



# THE DUKE



## Inside this issue:

Change of Honoraries .....	1
September 28&29, 2021.....	6
October 2021 Events .....	8
November 2021 Events.....	43
December 2021 Events.....	82
The Barrett Bunker.....	103
Sgt Jessica Schultz, CD.....	106
Duke's Den.....	118
Annual Dues - 2022.....	119
Museum Society.....	120
Association Kit Shop.....	120
Remembrance.....	122
Asleep.....	131

## CHANGE OF HONORARY APPOINTMENTS THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN) 10 NOVEMBER 2021

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2021, after a decade of exemplary service to all members of the BCR Serving members and Regimental Family, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne finished his appointment as Honorary Colonel of The BC Regiment (DCO). Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani has been appointed the new Honorary Colonel of The BC Regiment (DCO). In turn, we gained Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond as our new HLCol.



Signing Ceremony for the Change of Appointments  
(Seated L-R: HCol Rohani, LCol Virk, Col Raesler, HLCol Diamond, HCol Hawthorne)  
(Standing L-R: BCR RSM Harris & 39 CBG SM Cogan)

Present on the parade was a full guard of Officers, Senior NCO, and soldiers of the BCR commanded by LCol Vincent Virk, CD. Commander 39 CBG, Col WS Raesler, CD as our Reviewing Officer, accompanied by 39 CBG RSM, CWO GR Cogan. Guests included family and friends of the Honorary Colonels, BCR Association Members including the BCR Association President, LCol (Ret'd) JD Barrett, and representatives from other units of the Brigade. The Captain and Coxswain of HMCS Vancouver attended, as well as several other serving and former Honorary Colonels from the lower mainland.



39 CBG serving & former Honoraries flanked by Comd 39 CBG & Brigade SM



A presentation was made to outgoing Honorary Colonel Hawthorne on behalf of the Junior Ranks by their PMC, Corporal Delaat, who in turn was presented with an HCol's coin by HCol Ted Hawthorne.



In the Officers' Mess prior to the ceremony a presentation was made by HCol Al DeGenova in recognition of HCol Hawthorne's contributions and support to Honour House.



HCol Hawthorne with his family after the Ceremony



## BIOGRAPHIES OF THE HONORARY COLONELS BCR (DCO)



Honorary Colonel Edwin (Ted) A. Hawthorne

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

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

Ted is Chairman Emeritus of Columbus Long Term Care Society with over 35 years of service. Ted has also served as a director, officer, or trustee of many other non-profit charitable organizations, including, President of Chacko & Lize Simon Scholarship Trust, Chairman of The BC Regiment (DCO) Charitable Trust, Honorary Solicitor, and past director of The Army Cadet League of Canada (BC Branch), Past Chairman of the 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) Cadet Corps Executive Committee of the Support Committee, and past Director of the Veterans' Care Facility, George Derby Care Society and Vice President of Derby Manor Housing Society.

He is a member of the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society, ANAVETS Pacific Unit #280 and the Canadian Club of Vancouver, a member and past director and officer of the BC Veterans Commemorative Association (the prime mover in the establishment of the highly successful veterans' licence plate program) and Veterans Affairs Canada "Year of the Veteran" program in 2005, the Secretary of the Honorary Officers Association of BC, a member of the Royal United Services Institute-Vancouver, a Life Member of The Royal Canadian Armoured Corps Association, a Past BC Director of the Canadian Forces Liaison Council, a member and Past President of The BC Regiment (DCO) Association, a member and past director and officer of The BC Regiment (DCO) Museum Society and a member and past director and officer of the Royal City Youth Ballet Company Society, the Chairman of the Commanding Officer's Committee, a Governor and Past Chairman of The BC Regiment (DCO) Regimental Trust, Counsel Emeritus of Honour House Society and a past Trustee of the Burnaby Art Gallery. Ted is also Special Counsel to the Vancouver Artillery Association, 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regimental Society, 15<sup>th</sup> Field Museum and Archives and Royal United Services Institute - Vancouver.

Ted has led two BC Regiment (DCO) Association Veterans' Battlefield Tours, including the 2007 Vimy Memorial Re-dedication and the 2008 BC Regiment (DCO) European Battlefield Tour where ten Regimental remembrance ceremonies were conducted, and seven commemorative plaques dedicated. In addition, Ted represented the Regimental Association as President in the Regimental Battlefield Studies Tour in 2012 and as Honorary Colonel in the Regiment's European Battlefield Studies Tour in 2015.

Ted was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in March 2012 in recognition of his contributions to Canada. In addition, Ted was appointed Honorary Colonel of The British Columbia Regiment

(Duke of Connaught's Own) by the Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Peter MacKay, upon recommendation of the Chief of Defence Staff, on 2 November 2012 and has been extended twice by the Minister of National Defence, Harjit S. Sajjan. Ted was awarded the Commanding Officer's Commendation on 11 December 2013. In 2015, Ted was awarded The Army Cadet League of Canada Volunteer Service Medal for "continuous and meritorious service" and The Caring Canadian Award by the Governor General of Canada, the Right Honourable David Johnson. In 2016, Ted was awarded the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers, in 2019, the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation by The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay and in 2021, the Commander Canadian Army Commendation and The Army Cadet League of Canada 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary recognition for "exceptional volunteer service".

Professionally, Ted is a member of the Law Society of British Columbia. In 2017, the Canadian Forces Liaison Council awarded HPLaw a National Award for support of the Reserve Force and a Provincial Award for the Most Supportive Employer in British Columbia, and in 2021, HPLaw was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by CFLC for their support of Operation Laser, the Canadian Armed Forces response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.



Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani

HCol Farid Rohani is an entrepreneur, senior executive, and community leader. In addition to his extensive business interests and activities, Farid has volunteered for and led many significant organizations as an engaged and contributing citizen since he came to Canada from Iran as a young boy.

HCol Rohani has held several prominent leadership roles both locally and internationally. He served for many years as the Chair of the Laurier Institution and was appointed as Chair Emeritus of the organization for his involvement and significant contribution to the institute from its original inception in 1989. He was also a board member of the Nowruz Commission in Washington, D.C. where he served for three years.

He is the treasurer and board member of Integrity Initiatives International, a US based organization focused on establishing an International Anti-Corruption Court. Farid further served for three years as the Vancouver Chair of the Institute for Canadian Citizenship and he led the hosting of the first Citizenships Ceremony held at a First Nations Community. He is also an advisory Board member of the Global Reporting Center, a trustee of the Jack Webster Foundation, and a member of the Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation Board.

HCol Rohani continues a significant contribution to the local community by acting as and an advisor to First Nations Golden Eagle Rising Society. He has established the Khanjani scholarship at UBC and is a supporter of the artistic community in Vancouver.

