he did for his wife who had passed many years before him). It is always an honour to perform at Bowfest (pictured right).



The band is looking for new recruits from youth to adults, experienced or beginner, training is available to all. So if you know someone who wants to learn bagpipes or drums or join a band, they can contact Pipe Major Matt Dolan @ 778-322-8135 or irishpipesanddrums@hotmail.com.

Our next parade will be on Remembrance Day with the Regiment, so we will see you there!

Up the Dukes! Faugh A Ballagh!

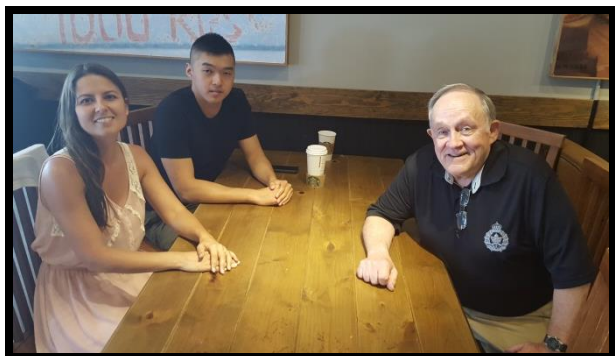
CADET GOVERNOR'S REPORT

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

OUR BCR CADETS READY FOR THE START OF THE NEW TRAINING YEAR

We are pleased to report that over 75 Cadets from our five BCR Cadet Corps attended the various summer camps and overseas exchanges this past summer. We can be very proud of our Cadets as many were recognized for their achievements over the summer. They will now be able to pass on their learned skills and knowledge to their Corps new recruits.

Last year at this time we reported that two 2290 Cadets Kristan Chung and Anna Dillman were accepted to RMC.



I was fortunate to enjoy a cup of coffee with OCdt Kristan Chung and Capt. Leah Yauck, his former Cadet CO, on Saturday August 29th. Kristan (pictured centre) had a great first year and is looking forward to a career in the CF as an armoured officer. It is hard to believe that three years have passed since OCdt Anton Humeniuk (a former 2290 RSM) also entered RMC. He will graduate as an armoured officer in April 2016.

Also pictured is Capt. Leah Yauck, a former CO of the 2290. I am pleased to report that Leah and her long-time friend and partner, Mr. Dennis Frederickson, were married on September 5th. Dennis is a tireless supporter of Cadets and helps out wherever he can. Leah is currently the TO at the 2947 SVC BN RCACC in Richmond. On behalf of the BCR Family, we wish them a long and happy life together. Congratulations Leah and Dennis.

On Saturday, September 19th, the Regiment will be hosting the Cadets from our five Corps for a day of Canadian Forces Familiarization (CF Famil). They will be doing weapons handling, military vehicle and communication familiarization and a Regimental history lesson. This is part of the Cadet Training Programme and one the Cadets truly enjoy.

The Cadets will be participating in the WW1 Perpetuated Battalion Parade on the PNE grounds (adjacent to Pacific Coliseum) on Saturday, September 26th at 0950. Following the parade a light lunch will be provided for those on parade. All are welcome.

North Shore Cadets Excel in Training
NORTH SHORE NEWS JULY 28, 2015

 Reviewing Officer Colonel Matthew Haussmann presents Cadet Jonathan Keyton with his award as the Best Cadet in 12 Platoon at the Graduation Parade for the first intake of General Training cadets at Vernon Army Cadet Summer Training Centre. Photo Wayne Emde

 Two North Shore cadets received accolades while attending the Vernon Army Cadet Summer Training Centre earlier this month.

 During the first intake of general training, West Vancouver's Jonathan Keyton earned honours as the best cadet in 12 Platoon, and North Vancouver's Robert Wharton earned honours as the best marksman. Both Keyton and Wharton are members of 2573 6th Field Engineer Squadron, North Vancouver.

 Charlie Company Officer Commanding Major Jim Barrett presents Cadet Robert Wharton with his award as the Best Shot at the Graduation Parade for the first intake of General Training cadets at Vernon Army Cadet Summer Training Centre. Photo Wayne Emde

They were among 165 cadets to attend the Army Cadet training course, which introduces the cadets to communal living and sees them participate in an overnight field training exercise, challenge the mini confidence course, improve their accuracy with the air rifle, take part in a biathlon, learn orienteering and receive information on more senior courses that will be available to them in the future.

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Jack Drake.

New Regimental tie.

Enough said.



A picture really is worth a thousand words!

ASSOCIATION KIT SHOP

The Kit Shop has the following items for sale:

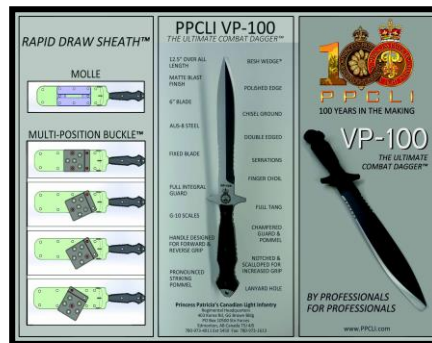
1. Mini Guidons - \$115.00. Once we have 10 confirmed requests, the order will be placed.
2. Custom designed BCR Knife - \$140.00 - **Only 20 left!**
3. License Plate frames - \$10.00.
4. Crests - \$35; Lapel Pins - \$20.00; BCR Ties - \$45.00; and Flags - \$12.00.
5. **NEW:** BCR Hoodie (cap badge embroidered on left chest) - \$35.00 (approx). 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 - \$35.00 (approx)



ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

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

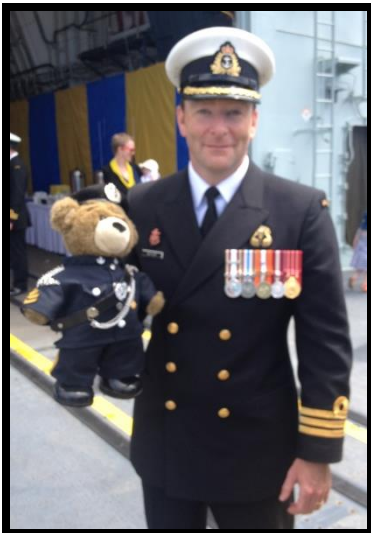
ASSOCIATION SPECIAL PROJECTS

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



MCpl Duke A. Bear at HMCS Vancouver Change of Command Ceremony



Duke A. Bear guarding the prize table at the W5 5th Annual Regimental Association Cadet BBQ Fundraiser



Duke A. Bear keeping an eye on his pal, Kermit the Frog!
Photo courtesy of Jim Barrett



Duke A. Bear guarding the Jameson at the Irish Pipes & Drums Summer BBQ

UNDER THE WEATHER



Glyn Lee – We understand that former RSM, CWO (Retired) Glyn Lee has been released from Kelowna General Hospital after a stay of 67 days and is now resting at home. The family has requested privacy as Glyn continues his valiant struggle with cancer. All of our very best wishes Glyn!



ASLEEP

Cpl (Retired) Carl Buettner served in The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) (RCAC). Carl passed away on 25 August 2015. Carl and family resided in Surrey, B.C.

K38125 Trooper (Retired) Joseph Y. Simpson served with the 28th Canadian Armoured Regiment (British Columbia Regiment) during World War II. Joe passed away on 15 June 2015 at the age of 93 years. Joe is survived by his son, Ronald Simpson and family.

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.