

# THE LISTENING POST 2017 - 2020



The British Columbia Regiment  
Duke of Connaught's Own





# The Listening Post

## 2017 - 2020

A summary of events within

The British Columbia Regiment

Duke of Connaught's Own





## **The Listening Post 2017 – 2020**

Published by the British Columbia Regiment (BCR) Association

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### **The British Columbia Regiment**

Duke of Connaught's Own

The Drill Hall

620 Beatty Street

Vancouver, BC

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# Commanding Officer, BCR (DCO)

Lieutenant Colonel Paul Lindsay, CD

As I write this, 2017 doesn't seem very long ago. I was excited, humbled, and deeply honoured to be entrusted with command of this fine Regiment and I did not take that responsibility lightly. Those feelings have not faded over time. Thanks to the outstanding training, mentorship and support that I received from all ranks of the Regiment over the seventeen years leading up to my appointment, I felt prepared for the challenges to come. I could not have predicted that by the end of my tenure, BCR soldiers would deploy not only on international operations but domestic operations responding to floods, wildfires and finally the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout, BCR soldiers maintained a high standard of professionalism and demonstrated great dedication to their duties.

For the past three years our Regimental training philosophy has focused on 'mastering the basics', that is, becoming exceptional at basic soldier skills while developing tactically sound and physically fit reconnaissance soldiers with the ability to operate in challenging environments. I was pleased to see a culture of learning develop, in which all ranks held each other accountable and constantly pursued improvement. This pursuit of excellence also crossed into physical fitness and healthy competition with the creation of the mountain man, grappling and hockey teams, all of which consistently had excellent performances. In addition, the shooting team continued to uphold the BCR tradition of exceptional marksmanship.

The Army continues to evolve rapidly and the Dukes have evolved with it. 2017 saw the introduction of the Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle (TAPV) and Second Mission tasks as part of "Strong, Secure, Engaged." Increased funding, recruiting, accountability and training standards brought more changes and allowed us to demonstrate our flexibility and problem-solving skills at all levels. The TAPV meant that for the first time since the Lynx, BCR soldiers shared a common platform with their regular force counterparts, enabling joint operations with the Lord Strathcona's Horse (RC) in Edmonton during numerous training activities. This cooperation was further enhanced by strong RSS teams drawn from the Strathconas that ensured the maximum number of BCR soldiers qualified on the new TAPV weapon system. BCR Recce soldiers had the opportunity to showcase their skills during exercise



Lieutenant Colonel Paul Lindsay, CD

Maple Resolve when our participating troop was selected for employment by the 1 CMBG Commander as his escort. The assignment of the Influence Activities Company HQ to the BCR enabled us to take a leadership role in the brigade and develop a training and force generation framework to meet potential IA personnel deployment needs.

The summer of 2019 brought two very different memorial tasks. In June we had the privilege of providing the burial party for the interment at Loos British Cemetery of the recently identified remains of Private George Newburn of the 7th Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force who fell during the assault of Hill 70 in 1917. All members conducted themselves with the utmost respect, professionalism and drill and deportment. I remain



extremely proud of the conduct of our soldiers at the memorial. In August, the Regiment suffered the tragic loss of Cpl Cody Allard in a motor vehicle crash. Cpl Allard was a key part of the formation of the Regimental grappling team and an up and coming young leader. I was proud to see how our soldiers and extended Regimental family pulled together quickly and cohesively to support Cpl Allard and his loved ones during their ordeal. While his celebration of life at the drill hall brought some closure, the sudden loss of an influential young soldier made an indelible mark on all those left behind. His legacy will survive in the Regimental grappling team and our collective memories.

During my tenure I was lucky enough to be supported by two outstanding RSMs in CWO Mullick and CWO Harris. Their expertise and leadership contributed immeasurably to the success of the BCR over the last three years and challenged me to produce my best. Since his time as RSM, Captain Mullick has been recognized with the MMM, highlighting an already exceptional career.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the critical and ongoing support I have received from the CO's Committee,

the Regimental Trust, the Association and the Museum society. In addition, the contributions of our volunteer Brass Band and Pipes and Drums enhanced every event we held and our affiliated Cadet Corps continue to represent the Regiment well in all of their endeavours. Finally, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Farid Rohani have worked tirelessly to ensure every soldier and every Regimental family member is supported and greatly enhanced our community footprint.

Despite the limitations imposed by the COVID pandemic and the massive upheaval in our individual and collective training systems, the BCR continues to press forward and achieve our mandate. In the pages that follow you will find an overview of challenges met, successes achieved and the continued growth of a Regiment I am proud to be a part of. I have no doubt that the strength, skill and reputation of the BCR will continue to grow in the years to come as it remains in the business of producing warriors.

Up the Dukes!

Left: Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne / Right: Lieutenant Colonel Paul Lindsay, CD





# Regimental Sergeant-Major

Chief Warrant Officer Tony Harris, CD

In the two years that I have been the Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM), we have seen the introduction of the Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle (TAPV), completed a cycle of Divisional High Readiness Training, deployed soldiers on both Op Distinction tasks (75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day) and Op Reassurance missions (EFP Battle Group Latvia), conducted the first interment of a Fallen Duke in France since the Second World War and supported Op Laser, the CAF's response to a global pandemic. During this time I have witnessed the flexibility and resilience of our soldiers, which is a hallmark of the Dukes, as they mastered the intricacies of a new armoured vehicle and gun system, strived to keep the existing F Ech (LUVW) and A Ech fleet operational, accomplished annual Individual Battle Task Standards (IBTS), maintained a high level of fitness for both the Mountain Man and Relentless Warrior series of competitions and represented the Regiment proudly at home and abroad.

During the 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Division's Road to High Readiness training, the Regiment deployed a fully crewed TAPV Patrol to augment Recce Squadron, Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) (LdSH-RC) for 2 months during the live fire Ex Ornerly Ram 19 and force-on-force Ex Maple Resolve 19. Led by Warrant Officer Kevin McKee, the BCR Patrol excelled in all of their tasks and earned high praise from the CO and RSM, LdSH (RC) for their professionalism and skill in reconnoitering for the armoured battle group. Their

exceptional competency was so well recognized that Commander, 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group asked for them specifically to augment his Brigade HQ Tactical Group.

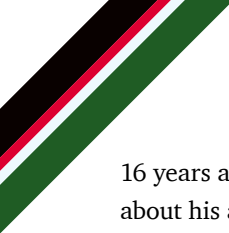
One of the highlights as RSM was when I received the call that the remains of Private George Newburn

(7th Battalion, CEF) had been identified in a field near the village of Vendin-le-Vieil, France. George Newburn was born on 7 April 1899 in London, England and was attested for overseas service with the 88th Battalion (Victoria Fusiliers), CEF on 6 November 1915 at the age of

Chief Warrant Officer Tony Harris, CD







16 years and six months, having lied about his age. He spent the winter of 1915-1916 in Canada training and eventually embarked in Halifax on the SS Olympic, a sister ship to the RMS Titanic, on 1 June 1916. After additional training, he was transferred to the 7th (1st British Columbia) Battalion on 10 August 1916 and proceeded to France that same day. He died on 15 August, 1917, in the Battle of Hill 70, as a member of the 7th (1st British Columbia) Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, a unit perpetuated by the British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own).

In early June 2019, the Regiment selected 10 members with the honour to inter the first Duke in Europe since the Second World War. Training in Canada with earnest, the bearer party had to learn burial drill according to the Commonwealth cemetery standard which prepared them for an additional week of drill and rehearsals in France. On 12 June 2019, Private Newburn was buried by his Regiment, in the presence of family and Government of Canada representatives, at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Loos British Cemetery outside Loos-en-Gohelle, France. As quoted by Lieutenant-General Charles Lamarre, Commander Military Personnel Command, "By honouring Private George Alfred Newburn for his service to Canada, and shedding light upon his ultimate sacrifice, we gave his family, and the greater military family, a sense of closure. The recovery of a missing soldier, sailor, or aviator has great

meaning, regardless of how much time has passed. Today's burial demonstrated that we will never forget our fallen."

Tragically two months later, the Regiment would lose a much beloved soldier, Corporal (Cpl) Cody Allard, in a motorcycle accident. In the presence of his family, Cody's Regimental family paid their last respects to him and lined the hallway of Royal Columbian Hospital as he made his last bound to the final RV for warriors. On 14 September 2019, the Regiment came together and conducted a military service for Cpl Allard's Celebration of Life which was attended by 350 of his friends, family and several former members of the unit which demonstrated the strength of the Dukes family.

The summer of 2019 concluded with the Dukes achieving 5 x Top Candidate awards on recruit, DP1 Armour and PLQ leadership courses, which was the highest number recorded from anyone's memory. Sergeant Stephen Cobb returned from a tour of duty with the prestigious Ceremonial Guard in Ottawa, temporarily exchanging a black beret for a bearskin.

The 2020 Year of the Pandemic has seen the Regiment dispersed and supporting Op Laser with a sabre troop and key Regimental leaders filling senior task force positions. As *The Listening Post* goes to print, we welcomed home Lieutenant Sam Serviss from Op Reassurance (Latvia) and promptly put him in to mandatory

quarantine which in itself could be considered a second tour of duty.

As the RSM, I am continually impressed and inspired by the professionalism, dedication and initiative of the Officers, Warrant Officers, Senior NCOs and Junior NCMs who consistently preserve the legacy of the Regiment and our fallen in their conduct and performance. I would like to extend my appreciation for the tireless efforts of Honourary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Farid Rohani, Association President Gayle Hawthorne and the greater association membership for their support to the Regiment and soldiers. Without the Honourary and Association network, we would not be able to accomplish many of the milestones and education bursaries we are so very proud of. In addition, the work of the Museum Society, Association Bands and affiliated Cadet Corps in perpetuating the proud lineage of the Regiment should be commended.

Lastly, in September 2020, we will see the change of command between Lieutenant-Colonel (LCol) Paul Lindsay and soon to be promoted to LCol, Major Vincent Virk. I would like to thank LCol Lindsay for his years of leadership and commitment to the soldiers of the Regiment and for being the consummate warrior that always led from the front.

Up The Dukes!



# Honorary Colonel

Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne

Fellow Dukes, I am most pleased to congratulate the Regiment on the publication of the 2020 edition of *The Listening Post*. This exceptional publication is testimony to the extraordinary service and commitment of our soldiers, veterans and cadets and the wider Regimental Family.

As many of you will know, *The Listening Post* was originally authorized for publication as a newsletter in 1915 in order to provide for a more reliable form of communication among the dispersed members of the 7 Bn CEF in the field during WW 1. The request for approval to Brigade was written by the Commanding Officer of 7 Bn CEF,

Lieutenant-Colonel Victor Odlum, in order to provide a weekly regimental journal in the field (please refer to *The Dukes*, a regimental history written by Douglas Harker at page 89 and *Swift & Strong* at page 82).

The 2020 edition of *The Listening Post* covers the period of command of Lieutenant-Colonel Paul A. Lindsay, CD, from 2017 to 2020, a very high tempo operational time indeed for the Regiment and the Regimental Family.

I am so very pleased to see that *The Listening Post* continues to promote and enhance the great legacy inherited by all of us, namely the tremendous role played by our members of the

Regiment, past and present, by their service and commitment to the Regiment, Canada and to the wider community we serve. The great “Duke” tradition continues!

As Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, it is my very great honour to acknowledge and thank our serving members for their service and commitment to the Regiment and to the Regimental Family for their tireless support of the Commanding Officer, our Regiment, Veterans and Cadets.

Congratulations and  
Up the Dukes!

Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne





# Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel

Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani

Fellow Dukes, what an awesome privilege it has been to have been part of British Columbia Regiment. You have all made me proud to spend every second among yourselves as an Honorary Lieutenant Colonel.

My role has allowed me to amplify the history, sacrifices and the story of the Canadian Armed forces, specially the British Columbia Regiment to my fellow Canadians and to those that share my Iranian heritage. For many of them, my reflections as an HLCOL has been their first contact with the Canadian Armed Forces. I am always asked questions about how others can join.

I can never praise enough the work you consider repetitive, others don't see it as simple and routine, they appreciate everything you do, from your service dealing with natural disasters, to dealing with fires and floods, to your service in dealing with the issues around the Pandemic and your work in defence of Canadian values, here and elsewhere is greatly admired.

I am immensely proud of each and everyone of you, to have had the honour of wearing the same uniform as you is a story of my good fortune that words simply cannot express. You set the bar that others wish to reach and goals that others wish to

accomplish. Your hard work, your constant and consistent training, your pride in service and engagement is seen and respected by the public.

You exemplify the meaning of selfless service, of character, your teamwork as the most diversified unit in Canada, working together as a single unit regardless of gender, religion or colour is something that is noticed, admired and used by others as the example to achieve.

You do great honour to those that came before you, to those that made the ultimate sacrifice as a member of The British Columbia Regiment and served in the hallowed Drill Hall.

I would like to also give a special thanks and acknowledgment to the departing BCR Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Lindsay that welcomed me as an HLCOL and always made me feel welcome, always went out of his way to give me pointers about what I didn't know and lived the examples that he expected of others. A special thank you for your service and I wish you the best in the continuation of your service.

I look forward to being of service to each and everyone of my fellow Dukes that needs help in opening doors, needing advice or require anything else in your careers that I can assist with.

Respectfully, Faithfully, Sincerely

Up the Dukes!



HLCOL Rohani being presented with his Piper's Banner



# Introduction

Sergeant Dwayne Snow, CD, RHQ

This will be the third edition of *The Listening Post*. Around 2007, then-Major Evans organized the first



edition. Major John Perry took on the project and after much effort produced the outstanding inaugural issue. The choice of name is obvious: *The Listening Post* was, of course, the trench paper made famous by our 7th (1st BC) Battalion during the Great War of 1914-1918. The original *Listening Post*'s aim was the same as ours today: to serve as a memento for our members and to serve as a record of what life was like in the regiment for those who are yet to serve. It is encouraging to an old regimental history buff such as myself to see *The Listening Post* back in publication a century after the end of the Great War!

The editorial staff of the 2017-20 edition of *The Listening Post* would like to thank all those who have contributed articles and photographs. In particular, we would be remiss if we did not thank the staff of the Duke, the quarterly publication of the BC Regiment Association and Gayle Hawthorne, President of the association. *The Listening Post* would not have been possible without the support of our Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Farid Rohani who arranged the for the design and publication of both this and the 14-17 editions.

Up the Dukes!

## Change of Command 2017

The Change of Command Parade took place at The Drill Hall on Saturday, 14 October 2017, before a standing room only crowd, including numerous members of the Regimental Association, represented by President Bob Remple, the greater Regimental Family, members of the military community, family, friends and supporters of the Regiment. The BCR Brass & Reed Band and the BCR Irish Pipes & Drums were well turned out and added very much to the happy occasion. The Regiment paraded in fine form under the ever-watchful eye of a very proud RSM, CWO A.H. "Huf" Mullick, CD. The Reviewing Officer was 39 CBG Commander, Colonel David Awalt, CD.