His extensive contribution to Canada and his local community has led to Farid receiving several notable distinctions, including being appointed to serve as Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of The British Columbia



Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own), a recipient of the Canadian Senate's 150th Anniversary medal and recognized as a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographic Society. Farid was also awarded the Provincial Multicultural award in 2012 for his work around diversity and inclusiveness.

HCol Rohani sits on the Commanding Officer's Committee, and is the Chairman and a Trustee of the British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Trust.

He has been an active member and supporter of the British Columbia Regiment since Lieutenant Colonel Sajjan was the Commanding Officer, he has seen four Commanding Officers lead the Regiment: Lieutenant Colonel Harjit Sajjan, Lieutenant Colonel Doug Evans, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Lindsay, and Lieutenant Colonel Vincent Virk. Farid has been part of two BC Regiment (DCO) Association Battlefield Tours including the 2020 European Battlefield Tour coinciding with the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, additionally Farid represented the Regimental Association for the burial of Private George Alfred Newburn in 2018 in France and the Armistice Day centenary in November 2018, which marked the centennial anniversary of the Armistice that ended World War I on the Western Front. His prior appointment with the Regiment was Honorary Lt-Col BC Regiment (DCO).

### **BIOGRAPHY OF OUR NEW BCR HONORARY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL**



Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel William Robert Diamond

Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Diamond was born in Kitchener, Ontario and is a graduate of Wilfrid Laurier University. He is the CFO for Keycafe Inc – a technology company based in Vancouver that has developed a unique and economical electronic key exchange system.

Prior to joining Keycafe full time, HLCol Diamond operated his own consulting business for 13 years. WR Diamond & Associates specialized in working with technology start ups within the areas of governance, finance and operations. Key clients were ConnectionPoint Systems Inc.- an early online fundraising platform, Keycafe Inc and Picatic e-Tickets Inc – online event ticketing that was purchased by Eventbrite.

In 2015 the Minister of National Defense appointed Mr. Diamond as Honorary Colonel of 39 Combat Engineer Regiment for a 3-year term and in 2018 was reappointed for an additional 3 years. In 2017 he was elected as the Chair of the Honorary Officers' Association of BC and is the 39 CBG representative on the National Council of Honorary Colonels. In 2020 HLCol Diamond was elected Chair of the National Council of Honorary Colonels and assumed this role in November of 2020. In 2021, the Minister of National Defense appointed him as HLCol of the BCR.

HLCol Diamond serves and has served on many charitable and volunteer boards and committees. His current involvement includes The BCR CO's Committee (Band Governor and Trustee) and The BCR (DCO)

Association Charitable Trust (Trustee), the 39 Combat Engineer Regimental Association (founding Director and former Treasurer), Canadian Forces Liaison Council (B.C. Regional Director), BC Military Music Society (Chair), Canada Jaycee Foundation (Director & Finance Committee Chair. His previous volunteer involvement includes the Mainland BC Military Families Resource Centre (Chair and Vice-Chair), Junior Chamber International (Vancouver, British Columbia and Canadian President and Assistant to the World President for Area C), The BCR (DCO) Association (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer), City of North Vancouver Centennial Committee (Chair) and the North Vancouver City Library (Vice Chair and Treasurer).

In 2002, HLCol Diamond was presented the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal by the Lieutenant Governor of BC, Iona Campagnolo and in 2012 he was presented the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal MP Andrew Saxton. In January 2018 HLCol Diamond was awarded the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers, which was presented by the Lieutenant-Governor of BC, Judith Guichon at Government House. In March 2019 the Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence, the Honorable Lawrence MacAulay awarded the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation to HLCol Diamond. And in 2015 The BC Regiment awarded HLCol Diamond the "Honorary Colonel Cup" (donated by former Honorary Colonel Patrick Reid) for his many years of outstanding service to the Regiment.

\* \* \* \* \*

On behalf of all readers of 'The Duke', we thank Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne for his years of service to the BC Regiment, its Regimental Association, and 39 CBG. He continues serving as the Vice-President of the BCR Regimental Association, as a member of the Regimental Commanding Officers' Committee, and as a member of the Regimental Trust. Our congratulations to HCol Farid Rohani and HLCol Bill Diamond, wishing them both the best of success in their new positions within the BCR Regimental Family.

**PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL REGIMENTAL COIN  
MICHAEL CHANG  
HPLAW, BURNABY, B.C.  
28 SEPTEMBER 2021**

Many thanks to our friend and colleague, Michael Chang, Honorary Ambassador for the Seoul Metropolitan Council and for Gapyeong County, in Korea, for his visit this morning to the office of the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne. Michael is a great supporter of the Korean War Veterans in Canada as well as numerous community projects. Colonel Hawthorne presented Michael with his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin and thanked him for his service and dedication to our Veterans! Thank you Michael!

Up the Dukes!



**NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
AMBASSADOR GLENN DAVIDSON  
ZOOM PRESENTATION  
29 SEPTEMBER 2021**

The Naval Association of British Columbia hosted another very timely presentation in their Speaker's Series on ZOOM in the late morning of September 29<sup>th</sup>. The special guest speaker for the forum was retired Vice-Admiral Glenn Davidson, former Canadian Ambassador to Afghanistan and Syria, whose topic was "Thoughts on Afghanistan" twenty years after the anniversary of "9/11". It was a comprehensive and detailed presentation and discussion with a thorough and enthusiastic Q & A following.

The Host, King Wan, thanked Ambassador Davidson for sharing his experiences and for his insight and knowledge in this area of common interest. As suggested by the MC, a six month follow up would most certainly be warranted!

Thank you NABC and well done!



**2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC SUPPORT COMMITTEE  
EXECUTIVE MEETING  
29 SEPTEMBER 2021**

The September meeting of the Executive of the Support Committee of 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC, the first of the new training year, was held on the ZOOM platform on the evening of September 29<sup>th</sup>. Nyal Wilcox chaired the meeting, and a full slate of comprehensive reports was presented to the members, including the Chairman's Report, Treasurer's Report, CO's Report (presented by the new CO of the Unit, Major Lee Taylor, CD), RCL and ANAVETS updates, Scholarships update, Army Cadet League Report and Band Report. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne attended as a special guest and Gayle Hawthorne, Director-at-Large of the Regimental Association, attended the meeting as the BCR Liaison.



The Unit continues its planning for the return of Cadets where permitted by the Pandemic protocols.

Up the Dukes!



**THE GOUTSISSON FAMILY FOUNDATION  
FRASER MILLS CHARITABLE DRAW  
COQUITLAM, B.C.  
1 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to The Goutsisson Family Foundation on their very successful fundraiser "Tour the Tri-Cities" with the final draws being held at Fraser Mills in Port Moody on Friday, late afternoon. All proceeds raised go to support Colon Cancer Research and Awareness (BC Cancer Foundation). HPLaw (Ted Hawthorne) and Coquitlam Towing (Rob Sisson) provided the grand prize of a Samsung 65 inch TV along with 20 excellent draw prizes donated by the many supporters of the Foundation.

Many thanks to Shane and Krista Goutsis for the great hospitality!!



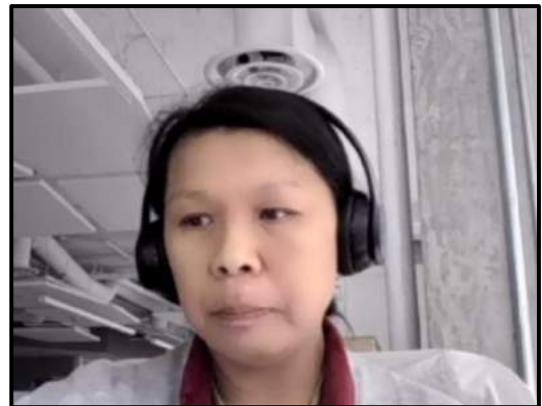


**CHINESE CANADIAN MILITARY MUSEUM SOCIETY  
AND  
ANAVETS, PACIFIC UNIT NO. 280  
2 OCTOBER 2021**

Special thanks to the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit # 280, for hosting this morning's forum on ZOOM with special guest speakers from the City of Vancouver Chinatown Memorial Square Redesign Community Advisory Group. The primary presentation from the Project Team was given by Andrea Newman, the Project Manager, who provided the necessary background, goals and the solicitation of feedback needed in order to proceed with the Project. An enjoyable Q & A session followed with many interesting observations made and addressed. The regular business meetings followed the presentation (ANAVETS with King Wan in the chair and the Museum with Bud Wong in the chair).

Thank you ANAVETS and CCMMS for the most interesting forum. Very well done indeed!!





**15<sup>TH</sup> FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT,  
ROYAL REGIMENT OF CANADIAN ARTILLERY  
FREEDOM OF THE CITY, VANCOUVER CITY HALL  
2 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to our friends at 15th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery on receiving the Freedom of the City at a parade held at Vancouver City Hall at 2:00pm on Saturday, 2 October 2021. Speakers included the Mayor, Mr. Kennedy Stewart, the MND, the Honourable Harjit Sajjan, and the Commanding Officer of the Unit, Lieutenant-Colonel Nick Watts. Kudos to our gunner friends for an excellent, "COVID Friendly" parade!

Ubique!







## THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION

627 Beatty Street  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
Canada V6B 2L9  
Telephone: 604.918.1766  
Email: barrettj007@gmail.com

3 October 2021

Members of the Regimental Association and the Regimental Family:

Dear friends:

**Re: Happy Birthday BCRI**

On the twelfth of this month, we will mark and celebrate the 138<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of our Regiment. We remember the many years of sacrifice, service, and commitment by our members, both past and present.

To all Dukes, I am certain that you share with me the pride of membership in our Regimental Family and the importance of our stated purpose to support our veterans, the serving members of the Regiment, and our five cadet corps spread out from Surrey to Powell River.

So, please join me in wishing a happy 138<sup>th</sup> birthday to the Regiment and to its Citizen Soldiers in the third century of service to our country!

As you will appreciate, the COVID-19 restrictions prevent our Regimental Association from providing the usual cake on October 12<sup>th</sup>, so we ask one and all to lift your glass containing your favourite beverage and join me in a toast to the Regiment.

Best wishes to you all and "Up the Dukes"!

Sincerely yours,

James D. Barrett, CD, President



**GENERAL VOKES RANGE COMPLEX  
CHILLIWACK LAKE ROAD, ROSEDALE, B.C.  
BCR ANNUAL C7 SERVICE RIFLE PROFICIENCY & QUALIFICATION SHOOT  
3 OCTOBER 2021**

At the invitation of the CO of the Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, accompanied by Honoraries designate, Farid Rohani and Bill Diamond, attended at General Vokes Range in Chilliwack in the morning of Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Over a three-day period, the Regiment conducted its annual C7 Service Rifle proficiency and qualification shoots for EX CENTURION DUKE 21. The day's shoot was very well organized and very well run!

Many thanks to our soldiers for the great visit and the wonderful hospitality on such an enjoyable day.

Up the Dukes!







**PRESENTATION OF THE HONORARY COLONEL'S COMMENDATION  
CATHY BACH, NATIONAL PRESIDENT  
THE ARMY CADET LEAGUE OF CANADA  
HPLAW, BURNABY, B.C.  
5 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to Cathy Bach, National President of The Army Cadet League of Canada, on receiving an Honorary Colonel Commendation and Regimental Coin at a brief ceremony held at HPLaw on the morning of October 5<sup>th</sup>. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne made the presentation to Cathy in recognition of her "outstanding leadership, dedication, commitment and service to the Cadets, CIC Officers, Parent Support Committees, Volunteers and Regimental Associations, all in furtherance of the objectives of the Army Cadet Program and the good name of the Canadian Army." Cathy was initially the Chair of 3300 BCR (Bhai Kanhaiya) RCACC Support Committee and the President of The Army Cadet League of Canada, BC Branch, before her appointment as National President.

Congratulations Cathy and thank you for all you do!

Up the Dukes!



**THE ARMY CADET LEAGUE OF CANADA  
PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION  
& THE 50th ANNIVERSARY COIN  
HONORARY COLONEL TED HAWTHORNE  
5 OCTOBER 2021**

The Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a 50th Anniversary Coin by Cathy Bach, National President of The Army Cadet League of Canada, at a brief

ceremony held at the Offices of HPLaw, in the late morning of October 5<sup>th</sup>. Colonel Hawthorne was recognized for his “exceptional volunteer service in support of the Royal Canadian Army Cadets”.

Up the Dukes!



**COMMANDING OFFICER'S PARADE  
THE DRILL HALL  
6 OCTOBER 2021**



The first CO's Parade of the new training year featured the presentation of a CO's Commendation to MCpl Kim and the rebadging of two new members of the Regiment by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk (Sgt. St-Jean and Cpl Peacock). In addition, the Regiment received a visit from the Commander of 39 Canadian Brigade Group, Colonel Scott Raesler, and Brigade Sergeant Major, CWO Gerald Colgan. Both the Commander and the BSM spoke briefly and in very complimentary terms to our soldiers. Colonel Raesler then proceeded to recognize the service and dedication of Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne and



presented him with a 39 CBG Commander's Coin "For Excellence." To conclude the evening, the CO requested Colonel Hawthorne to address the Regiment for one last time as the Honorary Colonel. Colonel Hawthorne delivered his Farewell Address and received a sustained round of applause and a boisterous rendition of three cheers lead by the CO. Colonel Hawthorne saluted the members of the Regiment, and the parade was concluded. A "pizza reception" followed on the drill square much to the delight of all attendees.