The program commenced with a Regimental Salute by the Regiment to Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne,

followed by General Salutes to the Consul General for the Netherlands, Mrs Barry Nieuwenhuijs, Brigadier General Trevor Cadieu, OMM, MSM, CD, Commander of 3 Canadian Division, and Colonel David Awalt, CD, Commander of 39 CBG and the Reviewing Officer. The program proceeded with the Inspection, Regimental March Past (outgoing CO), Change of Command, Remarks, Regimental March Past (incoming CO), Advance in Review Order and Departure. In his final remarks to the Regiment, Colonel Evans complimented the Members, thanked







Change of Command 2017



them for their service and recognized the support of the Regimental Family, including the Regimental Museum (Bob Hall and Keith Maxwell), the Regimental Association (President Bob Remple and VP Gayle Hawthorne), the BCR Irish Pipes & Drums, the BCR Brass & Reed Band and the Honorary Colonel.

The Program of Events was concluded by the traditional Roll Past by the Regiment in front of The Drill Hall led by the CO, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Lindsay. The salute was taking by BGen Trevor Cadieu and Colonels

Awalt and Evans, on the Reviewing Stand situated at the entry to Saint Julien Park. The very impressive Roll Pass concluded an extraordinary Change of Command Parade on a very pleasant Vancouver day.

Receptions followed in all three messes. The Brigade Commander and Division Commander were most generous with their time in visiting with the many members and guests. David Sproule presented a beautifully framed piece of family memorabilia to BGen Cadieu (a bulletin found

in one of his father's letters from November 1918. He had served with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division from 1916 and late in the war worked at HQ 3<sup>rd</sup> Division and came into possession of the rare bulletin addressed to the People of Mons). Towards the end of the reception, General Cadieu presented his Commander's Coin to Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne for his ongoing service to the Regiment, the Regimental Family and to the community.

## Recce Squadron 2017-2020

Greg McCullough, CD, Major, OC Recce

Covid-19 brought an abrupt end to the 2019-20 training year for Recce Sqn. It was an inauspicious end to two great years of what every officer strives for in the Armoured Corps-Squadron Command.

Throughout my two years commanding Recce Sqn we saw the implementation of the Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle (TAPV) as a new vehicle platform and weapons system for the Army Reserve. The transition has not been without challenges- in particular a shortage of spare parts- but the dedication and professionalism of our soldiers has seen a lot of hard work go into qualifying and training crews. Warrant Officer McKee and MCpl Zhou in particular have taken the time to learn the 'ins and outs' of the new platform, and in addition have become gunnery instructors, taking the BCR into the future. Our people dedicated their time to taking driver and remote weapons systems courses to ensure that as many soldiers as possible were able to

operate these vehicles. For many the culmination was in working with the Strathconas on Ex MAPLE RESOLVE '19, where they formed part of a reserve TAPV Troop.

Of course, the G Wagon still forms an integral role in the unit, with tactics only differing in that the weapons system is simpler and the vehicle smaller in size. This is still the vehicle that our new soldiers first train on and develop the skills a recce soldier needs to survive on the battlefield. And in the end that is what our Unit is about- developing soldiers who are prepared to go and defend our country against those who would threaten our values and beliefs.

Basic skills such as navigation, camouflage, observation posts

and dismounted patrolling also form a part of what we do as 'blackhatters'. It is a point of pride for the BCR to be able to do this consistently to a high standard.

I am proud of the officers, NCOs and troopers who worked so hard to make the Squadron work together, fitting a challenging training schedule in with the rest of their busy lives.

Up the Dukes!



Shaking it out! Recce Squadron's first FTX of the year



# Training Squadron 2017-2020

By SSM Trg, WO Craig Harris, CD

The 2017-2018 Training Squadron command team, of Major MacLeod and WO Harris, ran a successful training year as well as a BMQ-Land course situated out of the Beatty Street Drill Hall. The Squadron comprised 38 soldiers all ranks. During the training year, the Squadron focused on IBTS and support to Recce Squadron for exercises.

The BMQ-L CITY with WO Harris as Course Warrant, graduated a strong contingent of future BCR Junior NCOs including Tpr Hothi, Tpr Lee, Tpr Gill and others. The first four weekends of the course included C-9 training, CBRN Section battle drills and radio at the DH. This was followed by three weekends of training at Chilliwack, including the onerous job of digging defensive positions in the hard rock and clay soil of the training area as well as section battle drills. Cpl Delaat acted as our ever efficient storesman,

although he could not prevent WO Harris from banging up a milcot during a late night supply run. The training year ended with Graduates of the BMQ-L course being transferred to Recce Sqn in order to continue to their next career course of DP-1.

The 2018-2019 Training Squadron saw a change of command from Major Adam MacLeod to Captain Manjeet Vinning, with WO Craig Harris remaining as Squadron Sergeant Major. Sgt Stephan Boxall and Sgt Bryan Copp joined the Squadron as Training NCOs. The Squadron comprised 43 soldiers of all ranks.

During the training year, The Squadron ran a BMQ course from October 2018 to March 2019. Course leadership was provided by Captain Vinning and WO Harris as Course O and Course WO, who filled these roles as well as their already existing Squadron duties. The length of this

course, and the number of weekends made it a marathon and not a sprint for the Squadron. MCpl Nathan Palmer, MCpl Van Delden, as well Cpl Delaat provided course staff as Section commanders and Course Admin NCO. Successful graduates of the BMQ went onto their BMQ-Land and DP-1 courses in the summer of 2019.

The 2019-2020 Training Squadron retained the same command team of Captain Vinning and Sgt Major Harris. Captain Paul Ellis joined the Squadron as the 2IC. Former Regimental Sergeant Major CWO Mullick, now newly commissioned "Captain Mullick" joined Training Squadron as the Recruiting Officer.

The early part of the training year, saw a focus on IBTS as expected, and then planning and preparation for the upcoming BMQ-Land course that would begin in February of 2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic influenced the training schedule and in person training was shut down early in February. This brought the planned CITY courses to a screeching halt across the Brigade.



Number One Guard,  
Remembrance Day Parade,  
11 November, 2018



# Soldier's Appreciation Dinner 2017

The annual Soldiers' Appreciation Dinner was a memorable evening complete with a traditional turkey dinner and all the trimmings, excellent table service by the Warrant Officers' & Sergeants' Mess and the Officers' Mess, standout performances by the BCR Brass & Reed Band and the BCR Irish Pipes & Drums, traditional Toasts, and the CO's "State of the Regiment" address, pending arrival of TAPV, upcoming training and recruiting initiatives. Lieutenant Colonel Lindsay took the opportunity to promote MCpl Canavan to the rank of Sergeant which was loudly applauded.

The final word was given to Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne who thanked "his old mess" for the

invitation and the great evening, congratulated the soldiers for their service and commitment to the Regiment and their country and wished one and all the best of the Holiday

Season, Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year!

Congratulations to PMC, Cpl Stephen Delaat on a job well done!



## 57<sup>th</sup> World Military Cross Country Championship Games

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Serviss, Recce Sqn

Sport and fitness are a major part of military cultures all over the globe. As early as 1919, 1500 athletes from various militaries competed against each other in 24 different sports in Paris, France. The Allied Forces Sports Council was the governing body for military sport very briefly until 1948 when The International Military Sports Council, also known as CISM, was established. CISM's motto, "Friendship through sport", does a great job of representing CISM's main effort, to create friendly relations

between members of Armed Forces of all nations. CISM seeks to build peace by giving soldiers a chance to meet on the sports field instead of the battlefield. The five founding nations Belgium, Denmark, France, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands have built the organization to an amazing 135 country strong organization today. Annually, CISM hosts over 20 different world championships for various sports. CISM also hosts both continental and regional championships as well. In 1995 CISM began hosting a World

Games comprised of over 20 sporting events held every 4 years, and in 2010 a CISM Winter World Games was also introduced.

In 2017, the 57th World Military Cross-Country Championships were held in Balatonakarattya, Hungary from 03 November to 07 November. As a young Officer Cadet, I was very fortunate to be able to qualify for the Canadian CISM Cross Country team and represent my Regiment, the Canadian Armed Forces, and Canada at this prestigious international



competition. The first day of the event consisted of last minute training and an opening ceremony in which every country got to march in their flag followed by their athletes (a very cool experience). The competition was held on day two, consisting of a men's short course (4.6km), a women's short course (4.6km), and a men's long course (11.5km). I competed in the men's long course and placed 86th out of 108 competitors. Canada's men's long course team finished 14th out of 19 teams, our men's short course team finished 12th out of 16 teams, and our women's short course team finished 9th out of 13 teams. Canada's team was comprised of a very diverse set of trades from the Army, Navy and Airforce members, as well as an even share of both Officers and NCMs. It was an absolute honour competing with members from all over the CAF whom I would have otherwise never had a chance to work with. The race day closed off with a grand closing ceremony in which the individual and

team champions were awarded for their impressive performances.

The day after the race, we were treated with a cultural day trip to various locations around Hungary. We visited a mall, were given a tour of an old Hungarian town, and visited a Hungarian castle. The Hungarian delegation had made the entire trip feel very professional, the entire time we spent off base we had an extensive police escort stopping traffic at every intersection to ensure our safe passage. Later in the evening we returned to the Hungarian base in Balatonakarattya for the official banquet. The banquet was a chance for athletes from different countries to mingle in a more relaxed setting and was an amazing experience to talk to athletes from militaries all over the world about their own experiences. The banquet is also well known as an exchange hub for team gear. Athletes are known to exchange various items from their team's gear, or each other's flags, pins, etc. Many

friends were made that night in Balatonakarattya!

It was a bittersweet goodbye the next morning, as we all wished each other the best for the coming training year. Some athletes headed for Canada, while others stayed to enjoy Europe for a little longer. I wish all of the other athletes a healthy season, and I look forward to putting in some hard training to get me ready for next year. Here's hoping I see you all again next year in Angola!

Canadian CISM Team Members and hosts





# FTX Abominable Duke 2018

Corporal Regala, Recce Sqn

On Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the BCRs headed up the Coquihalla Summit near the Britton Creek area for their annual Winter Exercise. The Dukes were joined again with troops from the 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment who had not yet participated in Winter Training.

With plenty of snow and sub-zero temperatures, Advanced Party set up Base Camp under the guidance of MWO Rochlow. The troops would arrive later that Friday evening under the command of OC Capt Brown. They quickly gathered their gear and sleds,

which housed all their equipment needed to survive in a sub-zero climate, and rucked to their camp position. The troops then set up their winter tents in the silent, snow covered winter wonderland.

Saturday was full of Winter Skills Training. 2 Sections of troops had to navigate the winter oasis to Nav points previously set up by MCpl Chase, where at each point their lessons began. Under the instruction of Sgt Boxall, MCpl Flemming and MCpl Boskic, the troops learned to properly set up their winter tents, make winter

fortifications, and make winter survival shelters.

On Sunday, the last lesson was a walk-through by MCpl Chase on the LOSV (Light Over Snow Vehicle, AKA the Ski-doo).

Great job troops, and “Up the Dukes!”

Members of Recce and Training Sqn,  
Winter Skills Training 2018





# Relentless Warrior 2018

Master Corporal Palmer, Recce Sqn

On 28 and 29 of January, members of the British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) competed in Exercise RELENTLESS WARRIOR



2018 held at CFB Edmonton. The exercise is an annual close quarter combat skills competition that tests an individual's grappling techniques, tenacity, and warrior spirit.

This year was the first year the Dukes sent a team into the competition. Ten competitors (both male and female) in various weight classes took part, with Sergeant Leon Van Heerden as the team captain and Corporal Cody Allard as the team coach. Two of our fellow Dukes won gold in their

respected categories. Private Tina Wu won the women's novice light-weight and Corporal Michael Medrano won the featherweight. Brigadier-General Trevor Cadieu, MSM, CD, commander of 3rd Canadian Division presented both their gold medals, respectfully.

The regiment is very proud of the team and what they have achieved. We look forward to the competition next year and building up on the success of 2018. Congratulations to all!

Up the Dukes!

Tpr Tina Wu receives the Women's Novice Light-Weight Award from BGen Trevor Cadieu, commander of 3rd Canadian Division (and former Ops O with the BCR)

## The Regimental Hockey Team

Sgt J. Chu, CD, Human Resources Supervisor, RHQ

Since arriving at the unit in the beginning of 2016 (then MCpl) Sgt Chu has had the privilege of experiencing Regimental traditions such as the annual Regimental football game, and the annual Regimental hockey game. Due to the generosity of the management at Canucks Sports & Entertainment, the hockey game has often been held on the ice and the facilities of Rogers Arena, home of the Vancouver Canucks. It was during one of these games that the idea of creating a seasonal Regimental hockey team to compete in a recreational league was born.

In 2018 Sgt Chu recruited the help of MCpl van Delden, and Lt Serviss to canvas members of the Regimental

family in order to gauge interest and get commitments in playing for this team in the 2019/2020 winter season. The first obstacle in this endeavour involved getting players on board that were willing to pay the high fees that were typical of these leagues. It was then discovered that assistance from the unit was possible by means of a directive from 39 Brigade Headquarters. This directive allowed the players to be reimbursed some (or all) of the fees for the season, pending funding availability and CO approval. The possibility of fee reimbursement definitely helped with player recruitment. Once the necessary personnel requirements were met, it was decided to compete in the Adult Safe Hockey League at the facility in Burnaby,

formerly known as Burnaby Eight Rinks, and now known as the Scotia Barn.

Another obstacle to forming this Regimental team is that many of the Regiment's hockey jerseys from the past years have been lost or are in poor condition. The team desperately needed to procure more jerseys. This process was headed by MCpl van Delden in the summer of 2019. It was decided to use a primarily green colour scheme for one set and the other set with a primarily grey colour scheme. It was also decided to use the Regimental Battle Honours instead of names on the back of one set of jerseys. Acquiring jerseys presented another major expense for the team, so the Messes of the Regiment, along with the Regimental Association were



approached to help with the costs. Unfortunately, due to problems with shipping, the team did not receive the first set of jerseys until after the first game in September.

Mere weeks before the start of the season tragedy struck. Cpl Cody Allard was involved in a motorcycle accident and succumbed to his injuries. Cody was looking forward to the opportunity to play with the Regimental team and was expected to be a prominent member. In a last minute decision, it was arranged to have a shoulder patch with the words "Cpl Allard" above an image of a poppy added to all of the jerseys in honour of Cody. During the fourth game of the season, HCol Hawthorne and Cody's family were invited to participate in a pre-game

ceremony, where the team retired his #89 jersey. A set was given to his family, and another has been framed and sits in the Jr Ranks Mess. He will be missed.

When the games started it was evident that the team lacked enough players to regularly field a team, especially at the Goaltender position. MCpl Pansegrau was lost after breaking his collarbone in a collision behind the net, while Lt Serviss was lost due to his deployment to Latvia. It became a theme to have an entirely new lineup week-to-week. While the team maintained a core of current and retired Dukes, it was required to supplement the games with players that are friends and/or family. Lt Serviss' friends Tim Mustard and Liam Foster became

frequent attendees to the games, while Cpl Kowalski's friends Rennie Caspillo, and Wade Mostert among many others helped with several of the games where we needed supplemental players.

Former Dukes James Barrett and his son Daniel, (former CO) Doug Evans, Jared Reynolds, and Terry Haigh also contributed to the season. In the end the team had over 30 different players participate in games during this season.

The season ended unceremoniously in early March when the majority of the world shut down due to COVID19. The rest of the regular season games and the playoffs were cancelled. The team looks forward to going back to compete in the 2020/2021 winter season, if it happens.

Here is the roster for the BCR Dukes Winter 2019/2020 Season:

Rank	Name	Given Name	Status
	Asfar	Tim	Associate
	Barrett	Daniel	Associate/Pipe Band
Maj	Barrett	James	Former
	Caspillo	Rennie	Associate
Sgt	Chu	Joe	Current
Sgt	Cobb	Stephen	Current
Sgt	Copp	Bryan	Current
Capt	Ducharme	Gavin	Current
Capt	Ellis	Paul	Current
	Evans	Doug	Former
	Foster	Liam	Associate
Sgt	Galang	Carlo	Current
	Haigh	Terry	Former
	Jahqys	Florian	Associate
Capt	Kim	David	Current
Cpl	Kowalski	Michael	Former
Cpl	Mak	Roger	Current

Rank	Name	Given Name	Status
WO	McKee	Kevin	Current
	McWhirter	Nick	Associate
	Mostert	Wade	Associate
	Mustard	Tim	Associate
MCpl	Pansegrau	Colin	Former
	Paulsen	Sean	Associate
	Reynolds	Jared	Former
Lt	Serviss	Samuel	Current
MCpl	Sloan	Randy	Current
	Sutherland	Mark	Associate
Cpl	Sutherland	Neil	Current
Cpl	Symes	Zach	Current
Sgt	Therrien	Sebatien	Current
Pte	Upton	William	Current
MCpl	van Delden	Cason	Former
Maj	Virk	Vincent	Current
Cpl	Wu	Ken	Current



# FTX Furtive Duke 2018

Master Corporal Borislav Boskic, Recruiting Sec, Training Sqn

On the 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> of February The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) conducted dismounted patrol training in Chilliwack, BC.

The regiment deployed to the field on Friday night and upon arrival went straight into the forward operating base (FOB) and received orders. After receiving orders, the troops prepped their personal kit, received ammunition, their rations, and filled their water canteens. Four patrols went out to set up observation posts (OP) to locate the enemy activity and report it to higher command. At 0300 hours on Saturday, the four patrols returned back to the FOB where they regrouped and quickly got some sleep while the section commands were conducting battle procedure in order to prepare for the next patrol.

Before dawn the troops were given their orders where they were to conduct

a route recce of a main supply route (MSR). Working in four man patrols, the task for Recce Squadron was to screen the enemy and hand over for destruction. Being a recce patrol, the main object for the patrols was not to go fight the enemy but to merely provoke him to reveal his position so that the follow on forces can destroy his position. The enemy's task was to find the patrols and engage them as it would offer a training purpose to test the newer troops how to react to positive enemy fire. With the training scenario being behind enemy lines the troops were being extra cognizant in where they were going. On Saturday afternoon the commander for 39 Brigade came out to see how the regiment was performing in the field. The troops were very professional in their tasks even with the brigade commander observing. Moving into Saturday night, recce

squadron conducted more patrols until early Sunday morning.

The squadron was allowed to catch up on some much needed rest as the drivers needed to get back to the regiment. After reveille, recce squadron was tasked with defending the FOB from attack. The squadron repelled the enemy's attack and fled into the tree line. After conducting an after action review, the squadron reorganized and returned back to the armoury where they were later dismissed for the evening.

Up the Dukes!

On Patrol with Recce Sqn





# TAPV Courses 2018

Sgt Cobb, Recce Sqn.

During February and March 2018, the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) hosted the 6 Reserve Armoured Reconnaissance Regiments (BCR, BCD, SALH, KOCR, SASK D and FGH) to qualify drivers and gunners on the new TAPV (Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle).

The BCR participants on the driver's course were MCpl Sloan and MCpl Law while the gunners were Sgt Cobb, Sgt Langone and MCpl Reymers.

The driver course consisted of introduction to the characteristics of the vehicle, exterior and interior components, the use of the many integrated information systems and vehicle operation. Since this vehicle is fairly new, driver maintenance is currently quite limited.

Meanwhile, the gunners were introduced to the DRWS (Dual Remote Weapons System) on the TAPV. This utilises the C16 40mm GMG (Grenade Machine Gun) and the C6 7.62mm Coax. For many members on course, the C16 is

a new platform that can be utilised in a mounted or dismounted role.

The TAPV DRWS systems uses a control panel and joystick for both the gunner and crew commander. This new system includes many features such as stabilization for firing on the move, a Laser Range Finder for accurate target distances and a ballistic computer to ensure the weapons are utilised effectively.

While the driver course ran in Edmonton for 3 weeks, the gunner course conducted training and testing on the platform and simulators for 2 weeks in Edmonton and concluded with a one week gun camp at Range 16 at 3 CDTC

BCR TAPV on FTX in Yakima, Washington



## The St. Julien Mess Dinner, April 2018

The Officers' Mess held their annual St. Julien Mess Dinner commemorating the 103rd anniversary of the Battle of St Julien (24 April – 5 May 1915) on Saturday, 7 April 2018 in the Drill Hall. The evening's festivities commenced in the Officers' Mess with the presentation of the refurbished "Last Post Bugle" and new distinctive plinth commissioned by David Sproule, former Commanding Officer of the Regiment, to the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Lindsay.

Ribbons made from the Guidon (fabric retrieved after a grommet repair on the Guidon some years ago) were also presented to Colonel Lindsay. The Commanding Officer proceeded to present the Last Post Bugle to retired Bugle Major John More who in turn presented it to Bugle Major Chris Ahern. In concluding the ceremony, the Commanding Officer presented the Guidon Ribbons to John More and Pipe Major Matthew Dolan. Congratulations Dave for your good work on this very

worthy project and for your excellent presentation.

The well attended mess dinner was highlighted with the last-minute attendance of the Minister of National Defence, former Commanding Officer of the Regiment, the Honourable Harjit Sajjan, PC, OMM, MSM, CD, MP. The Head Table consisted of many very special guests including Minister Sajjan, Senator Larry Campbell, His Honour Judge William Rodgers (former Honorary Colonel of 15<sup>th</sup> Field RCA),



Brigadier General Trevor Cadieu,  
Commander of 3 Canadian Division,  
Retired Brigadier General Jerry Silva,  
Colonel David Awalt,

Commander of 39 Canadian  
Brigade Group, Honorary Colonel of the  
Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, Lieutenant  
Colonel Paul Lindsay, the Commanding  
Officer, former Honorary Lieutenant  
Colonel Scott Shepherd, CWO Huf  
Mullick, RSM of the Regiment and  
PMC, Major Adam McLeod.

The Brass & Reed Band provided  
dinner music and had a very strong  
showing. Pipe Major Matthew Dolan  
piped in the Head Table, delivered an  
excellent solo performance during the

dinner and piped the Head Table off.  
The very enjoyable performance of  
The BCR Brass & Reed Band and Pipe  
Major Dolan of the BCR Irish Pipes  
& Drums added a great deal to the  
overall success of the evening. The  
Toasts were given by 2Lt. Sam Serviss,  
(The Queen), Captain Paul Ellis (The  
Fallen), 2Lt. Richard Zheng (HMCS  
Vancouver), Lt. David Kim (The Rifles)  
and Major Greg McCullough (The  
Regiment). Minister Sajjan addressed  
the attendees and presented his MND  
Coin to John Perry and thanked John  
for his extraordinary work on many  
special projects for the Regiment and  
the Regimental Family (*Swift & Strong*,

*The Listening Post*, numerous works  
of art and Regimental coins, to name  
just a few). The Commanding Officer  
of the Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel  
Paul Lindsay, delivered a “State of  
the Regiment” report after a very  
complementary speech to the unit by  
39 CBG Commander, Colonel David  
Awalt. Former Honorary Lieutenant  
Colonel Scott Shepherd (at the end of  
his appointment), Major John Perry  
(on his retirement) and Captain Steve  
Couture (on returning to his unit, Lord  
Strathcona Horse (Royal Canadians)  
as Battle Captain) were mugged out  
by the Commanding Officer. Colonel  
Hawthorne presented his Honorary  
Colonel Commendation  
together with his  
Regimental Coin to Colonel  
Shepherd in recognition of  
his six years of service as  
the Regiment’s Honorary  
Lieutenant Colonel.  
Congratulations gentlemen  
for your service!



Left: Presentation of the “Last Post  
Bugle” to Commanding Officer,  
Lieutenant Colonel Paul Lindsay





# OP Lentus 2018

Master Corporal Borislav Boskic, Unit Recruiting Officer

On May 18, 2018, members of The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) set out on Operation LENTUS to aid with flood relief in British Columbia's Lower Mainland. Under the direction of Captain Couture and Sergeant Van Heerden, the BCRs were entrusted in assessing emergency plans and its implementation. Bridges, dykes, and emergency routes were examined using our newly acquired Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicles (TAPV). Members of the 6 Intelligence and 39 CER were embedded with the BCR crew to aid in disaster response.

Editor's Note: Op LENTUS 2018 was the first operational deployment of the TAPV by the BCRs and the first for any Reserve unit in Canada.

BCR TAPV on the route: the first operational deployment of the TAPV by the CAF



## Adapt, Improvise, Overcome

Master Corporal Zhou, Recce Sqn

As an armoured reconnaissance soldier, it is important for one to know how to call an effective fire mission. This is especially true when the unit is deployed to screen (monitor) an area in Observation Posts (OPs) or during engagements with enemy units. However, live

artillery and artillery simulator ranges are not something the regiment regularly has access to. NCOs of the regiment adapted to this situation and used a map model kit to simulate targets and had soldiers call fire missions on them and adjust impacting rounds. The training

was overall effective and troops did extremely well when they applied what they learned on an artillery simulator range at 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment later in the training year.

Cloth Model Training





# Meet The BCR Shooting Team

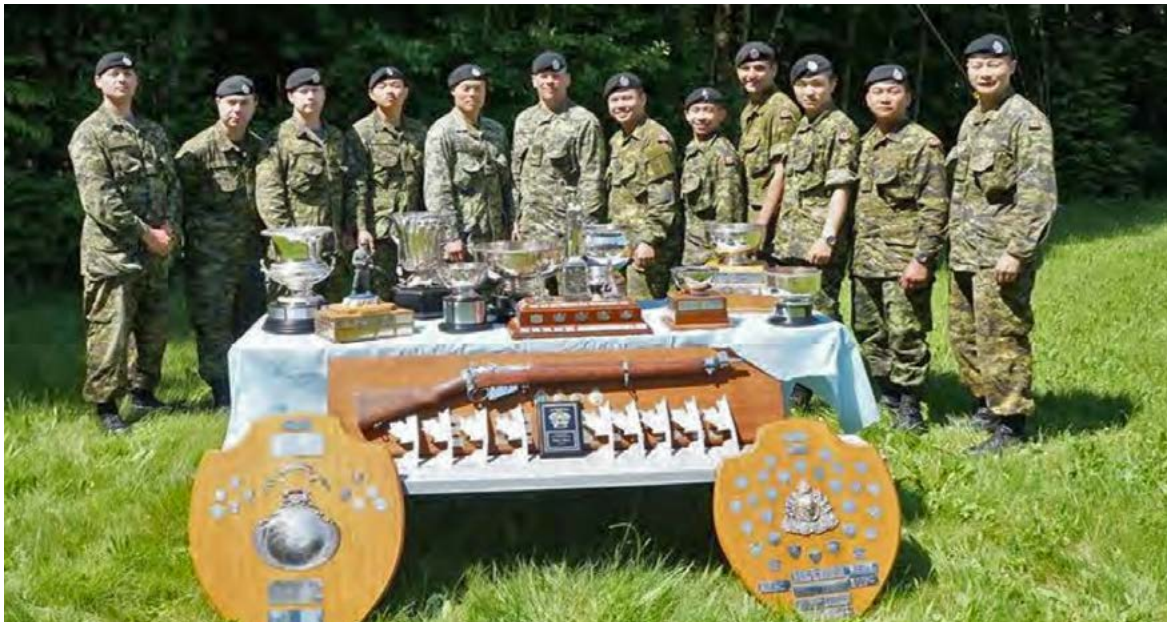
Master Corporal Zhou, Recce Sqn

Despite the regiment's conversion into an armoured and later armoured reconnaissance unit after 1942, the BCR has always retained its traditions dating back to its early days as an infantry unit, named the 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles, of training its soldiers to become outstanding marksmen.

This tradition is carried into the 21<sup>st</sup> century where the regiment maintains a cadre made up of the unit's top shooters. This cadre of top shooters

are annually sent to compete at the Blair Shoot; a shooting competition where shooters from units all across BC compete for the title of Top Shot and Top Shooting Team. Shooters that make the top 24 at the Blair earn an opportunity to compete at the Canadian Armed Forces Small Arms Competition (CAFSAC) in Ottawa where top military shooters across Canada and from Canada's allied nations compete for the Queen's Medal (Top Canadian Shooter) and the title of Top International

Shooter. From there, a handful of top shooters will earn an opportunity to represent Canada and compete at the Army Operational Competition (commonly known as the Bisley) a prestigious international military shooting competition that takes place annually in the United Kingdom.



On the Range with the BCR Shooting Team





# Mountain Man 2017-present

Thanks to the leadership of Capt Couture (LdSH) and Lt Van Heerden (LdSH, formerly Sgt Van Heerden), the BCRs competed for the first time in Exercise Mountain Man back in 2017, and have competed each year since (2020 cancelled due to COVID-19). Exercise Mountain Man is an ultra marathon race run by 1 CMBG in the fall of each year in Edmonton. The exact distances change over the years, as construction often changes the routes, but the race consists of four legs:

- Ruck Run/March (Around 33km)
- Canoe Portage (Around 3km)
- Canoe Paddle (Around 10km)
- Final Ruck Run/March (Around 5-6km)

Each year the total distance averages somewhere just over 50km, and for each leg (minus the canoe

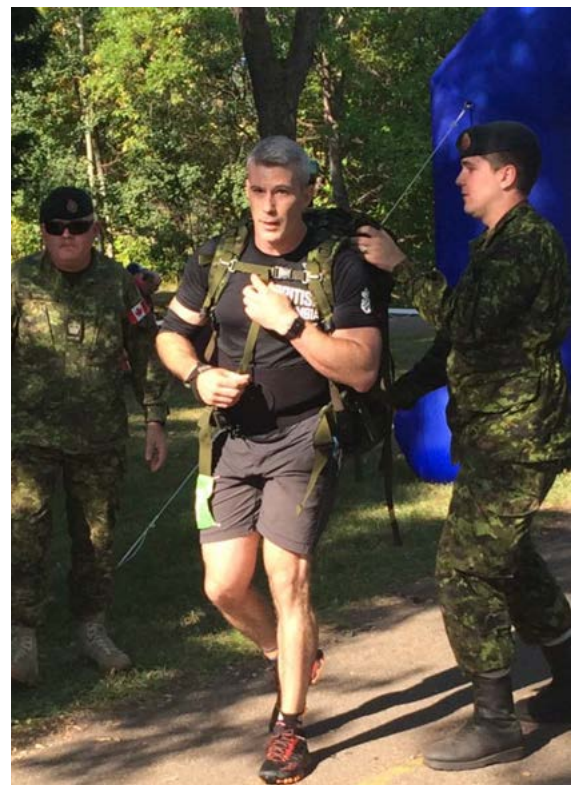
paddle) each participant must carry a rucksack weighing no less than 15kgs! The event has repeatedly highlighted the BCRs as fitness champions, with impressive results year after year. Results from past Mountain Mans can be seen below.