Up the Dukes!







## EDITOR'S NOTE:

The following Face Book Post by The Army Cadet League of Canada on 7 October 2021 regarding their recognition of Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne is reproduced verbatim herein with the kind permission of the League.

### Army Cadet League of Canada - La Ligue des cadets de l'Armée du Canada

\*\*\*\*ANNONCE BILINGUE\*\*\*\*

OUR EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEERS – ACLC 50TH ANNIVERSARY COIN PRESENTATION

HCol T. Hawthorne – Honorary Colonel of The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) & Supporter of the National ACLC and BC branch

As a respected solicitor in British Columbia, Honorary Colonel Hawthorne has been instrumental in assisting The Army Cadet League of Canada and its British Columbia Branch in creating partnerships with the area's affiliated units and their respective associations and senates. As Honorary Colonel, he would advocate on behalf of the League and Army Cadets to his fellow Honorary Colonels about the importance of the League's work and that of the cadet program and their contributions to a better community. He has devoted time, money, resources and those of his firm to bettering the National organization and Branch. No matter where he is in his personal and business travels, Honorary Colonel Hawthorne is committed to the promotion of The Army Cadet League of Canada and the Royal Canadian Army Cadets.

Mr. Hawthorne, the ACLC thanks you for your exceptional volunteer service.

NOS BÉNÉVOLES EXCEPTIONNELS – PRÉSENTATION DES MÉDAILLONS DU 50E ANNIVERSAIRE DE LA LCAC

Colonel honoraire T Hawthorne - Colonel honoraire du British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) et supporteur de la LCAC au niveau national et de la division de la Colombie-Britannique.

En tant que procureur respecté en Colombie-Britannique, le colonel honoraire Hawthorne a contribué à aider la Ligue des cadets de l'Armée du Canada et sa division de la Colombie-Britannique à développer un partenariat avec les unités régimentaires affiliées de la région, leurs associations et conseils respectifs. En tant que colonel honoraire, il préconise la Ligue et les cadets de l'Armée auprès de ses collègues colonels honoraires sur l'importance du travail de la Ligue et du programme des cadets et de leurs contributions à une meilleure communauté. Il consacre du temps, de l'argent, des ressources et celles de son entreprise à l'amélioration de l'organisation nationale et de la division provinciale. Peu importe où il se trouve, dans ses déplacements personnels et professionnels, le colonel honoraire Hawthorne s'engage à promouvoir la Ligue des cadets de l'Armée du Canada et les cadets royaux de l'Armée canadienne.

M. Hawthorne, la LCAC vous remercie pour votre service bénévole exceptionnel.



**RELEAF COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING EVENT  
GURU NANAK FREE KITCHEN  
ASPEN PARK, SURREY, B.C.  
16 OCTOBER 2021**

**By: 2LT HARMINDER PALAK, 3300 BCR (BHAI KANHAIYA) RCACC**

I had the honour of attending the Tree Planting event with Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne at Aspen Park in Surrey, BC. This event was hosted by the City of Surrey and supported by Guru Nanak Free Kitchen (GNFK). I would like to thank Colonel Hawthorne for his continued support and coming out to this event.



GNFK has provided over a million hot, fresh, vegetarian meals to disadvantaged people. Every year this organization distributes hundreds of new clothing and items to people living on the streets and to local shelters. They host annual events such as the toy and school supply drive, making cupcakes and cookies for local shelters, assembling care packages for men and women and much more.

Currently they have a food rescue and recovery project where they recover groceries before they expire and distribute them to local churches, community groups/homes, women's groups, food banks, homeless communities, Indigenous reserves and organizations.

The cadets, officers and I, from 3300 BCR, have been volunteering with this organization since 2014 by serving hot meals to the impoverished residents living in Downtown East Side Vancouver, packing toys during the toy drive to distribute to shelters and schools and made cupcakes and cookies which were distributed to local shelters.

We will continue to support this organization by volunteering and participating in future events. Cadets learn the value of "Seva" (selfless service) and giving back to the community, they also see how fortunate they are to have so much that others do not have.

Currently, GNFK is raising funds for a permanent location in DTES so they can serve fresh meals every day of the week to much needed residents. If anyone would like to get involved and come out to volunteer, you can reach out to [volunteer@gnfk.org](mailto:volunteer@gnfk.org)









**3300 BCR (BHAI KANHAIYA) RCACC  
EX MARBLE POLISH  
VICTORY MEMORIAL PARK, SOUTH SURREY, B.C.  
16 OCTOBER 2021**

**By: WO Harmannat Pabla, 3300 BCR Cadet Correspondent**

On October 16, 2021, 3300 British Columbia Regiment RCACC cadets took part in cleaning the headstones of the fallen Veterans at Victory Memorial Park. Cadets scrubbed away the moss and dirt that accumulated on the headstones. This community service event was very meaningful and provided a sense of appreciation to cadets as they honoured the sacrifice of the fallen Veterans.

"I am doing my part to serve those who served us", said MWO. Harmannat Pabla.

"It was an emotional and thoughtful moment", said MCpl. Ikjot Chauhan.

**Editor's Note:**

The Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, and Past President "Recce" Bob Remple, paid a visit to the Unit in the Veterans Section of the Cemetery and joined the Cadets, CIC Officers and Volunteers for a box lunch. Colonel Hawthorne thanked the Cadets for their great turnout and for their good work.







**PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL COMMENDATION  
AMARJIT SINGH DHADWAR, VICE-CHAIR OF  
THE 3300 BCR (BHAJI KANHAIYA) RCACC SUPPORT COMMITTEE  
EX MARBLE POLISH, SURREY, B.C.  
16 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to Amarjit Singh Dhadwar on receiving an Honorary Colonel Commendation and a Regimental Coin from Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne at a brief ceremony held before an assembly of Cadets from 3300 BCR (Bhai Kanhaiya) RCACC at the end of their lunch break during Ex Marble Polish. Mr. Dhadwar was recognized for his many years of service and support of the Community, Cadets, the Support Committee, the Volunteers and the Regimental Association in furthering the objectives of the Army Cadet Program and the good name of the Regiment.

Thank you for your leadership, dedication, commitment and service Amarjit!

Up the Dukes!





**PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL COMMENDATION  
ROBERT A. REMPLE, PAST PRESIDENT OF THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION  
THE 3300 BCR (BHAIR KANHAIYA) RCACC  
EX MARBLE POLISH, SURREY, B.C.  
16 OCTOBER 2021**



Congratulations to Recce Bob Remple, Past President of the Regimental Association, on receiving an Honorary Colonel Commendation at a brief ceremony held at the conclusion of the lunch break for the Cadets of 3300 BCR (Bhair Kanhaiya) RCACC during their Ex Marble Polish on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne made the presentation to Recce Bob in recognition of his outstanding leadership, dedication, commitment, professionalism, and service to the Regimental Association and its Charitable Trust, the BCR Trust, the Regimental Museum, the Five BCR Cadet Corps sponsored by the Regiment and the CO's Committee, all in furtherance of the good name of the Regiment.

Congratulations Bob and thank you for all you do!

Up the Dukes!

**HONORARY COLONEL RECOGNITION DINNER  
BACCHUS RESTAURANT, WEDGEWOOD HOTEL  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
17 OCTOBER 2021**

During the nine-year period of appointment as the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne has served with four Commanding Officers of the Unit, namely Lieutenant-Colonel (Ret'd), The Honourable Harjit Sajjan, PC, OMM, MSM, CD, MP (2012-2014), Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas Evans, CD (Ret'd) (2014-2017), Lieutenant-Colonel Paul Lindsay, CD (2017-2020), and Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, CD (2020 to the present).



As the Honorary Colonel's appointment is completed on 28 October 2021, the four Commanding Officers of the Regiment, past and present, invited the Honorary Colonel for dinner on the Sunday evening of October 17<sup>th</sup>. Colonel Hawthorne was thanked for his dedicated service and support by Colonels Sajjan, Evans, Lindsay and Virk. To mark the special occasion, The Honourable Harjit Sajjan presented Colonel Hawthorne with a beautiful Khalsa Kirpan and thanked him for his dedicated service and support to the Regiment, the Regimental Family, the Community and to the four Commanding Officers during this period of time. It was a memorable evening enjoyed by all.



## VETERANS' PARKING CITY OF VANCOUVER COUNCIL MEETING 19 OCTOBER 2021

By a unanimous vote of the Council for the City of Vancouver on 19 October 2021, free parking for Veterans has been made permanent in accordance with the recommendations of the General Manager of Engineering Services for the City. Thank you to Council for their unanimous support and to a very good friend of our Soldiers and Veterans, Councillor Melissa De Genova, for her dedicated leadership and support!

Kudos to Archie Steacy and Sharel Fraser of the British Columbia Veterans Commemorative Association for their Submission to Council, supported by Regimental Association Vice President Ted Hawthorne and to President Jim Barrett for his presentation to Council.

Up the Dukes!



**The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Association**

1h · 🌐



**Ila Melissa De Genova**

4h · 🌐

FREE PARKING for #VETERANS is permanent!!  
It's a small gesture of THANKS 🙏 to those who have given us all so much.  
It's been a long road and I appreciate the unanimous support of Council! #Respect  
#Veterans #LestWeForget #Vancouver

Rs. Parking Fee Exemption for Vehicles Displaying Veteran or Memorial Cross Licence Plates						
Name	In Favour	In Opposition	Declared Conflict	Abstain	Ineligible	Absent
Mayor Stewart						
Councillor Carr						
Councillor De Genova						
Councillor Fry						
Councillor Swanson						
Councillor Hardwick						
Councillor Webb						
Councillor Boyle						
Councillor Dominato						
Councillor Bligh						
Councillor Kirby-Yung						
VOTE No. 07715						
TOTAL	11	00	00	00	00	00



**PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL COMMENDATION  
BRYAN HOLMAN  
BRYAN OF LONDON, GASTOWN  
19 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to Bryan Holman on receiving an Honorary Colonel Commendation and a Regimental Coin from the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, at a brief ceremony held at Bryan of London in Gastown on the morning of Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Colonel Hawthorne recognized Bryan for his great support as host of the monthly Honorary Colonel Briefing Sessions for so many years.

Well done Bryan and thank you for your tremendous hospitality and support!

Up the Dukes!



**CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT OF THE COLONEL COMMANDANT OF  
THE ROYAL CANADIAN ARMoured CORPS  
COLONEL GEORGES ROUSSEAU, CD  
TO  
GENERAL WALTER NATYNCZYK, CMM, MSC, CD  
LE REGIMENT DE HULL, SALABERRY ARMOURY, GATINEAU, QUEBEC  
20 OCTOBER 2021**

The Ceremony of the Change of Appointment from Colonel Rousseau to General Natynczyk was held at the home of Le Regiment de Hull, Salaberry Armoury in Gatineau, Quebec and was published on Face Book, given the current COVID – 19 conditions. The Presiding Officer was Major-General Stephen R. Kelsey, OMM, CD. Congratulations to Colonel Rousseau for his six years of dedicated service and for a job well done and to General Natynczyk on his appointment as Colonel Commandant!

It was a proud day for the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps all around.

Worthy!





Photo Credit: Cpl K Langille, The Royal Canadian Dragoons



General Natynczyk and Colonel Rousseau



**FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER  
THE DRILL HALL, VANCOUVER, B.C.**

**21 OCTOBER 2021**



Greetings fellow Dukes!

The Regiment continues to move full steam ahead, with Ex Territorial Duke taking place this weekend, A Sqn will be conducting its mounted shake out exercise. HQ Sqn continues to set new benchmarks for recruiting and initial training of new soldiers all while Regimental Headquarters ensures the whole Regiment is well administered and progressing to operational readiness levels. The opening of messes, albeit in restricted ways, has also brought back that most valued aspect of soldier, creating and maintaining those bonds amongst brothers and sisters. These bonds we develop while as soldiers are lifelong aspects and as all of the Dukes family knows they sometimes are our most cherished relationships.

One of these relationships that all Dukes have had was with Hon Capt Agnes Keegan. Agnes' efforts with our cadets and specifically 2290 Corps as well as her presence at all Regimental ceremonial functions was one of most heartwarming and inspirational experiences I have had as a soldier. She will be sorely missed but fondly remembered by all.

Another relationship which I would be remiss to not mention is that of HCol Ted Hawthorne. HCol Hawthorne has been the finest of fire team partners for the Command team of the Regiment, FULL STOP. At the end of this month HCol Hawthorne will be transitioning into his new roles with the Regimental Family and handing over the HCol reigns to incoming HCol Rohani and HLCol Diamond in early Nov. I want to thank HCol Hawthorne for his tireless effort and exemplary quality of service, greater than any one person should be capable of doing BZ Ted. I am also extremely excited to begin working with HCol Rohani and HLCol Diamond to ensure the Regiment continues to be the best in the country in all it does.

Up the Dukes!