The BCR teams leads from the front!



MM 2017 Team Place: 2nd (Minor Unit)
13th Tpr Tessa
19th Maj Lindsay
52nd Cpl Robinson
61st Tpr Symes
68th OCdt Serviss
70th Cpl Wilson
78th Cpl Palmer
85th Cpl Alexander
DNF Capt Couture

MM 2018 (Did not meet team criteria)
14th Cpl Tessa
99th Pte Llorente
183rd Pte John
MM 2019 (Did not meet team criteria)
3rd Cpl Tessa
47th Cpl Symes
126th Tpr Llorente
138th Tpr Blouin
193rd Tpr John
194th Pte (R) Ka



Then-Major Lindsay on the route



# Change of Appointment Ceremony 2018

The British Columbia Regiment (Duke Of Connaught's Own)

Change of Appointment Parade (CWO A.H. Mullick, CD to MWO A.C. Harris, CD)

The Drill Hall , 26 September 2018

The program for the evening commenced at 2000 hours with the Guidon being marched on to the Parade Square followed by the arrival of the Honorary Colonel who received a general Salute and the Reviewing Officer, 39 CBG Commander, Colonel Paul Ursich, who also received a General Salute. The evening's program included an inspection of the soldiers of the Regiment by the RO, the promotion of MWO Harris to the rank of CWO by the Colonel Ursich, a Regimental March Past (the last time

for CWO Mullick as RSM), Change of Appointment segment, Speeches and Presentations (including the presentation by the Honorary Colonel of a Honorary Colonel's Commendation and Honorary Colonel's Regimental Coin to CWO Mullick, a presentation by Corporal Alexander on behalf of the Junior Ranks to CWO Mullick and a presentation to the CO by CWO Mullick), a Regimental March Past (the first time as RSM by CWO Harris), an Advance in Review Order and the departure of the RO.

On the completion of the Parade, a first-class reception was held in the WOs' & Sgts' Mess much to the delight of the overflow crowd.

Congratulations to RSM Harris on the occasion of his promotion to CWO and appointment as RSM and thank you to CWO Mullick for his exemplary service and commitment to the Regiment.

Up the Dukes!



Below left: CWO Mullick's presentation to the Regiment

Below right: Former-RSM Mullick is presented with his "pennant"





# FTX Lynx Duke 2018

## EXERCISE LYNX DUKE 2018 – SHAKE OUT EX FOR RECCE SQUADRON

G.L. (Greg) McCullough, CD, Major, OC Recce

**E**x LYNX DUKE (23-25 Nov) was the shake out exercise for the Squadron this year. In addition to the G Wagons the BCR had the TAPV (Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle) out in field conditions.

After a long road move to Yakima Training Centre (Washington) our soldiers crossed the LD and spent the day honing their recce skills. Working at the patrol level in a Troop context (with Squadron level coordination) both 41 and 42 Troops trained hard to work on zone reconnaissance. The evening saw a dismounted patrol sent out against the 41 troop, with the thermal optics easily spotting and ‘killing’ the patrol. It was a good display of the new technology available in the TAPV, but also a reminder that there is no substitute for good training, tactics, and procedures (TTP).

The road move home included a stop at the duty free to secure sufficient

goods to ensure the conditions were met for a relaxing post ex Sunday night. Ex BCR Sgt Ian Patterson was the CBSA point of contact, which sped up the border crossing!

Thanks to all, including the Ops Staff, LdSH who came out to offer support and advice, and the Signallers and Medic who supported us.



Members of 61C and 61D posing for a family photo after End-Ex was announced on Ex LYNX DUKE 2018. (From left to right, Cpl Kim, Cpl Zhou, Cpl Symes, Tpr Llorente, Pte Wu, Tpr John, Sgt Galang, and Sgt Cobb)

## FTX LYNX DUKE 2018 (23-25 NOV 18)

MCpl Zhou, Recce Sqn

**A**s the first field training exercise conducted by the regiment that included use of the newly received Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle (TAPV), Exercise LYNX DUKE 2018 was a key milestone for the British Columbia Regiment (Duke's of Connaught's Own). The regiment received the TAPVs in April of 2018, and the new fleet of armoured fighting vehicles had yet to receive a chance to prove themselves within a tactical environment. Since late 2017 leading up to Ex LYNX DUKE, dozens of soldiers from the regiment

tirelessly trained on various driver and gunnery courses, earning their qualifications in preparation for the arrival of the TAPVs. By late November, every member of the regiment was eager to participate in the first field exercise on the new platform

The anticipated exercise took place from 23-25 November, 2018 at Yakima Training Center. It was broken down into two major components, an area reconnaissance trace during the day of the 24th followed by an observation post (OP) task during the night into

the early hours of the 25th. Aims of the exercise were to acquaint the newly qualified soldiers of the regiment on the tactical capabilities of the vehicle, as well as adapt regimental standard operating procedures to incorporate the new platform.

On the night of the 23rd troops departed the regiment on bus and in a convoy of G-Wagons. The drive to Yakima was more difficult than usual as the mountain passes in Southern Washington State were under blizzard conditions on the drive down. In early hours of the 24th



the regiment arrived after an entire night of driving. Eagerly they linked up with the advance party and began mounting their assigned vehicles.

The area reconnaissance trace progressed from west to east in the training area, the Named Areas of Interest (NAI's) were split into northern and southern clusters. 1 Troop made up of TAPVs took the northern cluster, while 2 Troop made up of G-Wagons took the southern. Accompanied by mentors from the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) Reconnaissance Squadron, 1 Troop quickly departed for their trace.

The training area is known for its arid, rugged and mountainous terrain filled with steep valleys and high grounds. When the regiment only fielded G-Wagons off-road driving in those valleys was considered reckless, however the newly acquired TAPVs traversed through the terrain as if it was on paved roads. The vehicle's ability to off-road and handle inclined terrain far exceeded the crew's expectation. While my TAPV belonging to 61C provided overwatch for 61A I was awed by the sight of two TAPVs leap-frogging across the valley, like majestic rams on a 30-degree incline speeding 60km/h across my display.

As the drivers received valuable training conducting tactical driving that would be previously considered a death-wish on the G-Wagon, the gunners were able to test the gunnery skills they had learned on course. Furthermore, under the mentorship of Strathcona NCOs, gunners like myself and MCpl Reymers were coached on techniques to operate the day and thermal sights in a smooth and effective manner when it came to scanning our arcs and engaging targets. In addition to valuable knowledge on gunnery MCpl Reymers and I quickly learned that in addition to increased situational awareness and increased firepower, vertigo was another brand new "feature" that gunners would experience when switching onto a vehicle with an RWS. A couple of emergency stops and dry heaves later we quickly adapted to the conditions and developed techniques to overcome it, like looking out of the driver's view block to regain one's bearing.

During the OP phase, the exercise shifted from reconnaissance against a dedicated Opposition Force (Opfor) towards a force-on-force confrontation between 1 Troop and 2 Troop. 1 Troop was ordered to adopt a screen over a high feature while 2 Troop was

tasked to send out fighting patrols to destroy the screen. The goal of this scenario was to test the surveillance capabilities of the TAPV as well as test 2 Troop's ability to conduct patrols in an environment where the enemy had thermal imaging equipment. The new equipment proved extremely effective in detecting these fighting patrols and the thermal optics were a great force multiplier during these operations.

The exercise ended on the morning of 25 November and the regiment began their long drive back to Vancouver. In the end Exercise LYNX DUKE was an important milestone for the British Columbia Regiment in its modern history. Furthermore, the valuable experience obtained by crew commanders, gunners, and drivers would lay the foundation for their success on Exercise ORNERY RAM 2019 and Exercise MAPLE RESOLVE 2019 four months later. A patrol worth of soldiers who attended Exercise LYNX DUKE led by WO McKee would effectively augment the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) Battle Group on their Road to High Readiness on these two exercises.

C/S 61A providing overwatch to 61C and 61D while they leap-frogged across open terrain during the conduct of area reconnaissance tasks on 24 November, 2018.





# Recruiting 2018

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE BCR RECRUITING TEAM

CWO Huf Mullick, MMM, CD, Unit Recruiting Officer

2019 will be an exciting year for BCR Recruiting. We bid farewell to MCpl Boskick who has been offered a job with Vancouver Fire Service. The BCR want to thank him for all of his hard work and dedication and wish him luck in his new career. His replacement will

be MCpl VanDelden who was promoted recently at the Soldiers Recognition Dinner. To bolster recruiting efforts will be CWO Mullick (former RSM) and Cpls Kim and Sheehan. Together the Recruiting Team looks to increase the size of the Regiment by creating

awareness of the BCR as a part-time employer of choice in the Lower Mainland. The team with assistance from the squadron leadership and personnel will recruit future Armoured soldiers and tradespeople into the unit.

Left: MCpl VanDelden and Cpl Kim at "Soldier for a Day" Recruiting event in Richmond  
Right: Cpl Kim, MCpl VanDelden; CWO Mullick; Cpl Parker; Cpl Regalla; Cpl Sidhu.



## Shooting Team 18-2019

Edward Law, Master Corporal, SHQ – Regt Fin NCO

The 2019 competition season was unfortunately short and uneventful for the BCR team. The seemingly indefinite closure of the General Vokes Range Complex at the time left many across the brigade to believe that the brigade level competitions would be canceled. By the time confirmation of the competition going ahead elsewhere was announced, most of the potential competitors had scheduled their time

to other training events. Only a last-minute dry fire session to cover the basic fundamentals and go over the sequence of run downs was conducted to train the team.

The Blair Competition took place this year on Heal's Rifle Range, in Victoria from 3 to 5 May. Representing the BCRs were Cpl Alberastine, Cpl Davidson, and Cpl Luro. The competition went smoothly and all

3 of them placed decently well in the rankings. Cpl Davidson and Cpl Luro both ranked high enough to be selected for the 39 Brigade team, however only the former would have the time available to participate in the following competitions and selection process. It was here at the 2019 Blair that Cpl Davidson was poached by a few submariners who, on the Saturday evening after the shooting, took the



team on a tour of a Submarine that was in port. Barely 6 months later he would be completing his transfer to the Navy.

31 May to 2 June the BCRA was hosted also at Heal's Rifle Range. Cpl Davidson was the only Duke present. He was on track to make the cut to join

the 3 CAN DIV team, however due to a medical emergency he was unable to complete the matches.

Although it was a short season, the few members who participated returned with smiles on their faces and much improved skill behind the rifle.

This was proved in September during annual rifle requalification where Cpl Davidson earned expert marksman for the first time.

## FTX Virtual Duke 2019

Nanaimo, B.C. 15-17 February 2019

Soldiers from The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) under the command of Major McCullough, OC Recce, along with the RSM, CWO Harris, and the 2 IC, Major Virk, participated in Ex Virtual Duke that was held at The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) Armoury and range in Nanaimo, B.C., on the weekend of February 15th-17th.

The weather cooperated with sunshine and only a foot of snow and the range was very accommodating with the river and ravines that

ran through it. It provided a great environment for the soldiers to improve their skills and qualifications at various distances and under different conditions.

Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Rohani also attended the exercise and was very impressed with the soldiers who performed their tasks so well and earned their qualifications

on the C6 GPMG and C7, in spite of the terrain and snow.



Ex Virtual Duke, Nanaimo





# FTX King's Gunner 2019

MCpl Edward Law, Recce Sqdn

On 22 February 2019, a small contingent of Dukes boarded flights to Calgary, enroute to CFB Suffield where they would meet with the King's Own Calgary Regiment (KOCR). In attendance were Capt Tardiff, MCpl Law, MCpl Reymers, MCpl Zhou, Cpl Symes, Cpl Hothi, Tpr Blouin, Tpr Swanson, and Tpr Gangar. EX KING'S GUNNER was to be a vehicle mounted live fire range, where crews would test their gunnery and crew commanding skills from stationary positions to bounding movements on battle runs. Arriving late in the evening they immediately went to ground, preparing for the day ahead.

Bright and early they had their breakfast and proceeded to the range. Temperatures were low, roughly -28°C ambient, and down to -35°C with wind chill. Target setup and the firing positions were meant to be completed by the KOCR advance party the day before, but the weather conditions had slowed their progress. Overnight the wind had blown over some of the targetry, and now needed to be reset. The reset was completed quickly, however, just as things were about to kick off a windstorm blew in, perhaps a blizzard as far as those of us from the coast were concerned. Visibility had been reduced to about 25 metres, and temperatures dropped to -45°C. Troops were ordered to take shelter in their vehicles or in the mod tents. For about an hour or so troops socialized and reunited with friends they'd met in the past through various courses and joint exercises.

The storm subsided and so the shooting began. First to go through was a DP1 Armoured Recce Crewman

Course which had tagged along for their familiarization shoot. Once they were complete the exercise participants took over the range. Targets were sprawled across the frozen prairie, from 200 out to about 1000 metres. TAPVs and G-Wagons were the vehicles in action and troops cycled through their assigned vehicles. By mid afternoon everyone was ready to transition into the battle runs. Crew Commanders guided their vehicles to the starting points, two at a time. Both callsigns opened up on the near targets, then, as they transitioned to the more distant targets, covering fire would be provided by one callsign while the other bounded ahead. The forward G-Wagon now approximately 50 metres ahead would begin laying down fire while the rear one moved up. Communicating over radio the two vehicles coordinated their movement as they settled into new positions one after the other. The battle runs lapsed into the early evening when just enough darkness took over that the tracers could be seen zipping across

the fields, their glow flickering across the shadowed side of the hills. Just a beautiful sight. With the battle runs now complete the troops returned to the tents and support vehicles to shelter from the cold and had dinner while they waited for full darkness.

The night shoot went along smoothly. With the order to expend as much of the remaining ammo as possible, the rolling hills on the range were lit spectacularly by the light of dancing tracer fire. Para flares were used to illuminate targets and the gunners would engage. The planned portion of the shoot was completed in good time. All the gunners had cycled through.

This was a fantastic training opportunity for all of the members who were involved. Being trapped in between mountains and valleys it is rare in BC to have the kind of ground available to practice bounding movement across open terrain, even more so where it could be done with live fire.

Sunrise on the Suffield Prairie





# The Battle of Paardeberg Dinner 2019

Warrant Officers' & Sergeants' Mess  
Paardeberg Dinner – 23 February 2019

The annual Paardeberg Dinner hosted by the WOs' & Sgts' Mess commemorating the 119th anniversary of the Battle of Paardeberg in South Africa was held on the drill square on Saturday evening, February 23rd. The Head Table, consisting of the A/PMC Sgt Burnie Li, the Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Farid Rohani, the RSM, CWO Tony Harris, the CO, Lieutenant-Colonel Paul Lindsay, the Honorary Colonel, Ted Hawthorne, WO Arnold Matibag and

WO Craig Harris, was piped in by Pipe Major for the evening Andrew Hayes of the BCR Irish Pipes & Drums. The BCR Brass & Reed Band, led by Guest Conductor Andrew Clark, provided the entertainment throughout the dinner and both bands presented special performances throughout the course of the evening. Congratulations to our two BCR Bands for their excellent work to make the evening so very special.