Faugh A Ballagh

Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, CD,  
Commanding Officer

**THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT  
(DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN) MUSEUM SOCIETY  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
22 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to the new Board of Directors of the BCR Museum who were duly elected by the Members at the 2021 Annual General Meeting held on ZOOM in the midafternoon of October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The directors elected are Bill Whalen, President, Jim Barrett, Vice President, Keith Maxwell, Treasurer, Bob Clauson, Secretary, Don Neish, Curator and Rick Hourie, Director at Large. The BCR Museum continues to do a great job preserving, maintaining and displaying so many items of our Regimental History.

Thank you for your great work!

Up the Dukes!



**MCPL DUKE A. BEAR  
DEPLOYMENT ON OP IMPACT  
BAGHDAD, IRAQ  
24 OCTOBER 2021**

Our Regimental Mascot, MCpl Duke A Bear, will be deploying on Op IMPACT to Iraq this week. This will be Duke's 5th operational tour (see Duke's attached profile for further information).

Our very best wishes for a successful tour and take care Duke!

Up the Dukes!



**26 OCTOBER 2021**



Well ladies and gentlemen, MCpl Duke A Bear is officially on his way to Iraq on Op IMPACT thanks to the BCR Ops Staff at The Drill Hall and the Adjutant, Capt Tom Clackson.

Many thanks folks.

Safe travels Duke!

Up the Dukes!





**MASTER CORPORAL DUKE A BEAR,  
REGIMENTAL MASCOT OF  
THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN)**

---

**EUROPEAN BATTLEFIELD TOUR**

Tour of Regimental Battlefields of WW I and II with BCR Veterans and attending ten remembrance ceremonies and seven official plaque dedications.  
September 2 to 18, 2008

**THE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE FORCE (ISAF) – AFGHANISTAN**

NATO-led security mission in Afghanistan, established by the United Nations Security Council in December 2001, to train the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) and assist Afghanistan in rebuilding key government institutions, but was also engaged in the war with the Taliban insurgency.

Roto number 8 in Afghanistan - deployed with Cpl Terry Haigh and other BCRs.

October 2009 to May 2010

Medal Entitlement – General Campaign Star – South-West Asia

**THE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE FORCE (ISAF) – AFGHANISTAN**

Deployed with LCol Harjit Sajjan on his third tour of duty in 2010, during which he was assigned as a Special Assistant to then Major-General James L. Terry, the commander of American forces in Afghanistan, attached to the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division.

2010

Medal Entitlement – General Campaign Star – South-West Asia and Bar

**BATTLE OF PAARDEBERG COMMEMORATION, SOUTH AFRICA**

Veterans' Tour of Cemeteries and Battlefields in South Africa and attendance at the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremony remembering our soldiers during the Battle of Paardeberg.

February 27, 2010

**EUROPEAN BATTLEFIELD STUDIES TOUR**

Tour of Regimental Battlefields of WW I and II with BCR Soldiers (CO: LCol Harjit Sajjan).

August 6 to August 12, 2012

**OPERATION SUMMIT DUKE II**

Successfully climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, with BCR Soldiers and supporters (CO: LCol Harjit Sajjan) and mini Safari.

January – February 2014

## **EUROPEAN BATTLEFIELD STUDIES TOUR**

Tour of Regimental Battlefields of WW I and II with BCR Soldiers (CO: Major Doug Evans).

April 18 to May 2, 2015

## **OPERATION MOBILE**

Theatre of Operations: in the Mediterranean enforcing the United Nations imposed arms embargo in Libya's territorial waters and enforcing NATO's counter-terrorism operations in the region.

July 10, 2011 to February 19, 2012 with Crew of HMCS Vancouver, Affiliated with the BCRs.

Medal Entitlement – Non-Article 5 NATO Medal with Bar NTM - Iraq

## **OPERATION REASSURANCE**

Theatre of Operations – Latvia.

2016 - 2017 with Captain Paul Ellis.

Medal Entitlement - Special Service Medal (Op Reassurance)

## **CANADIAN FORCES DECORATION**

Service – 2007 to 2019

## **CIVILIAN EXPLOITS**

Has sailed on numerous cruises around the world.

### **2827 BCR (PORT MOODY) RCACC**

**26 OCTOBER 2021**

**Submission by: Captain Dean McLennan, CD, Commanding Officer, 2827 BCR**



We are happy to welcome aboard OCdt Mark Dailey to 2827 RCACC. Mark has been a civilian volunteer for almost 2 years. He has finally been able to do his attestation 25-Oct-21 at Legion Branch 119. OCdt Dailey spent his cadet career with 583 Coronation Squadron in Maple Ridge, BC. Military service runs deep in Mr. Dailey's family with family members having served or currently serving with the London Scottish, PPCLI, Royal Canadian Air Force, Royal Canadian Navy and the Royal Dutch Army. OCdt Dailey is married with 3 children and was commissioned as a British Columbia Land Surveyor in June 2010.



**PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL COMMENDATION  
HONORARY MAJOR, DOCTOR JEAN-PIERRE BENAMOU  
HPLAW, BURNABY, B.C.  
26 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to Honorary Major Jean-Pierre Benamou, our European Field Agent, residing in Caen, on being awarded an Honorary Colonel Commendation and Regimental Coin from Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne at a brief ceremony held at HPLaw in the morning of Tuesday, October 26 and electronically with Jean-Pierre in Caen. Jean-Pierre was recognized for his dedication, service and commitment to the Regiment and to the Regimental Association and for his tireless efforts and personal contributions to support the Serving Members of the Regiment and the Veterans.

Thank you Jean-Pierre....well done!

Up the Dukes!



**PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL COMMENDATION  
HONORARY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL FARID ROHANI  
CLAYMORE CLOTHES LTD., VANCOUVER, B.C.  
26 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Farid Rohani on receiving an Honorary Colonel Commendation and Regimental Coin from Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne at a brief ceremony held at Claymore Clothes Ltd. on East Pender in Vancouver on the morning of October 26<sup>th</sup>. Colonel Rohani was recognized for his dedication, service and commitment to the Regiment and “for his tireless efforts and personal contributions to support the Regiment, its Regimental Family and the Community.”

Colonel Rohani took the opportunity to present Colonel Hawthorne with a Regimental crest and a Regimental Medallion of the Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel.

Thank you, Farid, and well done!

Up the Dukes!



**PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL COMMENDATION  
REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR, CWO TONY HARRIS, CD  
THE DRILL HALL, VANCOUVER, B.C.  
27 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to Regimental Sergeant Major, CWO Tony Harris, on receiving an Honorary Colonel Commendation and Regimental Coin from Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne at a brief ceremony held at the CO's huddle on the drill square at the Drill Hall after the regular training night had concluded. RSM Harris was recognized for his outstanding leadership, dedication, service and commitment to the Regiment during his period of appointment as RSM and "for his tireless efforts and personal contributions in supporting the Regiment and the Regimental Family." Colonel Hawthorne addressed the soldiers and commented on the Regiment's long history of strong and effective RSMs and concluded his address by thanking the RSM for his great service.

Colonel Hawthorne also took the opportunity to present the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, with an Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin.

Colonel Hawthorne concluded his remarks by acknowledging the great honour and privilege of being the Honorary Colonel for the past nine years.

Thank you RSM and well done!

Up the Dukes!







### **2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC SUPPORT COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 27 OCTOBER 2021**

The 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC Support Committee held its Annual General Meeting via ZOOM on the evening of 27 October 2021. Complete reports were given by the Chairman, Nyal Wilcox, the Treasurer, Mike Johnson, the CO, Major Lee Taylor, the BCR Cadet Governor, Jim Barrett, and The Army Cadet League of Canada, BC Branch, Graeme Menzies. A complete slate of nominees were adopted and approved for the new Executive of the Support Committee, including, Nyal Wilcox as Chair, Thea Wilcox as Co Chair, Mike Johnson as Treasurer, Yolanda Lumb, as Secretary, and Gayle Hawthorne, as Director at Large.

Well done 2290 BCR!



**PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL COMMENDATION  
SERGEANT DWAYNE SNOW, CD  
HPLAW, BURNABY, B.C.  
27 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to Sergeant Dwayne Snow, CD, on being awarded and presented with an Honorary Colonel Commendation and a Regimental Coin from Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne at a brief ceremony held electronically at HPLaw and Sgt Dwayne's place of business in Penticton. Sgt Snow was recognized for his dedication, service and commitment as a member of the Regimental Development Group and "for his tireless efforts and personal contributions to support the Regiment, its Regimental Family and the Community."

Thank you, Sgt Snow, and well done!

Up the Dukes!





**PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL COMMENDATION  
HONORARY COLONEL ALLAN DE GENOVA  
15th FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT, ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY  
HPLAW, BURNABY, B.C.  
27 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to Honorary Colonel Al De Genova, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery, on receiving an Honorary Colonel Commendation and Regimental Coin at a brief ceremony held on Face Time this afternoon. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne made the presentation to Colonel De Genova in recognition of his leadership, dedication, commitment and service to his Regiment and “for his tireless efforts in supporting his Regimental Family, the Canadian Armed Forces, Honour House Society, Honour Ranch and the Community.”

Congratulations Colonel Al, thank you and well done!!

Ubique!



**PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL COMMENDATIONS  
SANDRA AND GRAYDON YOUNG  
HPLAW, BURNABY, B.C.  
27 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to Sandra and Graydon Young, longtime directors of the Regimental Association, on receiving an Honorary Colonel Commendation and Regimental Coin from Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne at a brief ceremony held at HPLaw at noon on Wednesday, October 27th and electronically at Graydon's job site in Abbotsford. Sandra and Graydon were recognized for their dedication, service and commitment to the Regiment and for their tireless efforts and personal contributions to support the Regiment and the Regimental Association.

Thank you Graydon and Sandra....well done! Up the Dukes!



**PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL COMMENDATION  
HONORARY CAPTAIN GAUTHIER HEBBELYNCK  
HPLAW, BURNABY, B.C.  
27 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to Honorary Captain Gauthier Hebbelynck, our European Field Agent, residing in Paris, on being awarded an Honorary Colonel Commendation and Regimental Coin from Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne at a brief ceremony held at HPLaw in the morning of Wednesday, October 27th and electronically with Gauthier in Paris. Gauthier was recognized for his dedication, service and commitment to the Regiment and to the Regimental Association and for his tireless efforts and personal contributions to support the Serving Members of the Regiment and the Veterans.

Thank you Gauthier....well done!

Up the Dukes!



**BRITISH COLUMBIA VETERANS COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTATION OF HONORARY COLONEL COMMENDATION  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
28 OCTOBER 2021**

Congratulations to the British Columbia Veterans Commemorative Association and their new Board of Directors, duly elected at the Annual General Meeting held at the offices of HPLaw this morning. Special thanks to President Archie Steacy and Secretary Sharel Fraser for their great work on their successful submission to the City of Vancouver Council and the Standing Committee on Veterans Parking (Free Veterans parking was approved by a unanimous vote of Council).

Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne presented Archie with an Honorary Colonel Commendation and a Regimental Coin in recognition of his outstanding leadership, dedication, service and commitment to BCVCA and the Regimental Family (Regimental Association, the Charitable Trust, the BCR Museum and the Commanding Officer's Committee).

Thank you Archie, well done and Up the Dukes!





## FAREWELL MESSAGE HONORARY COLONEL E.A. (TED) HAWTHORNE



Fellow Dukes:

On the ninth anniversary of my appointment as the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, I will take my leave as my appointment is at an end, effective 28 October 2021. It has been an absolute honour and a privilege to serve once again in the Regiment during this experience of a lifetime and to engage with our soldiers, the members of our Regimental Family and the community we all serve.

Accordingly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank so many for their great support during my tenure. First of all, The Honourable Harjit Sajjan, for his confidence in me and for submitting my nomination up the Chain of Command: an extraordinary process which only took three months to conclude. In addition, I would like to acknowledge the support of the following individuals: the other three Commanding Officers during my appointment, Lieutenant-Colonels Doug Evans, Paul Lindsay, and our present Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk; the Honorary Colonel of the Army, Paul Hindo; the National Chair of the Council of Honoraries, my good friend and Colleague, Colonel Bill Diamond; the Commanders of 39 CBG, past and present (BGen Dave Awalt, Colonel Paul Ursich and Colonel Scott Raesler); the Honoraries of 39 Canadian Brigade Group; the Canadian Forces Liaison Council National Chair Scott Shepherd and the Provincial Chair Derral Moriyama; the RCAC Colonel Commandant Georges Rousseau; Generals Paul Wynnyk, Wayne Eyre, Trevor Cadieu, Steve Bowes and Nic Stanton; the Members of the Commanding Officer's Committee, my Colleagues in the Regimental Association Charitable Trust, The BC Regiment (DCO)

Association and The BCR Museum Society; the Regimental Family, my Partners, past and present, and the staff at HPLaw, especially my "Chief of Staff" extraordinaire Charlotte Yen who produced **The BCR News** and **The Duke** and last, but certainly not least, my wife of 55 years, Gayle Hawthorne, former Vice-President and President of the Regimental Association and supporter par excellence.

I will most certainly miss my duties as Honorary Colonel, but I know the Regiment is in good hands with the dedicated leadership of our Command Team supported by the new Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani and the Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond. I wish each of them the very best of luck in their new roles.

Goodbye and, once again, many thanks to everyone for the wonderful support!