Post dinner presentations included the CO's presentation of the first bar to the CD to retired WO Mike Hillman, a thank you presentation to former BCR MCpl, now RCAF Cpl Jeff Pesklevits and his unit for the top-notch bar renovation and a presentation of the medals of the late SAR Tech, Sgt Mark Salesse, by retired MWO Ron Leblanc to the RSM, CWO Tony Harris.

Truly a memorable evening!



Left: HCol Bill Diamond 39 CER, HLCol Farid Rohani, CPO1 Steve Wist, Coxswain, HMCS Vancouver, RSM Harris, LCol Lindsay, HCol Hawthorne (l to r)





# Private George Newburn, 7<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> BC), BN, CEF

Compiled by Capt Vinning MS, BC Recce Sqn – Funeral Party Commander & Sgt Langone A, RQMS – Burial Party Commander

## The Burial Party

In the following pages you will find a daily summary written by members of the Burial Party for the interment of Pte. George Newburn. This was the first time The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) would be interring a soldier from WW1 after the war had ended. The honour and privilege to have served

as the Funeral Party Commander and Burial Party Commander, cannot be expressed in words. This duty was not taken lightly nor will it be forgotten. The troops rehearsed for 2 days before deploying to France. Throughout the rehearsals at the Drill Hall and in France, they remained professional

and constantly striving for perfection. A special thanks to Maj Seymour and MWO Hryniw from Cdn 3rd Div HQ. They provided phenomenal support before, during and after the tasking. Maj Miller and MWO Girard from DHH were also instrumental in the success of the interment ceremony.

Saturday, 8 June 2019 – Tpr Swanson S, Recce Sqn

Today we visited the Vimy Ridge Memorial. All the photos you will see cannot do it justice. The weather has been overcast and heavy rain with strong wind since we arrived. The weather feels fitting, a call back in a small way to the cold and wet the men on both sides had to live with. Being at the monument in these conditions in our combats, gives us all a sense of sadness and pride. Our soldiers came here, they fought, sacrificed, and were victorious. It was a cold day when we visited the memorial, it should be cold and wet, the solemn task we have been honoured with should not be a comfortable one.

The memorial was resplendent in magnificent white stone. The sculptures have incredible detail that conveyed a depth of emotion I have never seen before. I can see the anguish in the way the bodies lay and the loss in the eyes, and perhaps the hope for the future in the way some stand. I looked for my family names in the stones, I found six

with my last name. I hope that in the future I will be able to confirm if they are directly related to me.

After Vimy we went to take a tour of the tunnel and trench system of the allies. Finding that they had dug ten kilometers of tunnel was a shock. I previously did not understand the scale of the battle. Driving up to the tunnels we saw huge craters caused by underground explosives and artillery

used to disrupt the German trenches. We were told that some of these bombs were over two thousand pounds. There was no even ground anywhere on the ridge due too all the bombs, mines, and trenches.

The tour guide gave us all some incredible incite into how close our boys got to the German lines by digging underground. She told us the tunneled to just thirty meters away from the



Private Newburn, 7th (1st BC)  
Bn, CEF is laid to rest





The Burial Party Commanded by Captain Vinning and RQMS Langone

enemy trenches. Seeing this really put it into perspective, they were an easy stone throw from each other. In most of the area the trenches were closed off from the public due to unexploded ordnances. It is a shame that we will never be able to excavate more of the tunnels. To keep the grass down in the fenced off area they have flocks of sheep roaming the area.

As soon as the tour ended, we started practicing for the funeral. I think we are all a little worried about it. We all want to do our best to honour a fallen hero and our unit. It is good that we worry, it shows we care about what we are doing here. When the day comes, we will do our duty with proper reverence and professionalism.

## Sunday, 9 June 2019 – Cpl Lee J, Recce Sqn

Day 2 started with early rehearsals of the interment at the Canadian Cemetery #2 near the Vimy Ridge memorial. Our group had practiced the flag folding the previous night with gloves. Eventually CWO Richards came by to watch our final practice and there was a sense of pride and achievement when it was all done - knowing we had

came from knowing almost nothing just a week prior to completing a full rehearsal from start to finish.

The second half of the day consisted of a guided tour with historian Carl who took us through the advancement of the 7th Battalion at the battle of Hill 70. Maps were provided which helped much with the orientation

and lay of the ground. We were taken to the field where the 7th Battalion would have staged just prior to their advancement and the sheer scope and magnitude of just this one battle became apparent. Eventually we made it to the top of Hill 70, which struck us as more of a slight slope (if that) than a hill - and then we were directed to

Pte Newburn's family, the Burial Party, and support elements





an unseemingly quiet parking lot. This parking lot had been the site of where Pte Newburn was killed on April 1917. The realization of the significance of the ground soon hit the members as the events that occurred in this exact spot over 100 years ago was the reason members of the regiment were here today. So much had changed from then to now, but we will still honour those who fought and died on our behalf.

Lastly, we ended the day off with a trip to the Hill 70 memorial just outside of Loos. The site of the memorial was decorated with fields of poppies - which invoked a feeling of peace and remembrance all these years later. The regiment made it to the center of the Hill 70 memorial - which unveiled a obelisk with the words Canada and 1917 on it. A group picture was taken in front of the monument before



Pte Newburn is carried to his final rest

making our way to the Loos British Cemetery where the interment is to take place. Upon reaching the cemetery and looking at the hallow ground Pte Newburn would finally be placed to rest

all these years later, we felt a sense of pride and duty knowing that although we did not know this individual - it would be our honor to finally bury his casket forever.

## Monday 10 June 2019 – Tpr Blouin S, Recce Sqn

**T**oday, we had the chance to visit battlefields, cemeteries and monuments near the town of Arras, France. I think that Battlefield tours are one of the best ways to remember the history of the world wars and to pay our respect to the fallen ones. I

admire France for preserving beautiful cemeteries and monuments that our generation and the generations to come can visit and learn about their history.

We started the day by visiting a commonwealth cemetery. In this cemetery, the tombstones were placed in

a chronological order, most of the first rows of tombstones were French soldiers that were killed in action. The following rows were either British or Canadians soldiers. Earlier in the tour I learnt that all Canadian tombstones were distinguished by the maple leaf symbol. The tour guide specifically showed us the tombstones of two Lieutenants that had the inscription “MM” written on it. “MM” means that the soldier earned a military medal, and usually it is given to brave soldiers and these soldiers then become officers because of their natural leadership skills.

The second cemetery that we visited was a German cemetery. The Neuville-Vaast German cemetery has approximately 45,000 buried soldiers. While I was visiting this cemetery, many thoughts went through my mind, first this cemetery is different from the commonwealth cemeteries. The

Burial Party Attending a Battle Field tour of Hill







CO and RSM pay thier respects at Pte Newburn's graveside

tombstones are darker, the shape is a cross, there are no plants or flowers growing along the rows and there are 3 to 4 soldiers per tombstones.

The next cemetery that we visited was particularly touching for us, because the last rows of tombstones were mostly soldiers from the 7th Battalion. When I read the tombstones descriptions, I was in shock when I realized that most of the soldiers died

in their mid twenties, they were as old as me and sometimes younger; they fought with bravery. Throughout this visit I learned why there was a larger percentage of western than eastern Canadians that joined the military. Eastern Canadians were more likely to be already married because of the men/women ratio and they owned farms; they had more to lose which made them less inclined to join compared to

western Canadians which consisted of less born Canadians.

I have noticed that when you are walking through a forest or a field in the Arras area it is likely to find some evidence of the war. We visited German gun positions that were cemented, most of these positions are still standing. To see those in person made me imagine those soldiers looking through their arcs of fire like we do on our exercises. But these German positions were probably found by flash spotting. On the night of the 15th of April, the 7th Battalion moved up to the German trench lines that we visited, pushing the Germans to back up from that position. The 7th Battalion then continued their patrol in search of the enemy their goal was to keep contact with the enemy. It's impressive that the methods used to find German gun positions were of 80% accuracy, they would get destroyed once found.

The battlefield tour left me with many feelings, mostly I have enormous respect for the sacrifices made by those men. I am proud to be part of the same forces they served and lucky to have the chance to see and walk the fields where so many fought and died.

## Tuesday, 11 June 2019 – Cpl Lim V, Recce Sqn

**W**e started with early travel to Loos British Cemetery, where we had our first full dress rehearsal. With the lay of the ground in front of us, we had a grasp of the distance and able to get a feel of the slow march to the burial site. Today was also the first time we had an actual feel for with the lowering straps with gloves and how to feed the straps through the casket. Lowering the casket was a delicate process, having to lower the casket slowly and leveled together as pallbearer party. With the help of all the MWOs present, they

instructed us on how we can improve on the lowering of the casket. By the time lunch had rolled around, the group was confident that our drill with the casket and roles in the ceremony. At the end of multiple dress rehearsal, we also presented a folded Canadian flag to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission which will be displayed at their visitor center in Beaurains. This flag will be along side the other Commonwealth countries in order to see how each country folds their flags.

After a short intermission, our Commanding Officer and Regimental Sergeant Major arrived to learn their part in the ceremony. With our party complete, we were able to see the ceremony in full. With the help of the support staff, we ironed out the little kinks. After our final practice, we all had a sense of pride and achievement. We look forward in giving Pte. Newburn his proper sending off in front of his family.



Today is the big day, the Interment of Pte Newburn. The day began with an early morning with all of the BCR's coming together for photos at Vimy Ridge. This was the first moment that started to bring this day into perspective of how honourable and important of a responsibility we have been tasked with. At the arrival at Vimy Ridge we first got together with the fellow Dukes and the burial party and began taking pictures, adding in the RSM, CO, Cdn 3rd Div members, and the Association. We then departed from this location and headed towards Loos British Cemetery where the interment would be taking place. This is the moment that we have all been working towards for multiple weeks and everyone was nervous because we all wanted to do the family proud as well as make this perfect for our fallen soldier. This is the last moment that the family and the public will see of Pte Newburn. When we first stepped off and began it was obvious that we have been working on our drill and practicing a lot, our feet came down together, our drill was in perfect symmetry. We then proceeded to carry the casket and slow marched down the pathway towards Pte Newburn's final resting place. Continuing with the ceremony the next big moment that we knew was all coming was the folding of the flag. This was something that had all the burial party nerves tense because this was the first time, we were folding a wet flag. Yet we still managed to make it work and present the family with a flag we could all be proud of as Dukes and members of the Canadian Armed Forces. Then we proceeded to continue with the ceremony and give Pte Newburn the final salute before he was buried. This was a very humbling moment to honour people that have

fought and gave us the freedom and liberty that we take for granted. One message I saw on a tombstone that stuck out for me was "He died for me", this really made me want to ensure that Pte Newburn's burial was done in the best of all our abilities. Not many people pay attention to the sacrifice that people made for our freedom and the courage it must have taken to know you might not come back but you're doing this for something bigger. This was how I now see Pte Newburn as a person who knew his chances at a young age and knew that this is the most honourable and respectable profession that anyone could ever take part in. It gave me goosebumps knowing that this was a hero of our Regiment that made the ultimate sacrifice so that we may all have the freedom and liberty we have today.

We then made our way to the reception which took place in the town hall of Loos. This was a very interesting event mainly since many of the members of the burial party are relatively new to the regiment and have never been

to a reception of this sort. It took place on the second floor, with the family of Pte Newburn, the BCR association, Cdn 3rd Div, and the members of the BCRs. For many of us this was the first chance for many of us to get to talk about this whole experience and all the work that was put in. The main purpose of this interment was to honour the sacrifice of our fallen soldier from WW1 as well as being able to respectfully honour the family in his burial. It was amazing to hear that the family was very happy and pleased with the ceremony. Also the members of Cdn 3rd Div were at the reception and they were the ones who had been teaching us this drill and assisting us in order to make it as sharp as possible. It was amazing to hear all the positive feedback from the interment ceremony. The reception included the family receiving some of Pte Newburn's personal items that had been recovered with his remains which included a spoon as well as a rock that had his fingerprint imprinted onto it. After receiving these items, the CO BCR and RSM BCR

MCpl Sloan presents the flowers for Pte Newburn's grave to RQMS Langone







The Burial Party marches off

presented the family with a book of our history which included the moments that Pte Newburn had lived through. After the reception it was time for the road move to Menin Gate.

This was a fair distance away, it was an hour drive which would add on to the long day that everyone had expected to occur. We made it in time to meet Cpl Alexander's wife as well as her family which was an interesting story to hear. Mainly since they had met on a battlefield tour that Cpl Alexander had previously been a part of. After the drink with the family, the BCR's proceeded to the Menin Gate to participate in the ceremony that had been taking place everyday for the past 95 years. This was my first time in Belgium and it was honestly such an incredible and

humbling moment to be a part of. Being able to see all the names of the fallen soldiers from WW1. As soon as we got to the ceremony, we were instructed on what to do and we did so which resulted in the BCR's standing at attention during the ceremony. Proceeding the ceremony, the BCR's were standing on the stairs and we had many people coming to take pictures of us, this moment made me realize how much respect and how grateful the public is for members serving in the military. The people of this community were very welcoming and accepting of our regiment. We proceeded to be in awe of all the names that had been carved into the gate and of all the sacrifices of the people. The RSM had then showed us the names of all of the soldiers that had been from

our Regiment and the number of names on this was breathtaking. Just to realize the amount of life that had been lost and that had been willingly sacrificed for something greater than themselves. We then moved up to the top of the Menin Gate and saw another memorial off to the side and it was the Indian memorial for WW1. Personally, this was a surprising thing to see because I didn't believe that the Indian Army had been recognized for the sacrifice they had made. We then proceeded to dinner and made our way out of Menin Gate and had the opportunity to see Vimy Ridge in the dark. It was incredible to see the light shining on the stone and being able to see how this amplified the memorial. Also, we were able to see vast distances even at night from all of the lights and seeing how this was such an important ridge to take in order for the following attacks to be able to succeed.

I'm proud to say that it was one of the more humbling days I've experienced. From being able to be a part of the interment of Pte Newburn to experiencing Menin Gate for the very first time. The interment was a once in a lifetime opportunity and I was proud and humbled to say that we made our fellow Duke proud and had put him to rest. Also being able to talk to the family and see how proud we made them and how we were able to do the burial in a respectful way that made all parties involved proud.

## Thursday, 13 June 2019 – MCpl Palmer, Recce Sqn

The day after the interment, the contingent travelled to Belgium to meet with the regimental association for a battlefield tour. We rendezvoused with Colonel (retired) Keith Maxwell just outside the Menin Gate in the city of Ypres and drove west towards the village of Leke.

The village of Leke is important to the Regiment because on 7th September 1944, then 28th Armoured Regiment (BCR) liberated the town from the Germans. The residents of Leke, made a small plaza in which they named Canada Plaza in remembrance of the Regiment liberating their town.

On 8th September 2001 the regimental association placed a plaque in the plaza surrounded by a maple leaf and the four phases a poppy goes through, all designed by a local artist. It was quite moving to hear O Canada being played during the quick ceremony as well as the Belgian national anthem. Shortly



after the ceremony the contingent and the parade members formed up on the road and marched to the village hall. On the way we stopped at a church to lay a wreath.

Honourary Lt. Col. Rohani and Cpl. Hothi laid a wreath on behalf of the Regiment at the church memorial. The parade continued to march down the road and to the village hall. At the village hall the contingent was given drink tickets at a small reception. It was a fantastic moment where members of the Regiment and association got to mingle with the locals. LCol Lindsay, CWO Mullick, and Col (Rtd) Maxwell received gifts from the Belgian-Canada Association President as a gift of thanks and appreciation. We then departed shortly after to carry on with our battlefield tour; however, seeing the town of Leke appreciate what the Regiment did for them 74 years ago shows the deep gratitude others have for Canada whom are not Canadian.

At 1250 hours, the contingent arrived at Essex Farm. Essex Farm is one of the well-known Commonwealth War Graves because Lt. Col. McRae wrote "In Flanders Fields". CWO Mullick recited the poem for us on the very same bank where Lt. Col. McRae wrote his poem making it a somber moment. Also, at Essex Farm the youngest soldier killed during the First World War is buried there, rifleman V. J. Strudwick aged 15. A very stark reminder what some young lads did so they could do their bit for the war effort. After reflecting we continued onto one of the regiment's battle honour's, St. Julien.

St. Julien is very important for the Regiment because it is where the 7th Battalion held the line against the first German gas attack. St. Julien is also known as, 'Vancouver Corner' after the brave actions the battalion did during

the battle in holding their ground while being attacked and gassed by the Germans. The battalion held out for two days until the British relieved them after. 2,000 men lost their lives during this battle. The memorial is the only kind in terms of Canadian memorials to represent a soldier in the arms reverse position, a gesture of mourning and respect for fallen comrades. The next big battle the battalion fought in was Passchendaele.

Just like at the Battle of Hill 70, the 7th Battalion took the left ridge over-looking Passchendaele on the 7th November 1917. The battle for Passchendaele was also known as the third battle of Ypres. The town was destroyed due to the battle and could only know it was a town due to the colour of bricks lying on the ground. General Currie wanted to take Passchendaele so that the Germans couldn't observe them over the winter. General Currie won the battle at an extreme cost of lives and was furious when the British withdrew from the area when the Germans attacked in the spring of 1918. Although the battle took place 102 years ago, the fields around Passchendaele still have the barbed wire stacks in the ground, which are used by the farmers for their fences. At the Passchendaele memorial, it is also known as the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada ground as their respected battalion took the right ridge. At the front of the memorial is Canada Gate which is a replica gate that stands in Halifax symbolizing where the Canadian soldiers started their journey into the war.

Quickly jumping back into our vehicles, we stopped at the Battle of Frezenberg memorial. Here, the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) were on the Frezenberg ridge. The Patricia's

responded in kind to the Germans after their attacks and artillery barrages. Many of the original members of the regiment were killed in this battle and not many came out alive. Holding the line came at a large cost and the unit had to be taken off the line and regrouped. A very memorable stop because our former RSM, CWO Mullick was part of 2 VP and served with them in the Medak pocket.

Mount Sorrel (Hill 62) was our last stop on the tour. Here at Mount Sorrel and Sanctuary Wood is very important for Canadians in trying to hold and push the Germans back. During the battle the 7th battalion conducted a hasty counter attack but only gained 600 meters of ground and did not take the high ground back. The Germans conducted the attack to keep units pinned down and draw resources away from the Somme. Even with the German push, the Germans did not take the advantage of taking the undefended city of Ypres and stopped. Though the Germans wanted to drain resources, the Canadians were taken off the line and sent to the Somme. Commonwealth soldiers are buried at Sanctuary wood, Hooge Crater and those not found are on the walls at Menin Gate.





# FTX Centurion Duke 2019

MCpl Byunghoon Kim, Recce Sqn

From 27 to 29 September 2019, Dukes participated in Exercise CENTURION DUKE 2019, an Individual Battle Task Standard (IBTS) held at Heals Range in Esquimalt, BC. IBTS is an annual training cycle that soldiers must complete to maintain operational effectiveness, and is therefore a critical exercises required of all soldiers. This training also provides an opportunity for soldiers to refresh and refine their marksmanship skills. It involves participating in various Personal Weapons Tests (PWTs) and briefs over the weekend. On this particular year, training included C7 PWT 1-3, C6 GPMG PWT 1-2, Media Awareness (MCpl Van Delden), Conduct after Capture (MCpl Lam), CAF Ethics and Values (Capt Tardiff), and Information

Security (Sgt Langone). However, the highlight of IBTS is the C7 PWT 3 shoot, where soldiers are scored on their ability to accurately engage the target.

We started with zeroing, making sure that our sights were correctly aligned with the rifle, before proceeding to do a rundown shoot at 300m in prone position, various shoots in kneeling, sitting and standing positions at 200m and 100m, and ending with full automatic bursts. We also had an opportunity to shoot our C6 General Purpose Machine Guns which are frequently used in our trade on both the G-Wagon and TAPV platforms. That training was exciting, particularly to those new members who had previously received limited exposure to C6 live training, as well as

those attached to the unit in support. That evening we received particularly informative briefs. While not the most glamorous training, it is essential that all soldiers must know and adhere to when operating in a CAF environment.

Up the Dukes!



Members of the BCR conducting C6 GPM live fire as part of Exercise CENTURION DUKE 2019



# Guarding The Hill

Sgt Stephen Cobb, CD, BCR Recruiting Officer

During the summer of 2019 (May – August), I was employed with the Ceremonial Guard (CG) in Ottawa, Ontario. For those that are not familiar with the CG, it is an ad hoc unit comprised of various members of the CAF (Navy, Air Force and Army both from the Regular and Reserve Force) that provide Ceremonial Public duties in the National Capital Region (NCR). All members wear the ceremonial scarlet uniform of either the Governor General's Foot Guards (GGFG) located in Ottawa or the Canadian Grenadier Guards (CGG) located in Montreal. I was employed as a Divisional Sergeant in one of the Platoons of the Public Duties (PD) Company. After a month and a half of training of intensive drill,

we started our parade season with the inspection of the Governor General at Rideau Hall. Once we were deemed fit for Public Duties, we started out daily schedule of the Changing of the Guard Ceremony on the Parliament Lawn as well as providing hourly sentry changes at Rideau Hall. Not only is the CG responsible for these daily ceremonies, but this year we provided a Quarter guard at the rededication of the Afghanistan Memorial, in which I had the honour of being the guard commander. We also provided a 100-person guard for the Canada Day celebrations, the change of Canadian Army Commander and various events throughout the NCR. In July while maintenance of the Parliament's

front lawn was being conducted, the CG took the opportunity to conduct a field exercise at CFB Petawawa. We received a familiarization with the CH-47 Chinook which included a Squadron flight, we also jumped off the Mock Tower which is used to train paratroopers. Having a knack for all things drill and ceremonial, I can honestly say it has been the best summer I have had with the CAF in my 18 years of service.

Sgt Cobb with the Guard





# Corporal Cody Allard, Recce Sqn, BCR (DCO)

The Eulogy delivered by Alyssa Connelly

**H**i, for those of you who do not know me, I am Alyssa and I am Cody's younger sister.

First and Foremost, we would like to thank each and everyone of you for being here to celebrate the life of my brother. All the love and support, while overwhelming at times, is so appreciated that we cannot put into words what it truly means to our family. We would also like to extend a special thank you to the Dukes and the rest Canadian Armed Forces for their help with the service and everything else leading up to it.

Cody was born on Tuesday, May 2nd, 1989 at 12 noon to proud parents Rob and Terri and a very hesitant and nervous brother, Mitch. He became a

big brother to me at the age of 1. In that first year of his life, Cody proved how much of a fighter he was going to be. Suffering from deafness, seizures, a hole in his heart and breathing issues. He was able to overcome all of it and we knew that he was destined for great things and would shine as bright as a star. As a matter of fact, a lovely group of my mom friends came together and named a star after him. In the southern hemisphere, there is a star shining down named Cody Allard, Uncle Diddy. He could not say his name as a young boy and Diddy was what he called himself.

Like a star is defined by its five points, Cody had five outstanding characteristics that made him shine.

His brightest characteristic was his pride. He was so proud of many things in his life, but nothing made him prouder than being Dakota's daddy!

Everything he did was for her. I remember the day he found out he was going to be a dad; I saw an instant change in him. A twinkle in his eye if you will. As excited as he was, you could tell he was nervous. Then came the day that Dakota was born, He came out and told us. "She's here! And she is beautiful!" I witnessed my brother gawk at her, mesmerised by this tiny little being. That little twinkle in his eye grew into bright beams and a smile that stretched from ear to ear. It did not matter if he knew you or not, you were bound to hear stories about Dakota and shown numerous pictures of her that he had on his phone.

His second point shines as bright as his first. Growing up, Cody was an adventurous and wild child. Jumping out of a tree just to try and get the magic berries on a branch that he could not reach, to trying to be one of the big kids at the age of five and walk along the top of the monkey bars



Left: Sgt Canavan instructs the Honour Guard at the Hospital  
Below: Cpl Allard's comrades await the burial party







Cpl Allard's escort under command of Sgt Iredale

in the rain. Both which landed him with broken bones by the way! One of his favourite things to do was go fishing with our papa and Mitch when we were younger, he would wake up bright and early and get ready to go, then he would realize that I was tagging along. For some reason, Cody could never catch a fish if I tagged along, it might be because I caught them all. This one time we came back from a long morning of fishing, we were telling our parents about our trip and Cody loudly exclaimed, "Papa is going to take me hunting for hooters in the bush!" we didn't understand why everyone laughed because he was so excited to finally be able to go hunting with papa! When I had my son, Gerard, he was ecstatic that there was finally a boy in the family and wanted to teach him everything he knew about hunting and fishing. His adventurous nature led him to build friendships that took him on many different experiences from hunting with Garth, Paintballing with Martin and Jim, Camping with friends and family, off roading up at Harrison, Quading out in Abbotsford with our stepdad Grant, going to the cabin with Alaina and her family, to Sky diving, Sturgeon fishing and duck hunting with Mark.

His strength and love are Cody's third point. He was incredibly strong

and powerful, and he wanted to make sure you knew he could beat you at anything. We would have WWF nights in the boy's room and it almost always ended with mitch pinned down and counted out or me in the walls of Jericho tapping out. As we got a bit older, we would have bonfires and play drinking games. Beersby, ladder ball and beer pong were his favourites and when it came time to choosing his partner for beer pong, he always chose me. To this day, we are still undefeated. He was never the kind of sibling that would blatantly say "I love you", but his actions and the way he said your name showed how much he cared, just ask our younger sister Jada, or Jads as cody would call her. He met the love of his life, Alaina, back in elementary school in about '98. They dated for two entire days before ending their young love. It was rekindled back in 2015 when Alaina approached him on POF and went out on a date. Cody could not stop talking about this beautiful girl he met with and couldn't wait to bring her home to meet Mama and the family, the rest was history. If it weren't for Alaina, we would all be sitting here, still questioning Bumpy and Cody on their "friendship".

Cody fourth point of brightness was his ability to be talented at many

different things. He was an absolute natural when it came to Judo, probably because of all the rough housing and WWF nights before hand. The first time he came home from judo, he pulled all the couch cushions off the couch and made a mat on the floor and said he had something he needed to show me. Moments later I was on my back, confused as to what just happened. It was at that moment that he decided for me that I was to join judo so it could be more of a challenge for him at home when he wanted to practice. He was an exceptional carpenter and if you would like to see a piece of work he did, check out one of his favourite restaurants, Primos in white rock. He made a custom table for them that he loved and was proud to show people while enjoying tacos and margaritas. Be sure to try out 'El Jefe', Cody's favourite margarita there! Love of Food was also a passion of Cody's, and it was not just the eating food, Especially tacos at Fernando and Alma's. He was quite the cook! He made a Thai curry soup that everyone, especially himself, raved about, but my favourite thing Cody cooked were the hotwing fries that him and I created together. You all look a little curious as to what that is. Basically, we made homemade fries





Cpl Allard's bearers

the exact same way our dad makes his hot wings, but in the end, you smother the fries with cheese before baking it. Cheese for Cody had no boundaries. It belonged on EVERYTHING!

The final point is more of a personal one for me. Cody was a protector. Growing up and even as adults, I knew I could call Cody at anytime if I needed him. We were best friends as little kids, until he cut

my bangs to my scalp and I retaliated by cutting his teddy bears hair off. He and Mitch both came to the gym just to hold my hand for kindergarten immunizations. After an accident that left me unconscious and bleeding at school, I awoke to Cody, rubbing my hair, crying and telling me it was going to be okay. As I got older, he was very quick to tell me that he didn't like a guy I was dating and always told me

## MCpl. Fleming, 62B, Recce Sqn

I met Cody at Stand To, 1 September 2010 when I swore in. As he had a uniform and I didn't, I assumed he knew everything, something he encouraged. I soon discovered that he knew almost as little as I did as he had just sworn in over the summer. I was impressed by his dedication to training and how seriously he took the challenges facing him. Cody didn't know exactly where his career was headed but he was going to give it his all. He wanted to succeed. Not just for himself but also for others around him, most of all his daughter Dakota.

We were loaded on a BMQ at the Royal Westminster Regiment as section

mates in the fall. Our bond grew stronger as we trained and struggled together. On ruck marches, we would often sing songs from kids shows that Dakota watched that I also had burned into my mind as my daughter Bella was about the same age. It must have been an odd sight for a bystander to watch a column of heavily laden troops marching through the snow in the pre-dawn darkness to the Toopy and Binou theme song.

Training progressed and we completed BMQ-Land in the spring. Cody went off to Wainwright to do DP-1 and DP-2, completing his trade qualification. I completed mine soon

I deserved better. That was, until my husband came along. He told me, "You better not screw this up, because I like him!" No matter what I needed, he was there. When I had my first daughter, Alexa, he showed up at the hospital while I was in labour and tried to get me to laugh through each contraction. And when my second daughter, Adley, came along, he proudly accepted the title of godfather. A title which Alaina has agreed to carry on.

There are honestly so many more things that could be said about Cody. Stories that our family could share, but we would be here for days. The loss of Cody has left us with a void in our hearts. But he would not want us to be sad and mope around, he would be kicking our butts to go out and do something fun and adventurous while thinking about him. Even though Cody has left us here, he is still shining bright in the lives he saved through the donation of his organs. When you are feeling sad and missing Cody, just look up to the stars and know he continues to shine brightly down on all of us.

after and we settled into life in Recce Squadron.

Cody was always looking for the next challenge, wanting to improve his skills but most of all to make a contribution. Not finding overseas deployment a likelihood, he looked at how he could help at home. Being a competitive grappler with a judo background, he was instrumental in forming the grappling team, sending a contingent to Relentless Warrior, bringing home several honours.

Outside of the drill hall, Dakota and Bella grew up playing together while Cody and I did the same. They'd play with Barbies over juice boxes



while we played with tanks and guns over beers. Before Remembrance Day, we'd get together and polish our boots and sort each other out like a couple of shoolgirls going to the prom. The news of his accident couldn't have hit harder. He was a special guy and on his passing, I knew I wanted to do something special to honour him and his family. Owning a company that rents film vehicles, I suggested that an M113a3 TLAV would make an appropriate carriage for his send-off. He had been excited to see them when

they came in but just never got around to coming to see them so I thought, dammit Cody, you're riding in one at least once. As the bearer party was only open to serving members, I thought it would be appropriate for Cpl. Jarrod Reynolds (Ret) to be the driver and his brother Mitch and life long friend Scott to ride as honour guard in the back. We all agreed how cool Cody would have thought it was. We also all agreed he would have thought it was hilarious if the casket fell out the back while we were driving.

A year has passed and he stays close to our hearts. A large group came out to donate blood on 19 August, the first anniversary of his passing. As an organ donor, it was something he would have liked. When I see his picture and hear his voice in my mind, I still feel like we're all just busy and we'll see each other again soon. I know someday we will, but not too soon.

Up the Dukes!

## Captain Mullick awarded MMM

Captain Abdul Hafeez Mullick, MMM, CD  
Order of Military Merit – 19 December 2019

**T**he British Columbia Regiment (DCO) and the Regimental Family received very good news with the announcement of the 70th list of appointments to the Order of Military Merit. Captain A. H. (Huf) Mullick has been appointed a Member of the Order. The appointment will be promulgated in the rank of Chief Warrant Officer, the rank he held at the time of formal nomination. It recognized exceptional service and dedication throughout his career. Captain Mullick is a recognized expert and mentor in a number of fields and served two Regiments and his country faithfully and with exceptional skill.

The Order of Military Merit was founded on July 1, 1972 and formally recognizes distinctive merit and exceptional service displayed by the men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces, both Regular and Reserve. It is the highest military decoration in the order of precedence in the Canadian Honours System

that can be awarded in peacetime and is awarded in one of three grades – Commander, Officer and Member. Captain Mullick's award confers the right to use the post-nominal letters MMM.

Captain Mullick and the  
Order of Military Merit





# Operation LASER

MCpl Nathan Palmer, 3 Platoon, Vancouver Coastal Company, OP LASER

In December 2019 a new virus was detected at a wet market in the Chinese city of Wuhan, located in the province of Hubei. The virus was identified as a severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS CoV-2), also-known-as, COVID-19. Not much was known at the time until victims of the virus started showcasing severe flu like symptoms in hospital. These symptoms varied from non-life threatening to death and took a heavy toll on health services. Ventilators and patient care were needed to the many patients in hospital with COVID-19. On the 30th January 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) treated COVID-19 as a public health emergency of international concern. At that time many were not aware that the virus was spreading via contaminated air droplets from person to person in close proximity (less than 2m apart) to one another. Later, on 11th March 2020 the WHO declared that COVID-19 was a global pandemic.

On 25th January 2020, Canada reported its first case of COVID-19 by a Toronto man who had recently travelled back from Wuhan, China. At that time, countries around the world were beginning to see cases of the virus affect their populations. Elderly individuals and those with underlying health issues were at a higher risk of the virus with many being subsequently hospitalized and placed on ventilators to assist with their breathing. Across Canada, many long-term care facilities (LTCF) were seeing outbreaks with high transmission and deaths, the government had to act. All provinces in the country declared

states of emergency and sent Canadians into lockdown to try and break the transmission rate. On the 15th April 2020 the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) received a request from the Ontario and Quebec provincial governments to assist with LTCF support. Operation LASER was created, and Land Task Forces were established in every province and territory to assist their regions, if required.

On the 1st April 2020, members of the British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) and many other reservists volunteered to go on Class C contracts and provide support for Op. LASER. The BCR's were tasked with force generating a Coy HQ and 1 Troop. The Coy HQ included; Major Virk as OC A Coy, Land Task Force Vancouver Coastal (LTF VC), Capt Vinning as 2IC A Coy, LTF VC, MWO Matibag and WO Harris as SSM A Coy, LTF VC, and Sgt Therrien as Ops NCO A Coy, LTF VC.

While on contract, we conducted many lessons on how to correctly don and remove Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). We also had lectures on how to setup field hospitals, clean our vehicles and equipment, how to conduct reconnaissance tasks, and provide elderly care. We conducted our training online via WebEx and briefly in person at the Beatty St. Drill Hall. During the month of April, we did not know what our future task would be. In BC, we were organized into five companies, specific to the provincial health regions: Vancouver Island, Vancouver Coastal, Fraser, Northern, and Interior. The five areas of operation (AO) would allow us to send the appropriate force from that area to

assist with any COVID related incident if the province of BC requested it. The Dukes were tasked with the northern sector of Vancouver Coastal Health authority. We were given that area due to our higher mobility, with G-Wagons at our disposal. In order to make the best use of our reconnaissance trained personnel, the task-force commander tasked our platoon with finding out the quality of the road and civilian infrastructure in the AO, specifically in and around Bella Coola. My platoon commander Lieutenant Phillip Lopresti and Warrant Officer Kevin McKee tasked myself, Master Corporal Steven Kim and Master Corporal Mark Fleming to prepare a slide show that would be presented to the task force commander on our intended plan and how we would execute the mission. Lt Lopresti presented his plan but the mission did not go ahead as the task force commander did not approve of the mission. Later, our platoon would be tasked with a sequestration task in Vernon, BC for one month.

On 15th May 2020 our platoon (3 Platoon, Vancouver Coastal Company) would deploy to Vernon via bus to be the standby platoon if the BC government requested federal government assistance. The purpose of our sequestration was to confirm that none of us had COVID-19 and would not bring it to an area of the province if we were needed to assist. Our first two weeks were in isolation. During our isolation we conducted online lectures with specific to armoured reconnaissance tasks, forest fire knowledge, emergency medical responder first aid, and personal



physical training. We were allowed to freely walk around the Vernon Cadet camp while staying two meters apart. After completing our two weeks of isolation, we then conducted collective training. We went through an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course that was put on by Master Corporal Thomas Finn from 12 Field Ambulance. All that participated in the course passed and received their EMR certificates from Red Cross Canada. Simultaneously, other members conducted TAPV familiar driving for the qualified drivers and monthly maintenance on the TAPV's. At the end of sequestration, we conducted a ruck march in and around Kalamalka Lake to Corsens Bay Beach. Once completing our month in Vernon, we all returned to Vancouver. At the time, the provincial government lifted most restrictions they imposed back in April and the task force was stood down. Many members

either returned to their civilian employers or continued with summer training.

COVID-19 affected everyone's daily routine whether it was work or personal. However, the military needed to maintain training. The military adapted its ways in how it trained but implemented force health protection measures so that training could commence. Fellow Dukes would go on to their respective BMQ, BMQ-L, DP-1 and PLQ courses and emerge successful in their training. With knowledge gained from courses and working under the new force health protection measures, come September many were able to implement new plans on how training would look with a combination of in-person and online lectures. From Op LASER, many of the younger troops got to experience what it was like to work on an operation as well as understand the habits of maintaining

a routine. With Op. LASER being an assistance to civil aide task, what was and remains evident is that Dukes are willing to put their own security on the line in the defence and support of Canadians.

Major Virk, Captain Vinning, and Sergeant Therrien all received Land Task Force Vancouver Coastal Commander's Commendation for their work during Op LASER.

Operation LASER





# The Bands

## The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Irish Pipes & Drums

The summer of 2017 started with the Canada Day Parade in downtown Vancouver followed in September by the relaunch of the “Connaught” tram at Cloverdale Station, Surrey. In early October 2017 the band took part in the Change of Command Ceremony as LCol Lindsay became our new Commanding Officer. This event was followed by performance at the Canadian Chinese Military Museum Society Fundraiser.

2018 started off with the 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery & 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser’s Highlanders Fund Raiser and Scotch Tasting Night. If you want to guarantee a pipe band’s participation a whisky/whiskey/Scotch tasting is always a good way to go about it.

Although we kicked off Celticfest 2018 with a great Ceilidh performance with Blackthorn it also ended up being the last year we performed at Dentry’s Irish Grill. Dentry’s was traditionally the ‘last stop’ on our annual St. Patrick’s Day tour and we have a lot of great memories of squeezing the pipe and drum corps literally in between the

tables, the traditional bands, the Irish dancers, and of course the fantastic people. Two more highlights from 2018 were performing at the St. George’s Day Weekend and participating in the Changing of the Regimental Sergeant Major ceremony at the Drill Hall.

2018 also saw the end of an era for the Pipe Band as in November Pipe Major Matthew Dolan announced he would be retiring from the band at the end of December after over thirteen years of service, five as pipe major. Originally from Windsor, Ontario Matt started with the band in 2005 having previously been a piper with the City of Detroit, Peel Police, and Windsor Police. Some highlights from his tenure as Pipe Major include the band’s trip to Ireland in 2010, the 2015 Battlefield tour with the Regiment, and leading the band as Pipe Major for the Vancouver Canucks Pat Quinn Night in Mar 2015. Matt has been replaced by Acting Pipe Major Andrew Hayes while a search for permanent replacement continues.

In February, 2020 the band made its second trek to Vancouver Island to perform for the Vancouver Island Pipers Club at the Bay Street Armoury. As one can guess from the title these events exist to support and highlight the talent within the pipe band community.

Our last performance of 2020 was the Paardeberg Dinner at the Drill Hall. We were just gearing up for CelticFest and St. Patrick’s Day when the COVID-19 public health emergency was declared on Mar 17.

Other events of note that took place over this timespan were the Equitas Society Canadian Walk For Veterans, opening ceremonies for the Vancouver Canadians, Canada Day at Granville Island, and the British Isles Heritage Festival.

The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Irish Pipes & Drums is proud to be part of the Regimental family and support the Regiment through its community and military performances. The band annually takes part in Regimental events such as Paardeberg Dinner, St. Julien’s Dinner, the Perpetuated Battalions Memorial, Remembrance Day, and the Soldier’s Appreciation Dinner. Annual community events include CelticFest, the All British Field Meet Classic Car Show, the European Festival, and the Bowfest parade and performance on Bowen Island.

In this time of change we endeavour to support our band members and our community. It has been a difficult time for so many of our fellow musicians both in and out of the pipe band world. We wish health and safety to all.



The Pipes and Drums refuel before another set





Left: Members of the Pipe Band and HCol Hawthorne relax after a performance in the Warrant's and Sergeant's Mess

## BCR Brass and Reed Band 2017-2020

In late 2017, the band added a new title to their resume as “movie stars”, having lent their talents to a number of roles in commercials and films, including “small town marching band” and “US College marching band”, most notably playing a role in a Hallmark Channel Christmas movie filmed in the blistering heat of July.

Bugling remained a fixture for the band. Under the leadership of Bugle Major Chris Ahern, the band continued to provide buglers at events across the Lower Mainland, including a long list of Remembrance Day events.

The band maintained a busy calendar of annual events, including:

- Kerrisdale Carnival Parade
- Vancouver Sun Run
- Point Grey Fiesta Days Parade
- Vancouver Halloween Parade
- BC Lions' Salute to Veterans ceremony at BC Place
- Whistler Granfondo
- Vernon Winter Carnival
- Victoria Day at the Burnaby Village Museum

The band travelled across British Columbia and performed for hundreds of spectators, with summer road trips to the Interior Provincial Expo in

Armstrong, the Lytton River Festival, and the Princeton Traditional Music Festival. The band also performed at the Vernon Winter Carnival. The band's busy travel schedule in 2019 also included a highlight performance at the annual Okanagan Military Tattoo, alongside other bands from Canada and the United Kingdom.

The band also took on a new look in 2018, thanks to new tunics which closely resemble those worn

historically by rifles band. Thanks to the ongoing support of the Regimental Association, the band continues to invest in new uniforms for its members. In addition to its participation in regimental events over the period, the band also participated in a number of events alongside the regiment's cadet corps, including mess dinners and parades, deepening its connections within the regimental family.

BCR Brass and Reed Band performs at the Okanagan Military Tattoo in Vernon





# The Regimental Messes

## The PMC Officer's Mess – Greg McCullough, Major

Since 2017 the Officer's Mess has continued to host events to build camaraderie and mark the historical events such as the battle of St Julien with our annual mess dinner. We have seen the infusion of new officers who have enthusiastically taken up the mantle of the role of junior officers in the mess culture.

2020 has of course been the year of 'nothing' when it comes to mess life,

but prior to March we had opened up the mess to former officers and the Association for mess social events, in which former members of the BCR (our focus being on the officer corps) can come up to the mess and meet up with old friends, share old stories, and have a few laughs. In addition, there was of course the annual Serving Officer's dinners, and St Julien in 2019 which was a lot of fun... with the PMC given

many light hearted 'suggestions' from many of the former Commanding Officers as to what was being done wrong during the course of the night... laughter throughout the evening.

We will continue to uphold the traditions of the Mess and the BCR as the Officer's Mess moves forward in supporting the officers of the Regiment.

## The Warrant Officer's and Sergeant's Mess – Sgt Alejandro Langone CD, WSM PMC

The past 6 years have seen an evolution in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. From personnel changes; members leaving and moving on to the next stage of life or admittance through promotion and relocation. As

well as physical changes to the mess itself.

Leaving us were MWO Ron Leblanc, WOs Michael Hillman and Sean MacWilliam, Sgts Federico Angulo, Kevin Baker, Cameron Byers,

Otto Castillo, Stephen Clews, Kamlesh Dayal, Tim Chi Lee, Duncan Maillie, Monica Oudomsouk, Ian Patterson, Kyle Roder, Jessica Schultz, as well as long serving RSM now Captain Huf Mullick.



Left: Pte Sam Perry's Bisley Clock, Warrant's and Sergeant's Mess  
Right: The Warrants and Sergeants of the Regiment 2017





Coming into the mess were WOs Harris and Li, Sgts Boxall, Canavan, Chu, Galang, Iredale, Langone and Therrien.

The bar was renovated in 2019 by 192 Construction Engineering, the project was carried out by former BCR Cpl Jeff Pesklevits. Improvements

include a suspended ceiling, wood façade with display cases and a new bar top; definitely a much needed update.

As well, the mess came into possession of a Grandfather clock that is over 100 years old, originally gifted to Pte Sam Perry on his victory at Bisley in 1904.

Things change with each new face that comes upstairs, the ongoing history of the WSM is added to and with every update and change the membership puts its own signature on the Mess, the Drill Hall and the BCR.

## The Junior Ranks Club – Corporal Delaat, CD, PMC

During the years 2014 to 2020 the Junior Ranks Mess has conducted many events including dinner cruises, beach BBQ's, ladies dinning in and the very popular yearly Halloween parties. In the past few years the mess has gained friends in the community and have been able to conduct events outside the Regiment including several memorable St Patrick day parties at a local establishment. The Mess has also conducted joint events with HMC Discovery on several occasions and have had small groups attend the Brigade Gala dinner. During the summer of 2019 the junior ranks pulled together when Cpl Swanson lost his house due to fire, within hours we delivered socks, underwear, and tooth brush – just basic items to help

him restart and within days the Mess organized a fund raiser and collected over five thousand dollars.

Just several weeks later the mess pulled together again when tragedy struck and lost Cpl Allard in a motor vehicle accident. The mess conducted a celebration of life for Cpl Allard family and friends and were extremely grateful for all the hard work and was highly emotional for all that attended.

During this time the mess has conducted approximately ten departure with dignity celebrations and has plans in the near future for several more put on hold because of Covid. We have also had two retirements: MCpl Iverson at thirty two years and MCpl Smith at thirty four years of service respectively.

During my time as PMC I am extremely proud of what we have been able to accomplish. I look forward to the future knowing that what ever happens good or bad we can come together as a family support one another and have some kick ass fun!

### Up the Dukes!

2014-2015 PMC Cpl Burglar  
VPMC MCpl Langone  
2015-2016 PMC Cpl Parker  
VPMC Cpl Halpin  
2016-2017 PMC Cpl Fancy  
VPMC Cpl Delaat  
2017-2018 PMC Cpl Delaat  
VPMC MCpl Chase  
2018-2019 PMC Cpl Delaat  
VPMC MCpl Vandeldon

# The BC Regiment (DCO) Association

Gayle J. Hawthorne, President

Ted Hawthorne, Honorary Colonel, Chairman/Trustee

During the command of LCol Paul Lindsay, CD, the Regimental Association and its Charitable Trust continued their support of the Regimental Family, Serving Members, Veterans and Cadets through various established programs. From 2017 to 2020, we continued to grant our soldiers' bursaries each year of \$1,500.00 to \$2,500.00 each,

awarded to (from 6 to 9) individuals as directed by the awards committee; to support our five Cadet Corps, with an annual award of from \$500.00 to \$2,500.00; to support the Regiment by annual In Memorium Donations to the BCR Trust for the Unit Fund to benefit the Serving Members; and by donations to assist with both of the Regimental Volunteer Bands.

We also support various Veterans' commemorative events, such as the annual Vimy Day, in April, the Hill 140 Ceremony (28th Armoured (BCR) Remembrance and Commemoration) on August 9th, the BCR Perpetuated CEF Battalions Parade, in September, the Remembrance & Veterans' Dinner on November 10th, various other Remembrance activities during





Left: BCR Veterans on Parade - Remembrance Day 2018

Right: Setting Up for The Annual Christmas Luncheon and Fundraiser

Veterans' Week in November, including the Remembrance Day Parade at Victory Square, and, our signature event, the Annual Christmas Luncheon and Fundraiser, in early December of each year. This event continues to be the primary source of income enabling the Regimental Association and its Charitable Trust to carry on its many successful programs.

On 16 July 2018, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Gayle Hawthorne, and the Honorary Colonel of 39 CER, Bill Diamond, flew to Ottawa to attend the Change of Command of the Commander of the Canadian Army from LGen Paul Wynnyk to LGen Jean-Marc Lanthier. In June of 2019, Regimental Family Members, Past President Bob Remple, Keith Maxwell, Bob Hanna, Shaela Hill and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Farid Rohani attended a Battlefield Tour in Europe with 13 Members of the Regiment, including the CO, LCol Paul Lindsay, and RSM, CWO Tony Harris. The Tour included a major ceremony marking the

75th anniversary of the D-Day landings at Juno Beach and a visit to our traditional Regimental Battle Sights. Our Soldiers represented the Regiment as a Funeral Party at the Interment of Pte. George Newburn who was killed in action on 15 August 1917 and whose remains were recovered and identified in the early part of 2019. On 12 July 2019, the Official Dedication of the LAV III Monument of the Regimental Family took place at the beautiful Estate of William and Dolores McCarthy, Shiloh Hill, Mission, B.C. The Monument honours the 40,000 Canadian Armed Forces personnel who served and the 162 Canadians who died in the Afghanistan conflict.

We continue to support various other events such as the annual St. Patrick's Day reception; the annual Military Gala, the annual Cadet Summer BBQ for the Cadet Development Program; the quarterly publication of *The Duke* and the publication of the weekly edition of *The BCR News*. We also attend all

CO's Parades, update the soldiers on parade regarding the activities of the Regimental Association and the Charitable Trust, attend all Cadet Annual Ceremonial Reviews, Changes of Command, annual Mess Dinners, numerous CO's Parades, the ever popular Pizza Nights, compliments of the Association, and the annual Sunset Ceremony at Vernon Army Cadet Training Camp. We, together with the Regimental Family, contribute to the Annual Food Bank Program and deliver all non-perishable goods to Sancta Maria House, a women's shelter in Vancouver.



## INSTITUTES OF THE REGIMENTAL FAMILY (2017 – 2020)

### The Commanding Officer's Committee

Acconci, R. O. "Romano" (LCol Ret'd)  
Barrett, J.D. "Jim" (Maj)  
Bell, P. W. "Peter" (Col)  
Cathcart, L. C. "Cam" (Hon Maj)  
Conradi, A. P. "Andrew" (LCol Ret'd)  
Couling, G. A. "Jerry" (Capt Ret'd)  
Diamond, W.R. "Bill" (Hon Col - 39CER)  
Evans, D.C. "Doug" (LCol Ret'd)  
Gagne, B. H. "Bryan" (Col Ret'd)  
Hawthorne, E. A. "Ted" (Hon Col) (Chairman)  
Ireland, W. E. "Bill" (Former Hon Col)  
Kadonoff, D.B. "Bruce" (LCol)  
Lindsay, P.A. "Paul" (LCol & CO)  
Maxwell, K.D. "Keith" (Col Ret'd)  
Philcox, P.A. "Paul" (LCol Ret'd)  
Rohani, F. "Farid" (Hon LCol)  
Sproule, D. A. "David" (LCol Ret'd)  
Stanley, R. W. "Bob" (Col Ret'd)  
Steacy, A. M. "Archie" (LCol Ret'd)  
Thomas, D. "Dan" (Maj Ret'd)

### The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Trust (Governors) 2020

Barrett, Jim  
Couling, Jerry  
Diamond, Bill  
Evans, Doug  
Hawthorne, Ted  
Rohani, Farid (Chairman)  
Sproule, David

### The BC Regiment (DCO) Association

Barrett, James  
Hawthorne, Gayle (President as of 13 May 2018)  
Prouse, Roger  
Remple, Robert (President up to 13 May 2018)  
Young, Graydon  
Young, Sandra

### The BC Regiment (DCO) Association Charitable Trust (Trustees)

Bentley, Don  
Conradi, Andy  
Diamond, Bill  
Hawthorne, Ted (Chairman)  
Ireland, Bill  
McCarthy, Bill  
Steacy, Archie

### The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) Museum Society

President	– Cameron Cathcart
Vice-President	– Richard Hourie
Treasurer	– Keith Maxwell
Secretary	– Bob Clauson
Curator	– Don Neish
Director at Large	– James Barrett
Director at Large	– Brian Drab
Director at Large	– William Whalen

### Bursary Recipients & Unit Fund In Memoriam Donations

#### 2017:

1. OCdt Samuel Jackson Serviss – The Russell Stonehouse, DFC Memorial Bursary;
2. Sgt Joe Chu – The Sergeant Pierangelo Dal Magro, CD Memorial Bursary;
3. MCpl Carlo Galang – The Lieutenant William Bicknell Memorial Bursary;
4. Cpl Keldon Edwards – The Irv Mathieson Memorial Bursary;
5. Cpl Byunghoon Kim – The Dr. P.C. Simon Memorial Bursary;
6. Cpl Kai Yuan Li – The Raymond Glover Memorial Bursary;
7. Cpl Vincent Lim – The Grace Lungley Bursary;
8. Cpl Troy Ocol – The Bill and Heather Ireland Bursary; and
9. Cpl Kevin Zhou – The Archie and Lynda Steacy Bursary.



### **2017: Unit Fund In Memoriam Donation (Presentation to the CO)**

1. Presentation of a \$2,500.00 cheque to the Regimental Trust (Unit Fund) for the benefit of the Regiment's soldiers;
2. This donation by the Regimental Association Charitable Trust is made in memory of the passing this year of a former CO, LCol (Ret'd) Irv Mathieson and Helen Mary Warrington (wife of the late LCol (Ret'd) Doctor Mike Warrington);
3. The donation also is in recognition of the many behind the scenes contributions made by the spouses of our COs, past and present, and also the spouses of members in our Regimental Association.

### **2018:**

1. Sgt Stephen Cobb – The Sergeant Pierangelo Dal Magro, CD Memorial Bursary.  
BCIT – Technical Teacher Education Program
2. MCpl Borislav Boskic – The Russell Stonehouse, DFC Memorial Bursary  
Priority Care First Aid – Emergency Medical Responder Course
3. Tpr Anthony Jin Young Lee – The HPLAW Bursary  
Douglas College – Applied Criminology
4. Pte Jeong il Son – The P.C. Simon Memorial Bursary  
Kwantlen Polytechnic University – Business Administration
5. Pte Christopher Dean Asayo – The Lieutenant William Bicknell Memorial Bursary  
BCIT – Ironworking Technology
6. Capt Jennifer Hillman – The Raymond Glover Memorial Bursary  
Langara College – Photography

### **2018: Unit Fund In Memoriam Donation (Presentation to the CO)**

1. Presentation of a \$2,500.00 cheque to the Regimental Trust (Unit Fund), benefitting the Regiment's soldiers;
2. This donation by the Regimental Association Charitable Trust is made in memory of the passing this year of 28th Armoured Corps (BCR) Veteran WO2 Vern Salisbury, MM, Brook Campbell (the son of the late LCol (Ret'd) Arthur Lungley, a past CO of the Regiment), a strong supporter of the Regimental Association, and all other members of the Regimental Family who have passed away this past year.

3. The donation to the Unit Fund is also made in recognition and remembrance of our soldiers who served with the 28th Armoured Corps (BCR) during WWII and the many behind the scenes contributions made by the spouses of our soldiers and also the spouses of members in our Regimental Association.

### **2019:**

1. Lt Samuel Jackson Serviss – The Colonel (Retired) Keith D. Maxwell, OMM, CD Bursary  
SFU – International Studies/Economics
2. MCpl Tajinder Sidhu – The P.C. Simon Memorial Bursary  
UBC – Faculty of Education
3. MCpl Kevin Zhou – The HPLAW Bursary  
SFU – Masters of Arts Political Science
4. Cpl Roger Mak – The Sergeant (Retired) Otto Remple, RCE Memorial Bursary  
BCIT – Plumbing
5. Cpl Justin Lee – The Russell Stonehouse, DFC Memorial Bursary  
Justice Institute of BC – Advance Care Paramedics (ACP)
6. Pte Jeong Son – The Lieutenant William Bicknell Memorial Bursary  
UBC – Education
7. Tpr Niko Durano – The Commanding Officers' Bursary  
SFU – Economics
8. Tpr Geoffrey Nordin – The Honorary Major Raymond Glover Memorial Bursary  
Langara College – School of Management

### **2019: Unit Fund In Memoriam Donation (Presentation to the CO)**

1. Presentation of a \$2,500.00 cheque to the Regimental Trust to be held in accordance with its objectives.
2. This donation by the Regimental Association Charitable Trust is made in memory of the passing this year of our good friend and colleague of the Regimental Association, Sergeant (Retired) Dan McKenzie, a strong supporter of the Regimental Association, and all other members of the Regimental Family who have passed away this past year.
3. The donation to the Regimental Trust Fund is also made in recognition and remembrance of our soldiers who served in our Perpetuated CEF Bns in WWI and with the 28th Armoured Corps (BCR) during WWII and the many behind the scenes contributions made by the spouses of our soldiers and also the spouses of members in our Regimental Association.



# British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Museum Society

Keeping History and Heritage alive while Advancing to the Future

Mr. Cam Cathcart, President, The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Museum Society

The B.C. Regiment (DCO) Museum has become a splendid repository of regimental history and heritage over the years, appreciated by successive generations of serving members, friends of the Regiment, and the public. The Museum is a foundational component in the life of the Regiment for it provides a glimpse into the lives, actions, and sacrifices of former and current soldiers of The B.C. Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) who served in South Africa, the First War, World War Two, Peacekeeping, and most recently in Afghanistan.

These stories are found in the permanent Museum that range from uniform displays, collections of artifacts and memorabilia, an extensive exhibit of medals and decorations, and rare vintage weaponry. The weapons collection has been updated in compliance with current firearms regulations. A lasting tribute of the Regiment's past is the Memorial Wall on the parade square, coupled with display cabinets that include five Victoria Cross winners, a display of artifacts from Afghanistan and one in memory of Private Newburn, whose remains from WW1 were re-interred in 2019. Yet another display case features the action of the Regiment at Hill 140 in Normandy while another highlights Peacekeeping deployments.

Since the beginning of 2020, the Museum Society has improved its financial status with the sale of the Ferret Scout car to Hawthorne & Milne, with the positive outcome

that any future loan of the vehicle for use by the Museum or Regiment is guaranteed. This understanding reflects the strong relationship that has developed with the purchaser. Monies generated by the Ferret sale will help the Museum to acquire new acquisitions as we move forward. Since March of this year the Drill Hall has been closed to public visitors, which has meant the Museum has been closed as well. Earlier this year the Society joined the Organization of Military Museums of Canada, a strong network of like-minded military historians. We also renewed membership in the

B.C. Museums Association. Doing so will allow the Museum Society to take advantage of various workshops, etc., from these organizations once the pandemic has passed.

In the meantime, the Museum continues to offer for sale "*Swift & Strong*", the outstanding and highly valued history of the Regiment. Also available are Rifle Green badge-embossed golf shirts and, numbered collector's coins in regimental colours on the obverse with "DCO" in scrolled lettering on the reverse. The book, shirt and coin are unique reminders of the Regiment's past and will make excellent

The famous 'Pauline Johnson Machine Gun' shown here with Museum Society member Col (Ret) Keith Maxwell appeared in the Vancouver Sun on November 19, 2016. The vintage WW One .303 calibre Colt-Browning is a treasured artifact in the weapons collection of the BC Regiment (DCO) Museum.





gifts for family, friends and anyone interested in Canada's military history. To order any of these items please get in touch at lhccathcart@gmail.com.

As we look ahead the Museum Society wishes to continue the collaborative relationship that has developed with the Command staff of the Regiment to ensure that various regimental historical assets are effectively managed. For example, determining the conclusive ownership, and responsibility, for on-going maintenance of the memorial Sherman and Ram tanks located at the front the Drill Hall. Also, under consideration is an umbrella group of all Messes to determine ownership, provenance, maintenance and inventory of all artifacts and memorabilia within the

Messes. There may be other initiatives in which the Museum Society would consider assisting the Regiment if requested, such as the restoration and updating of the hallway leading to the Museum.

Of note, in 2019 the Museum Society was directly involved in the 75th anniversary commemoration of D-Day at Juno Beach in Normandy. We understand a visit to the Netherlands is being contemplated for May 2021 to commemorate Dutch Liberation in WW2, in which case the Museum Society may likewise be able to assist.

Keeping the history and heritage of the Regiment is fundamental to the mandate of the Museum Society, but it is equally imperative to look ahead. This is particularly important

as a new generation of command staff and soldiers in the Regiment carry on. Current and recently retired members of the Regiment can keep the flame of history alive, as the older generation transitions out. Fresh approaches are needed to ensure the Museum endures. This, therefore, is a "call to action" for those who share the value of the Regiment's history and are prepared to advance that exemplary record to the future. We invite you to become a member and welcome your support.







## The British Columbia Regiment

Duke of Connaught's Own

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