Up the Dukes!

**"LADIES DINING OUT"**  
**RECOGNITION DINNER FOR PAST PRESIDENT GAYLE HAWTHORNE**  
**BACCHUS RESTAURANT, WEDGEWOOD HOTEL**  
**VANCOUVER, B.C.**  
**29 OCTOBER 2021**

Kudos to five ladies of the Regimental Family, Noor Grewal-Virk, Kuljit Sajjan, Simran Sajjan-Vinning, Amy Sidwell and Denise Luong, for hosting the wonderful recognition dinner for the Past President of the Regimental Association, Gayle Hawthorne, at the elegant Bacchus Restaurant of The Wedgewood Hotel in Vancouver. As Gayle said in her response to the wonderful evening of friendship and reminisces of so many years, "the thoughtfulness and graciousness of everyone was truly amazing and made for a most memorable and enjoyable evening."

Perhaps Noor Grewal-Virk said it best when she posted:

"Thank you to our dear Gayle Hawthorne for her years of dedicated service to The British Columbia Regiment (DCO). Last night, we had a lovely Recognition/Retirement dinner at the beautiful Bacchus Restaurant in her honour. Gayle, you have been an inspiration for all of us. My daughters have grown up in front you and Ted. The memories of Santa Duke, Christmas dinners and gifts for the girls are etched in their young minds forever.

On behalf of myself and the Commanding Officer Lt. Col. Vincent Virk, the former, present, and future members of the BCR, I thank you again! Up the Dukes!"

Thank you ladies and we echo your sentiments.

Thank you Gayle!

Up the Dukes!







**39 CANADIAN BRIGADE GROUP  
COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE  
VICTORIA, BC  
30 – 31 OCTOBER 2021**

The last weekend in October saw the Brigade and Unit Command Teams and Honoraries gather at the Bay Street Armoury. It was nice to be able to have the majority of the attendees in person and for those unable to attend, they were able to join remotely.

The Regiment was represented by our CO, LCol Virk, RSM CWO Harris, CO of the 39 TBG, LCol Lindsay, HCol Rohani and HLCol Diamond.

On Friday evening the group met at the Wardroom and then joined the Brigade Command Team and 39 CER at the Four Mile Restaurant / Pub in View Royal for dinner. Thanks to BCR advance planning, there was a private room booked for all to enjoy our meal and socializing. A very nice establishment and highly recommended for a nice meal or to socialize.

Saturday morning started with breakfast in the Wardroom. After breakfast the CO presented the two new Honoraries with their rank. Their appointment officially started on October 28 and this was the first opportunity for all three to be together.

It was then onto the bus for 7:15am and off to the Bay Street Armoury to begin the conference.

The Conference started with the Commander reminding all of his Command Team Philosophy. It has not changed since he took command and he reminded us all that we need to focus on living our values. The BSM comments related to Culture Change. This is not an event, rather it is the new way forward. All need to get onside with this. He also thanked the RSMs for attending his conference the weekend before. The focus of that weekend was on understanding the discipline process. They had a few guest speakers that were greatly appreciated and definitely added to the weekend.

The first presentation was from JTFP and was an AAR on 2020 and 2021 DOMOPS. This included the measures taken for Force protection. For the navy, they isolated themselves on ships at sea while the army had troops at Vernon Military Camp in isolation to ensure they were ready if called upon. There were many lessons learned and a number were shared as they related to Op LASER, Op VECTOR and Op LENTUS.

The second presentation was from LCol Mead on the Summer Training Establishment for 2021. The staffing and structure were similar to the prior year, but with less staff and the same requirements. Even with reduced staff, the program was a success and the plan is for this model to carry on for 2022 and beyond. The only change will be the TBG CO will lead the program as they are looking for additional taskings.

LCol Cessford provided a briefing from the Employer Support / CFLC team. This included information on the upcoming Unit Rep Course and encouraging nominations for Employer Awards. The nominations and invitations to Unit Executreks have proven to be quite successful when the member asks for time off for training or to support deployments.

The next presentation was on the Cdn Manoeuvre Training Centre. This included an overview of the training centre and its mandate. The update on the major Exercises include Maple Resolve which will be held in May, 2022 and 4th Div will have the lead.

After the presentations it was onto the syndicates for the Command Teams. A brief overview was given by each lead on their plans for their respective working groups:

- 1) Reconstitution of the CAF
- 2) BTE 2022 - Cougar Gauntlet - May 6 to 15, 2022 on Vancouver Island
- 3) Culture Change
- 4) Recruiting and Best Practices

Thanks to 39 Service Battalion a nice lunch was prepared and enjoyed by all. The Command Teams went to their working groups while the DComd and Honoraries were off to Esquimalt to visit the HMCS Calgary. The CO and XO were on board to welcome the Honoraries and lead an informative and comprehensive tour of the ship.

After the tour, it was back to the Bay St Armoury for an update from the 3rd Div DComd and DSM. The two big topics were Culture Change and CAF Reconstitution. For the latter there are two camps - one focused on the people and another focused on the policy as both are needed to be successful. Cdn Army Modernization Strategy (CAMS) was also discussed. Briefings will happen in November and the hope is that there will be direction coming in the next month or two. Soldier Readiness Policy for the Reserves was reviewed. Part of the development of this Policy has required a review of what is being asked and the realization of the number of courses and time requirement is greater than the allocated training days for the year. This is leading to



questions on what needs to be done and what can be delayed on the requirements. At the end of the day, members train to be ready to soldier and mandated training should not over take the necessary training. Their goal is if a course is added, what is removed as there is not unlimited time. The session wrapped up with some good news. The A/CCA has sent directions to the Divisions on mess events and guests. They are looking for smaller events than we have had in the past, but the good news is that they will start to happen.

39 Service Battalion was back to work and provided another great meal for dinner. The Officers' Mess was open for a social and then back to the Wardroom.

Sunday started with the usual good breakfast at the Wardroom. Then back to Bay Street Armouries. We were greeted by Regional VP, PB for Bank of Montreal - Rob Parrott and handed a nice "Official Bank of the Cdn Defense Community" travel mug. A brief overview of the banking benefits was provided as well as an offer to ask for volunteers for military events. BMO has staff that are willing to come out and assist - we just need to ask.

The four syndicates gave presentations on their discussions over the past two days. This was followed by the Unit Command team round table and closing remarks by the Commander. A very informative and enjoyable conference.



Rank presented Saturday morning



Saturday at conference







CO and XO welcome on Calgary



Honoraries and CO



DComd thanking for the visit



Div DComd presentation



New Honoraries receiving Honorary pin from Comd



### **3 CANADIAN DIVISION HONORARIES CONFERENCE**

#### **5 – 7 NOVEMBER 2021**

#### **BRANDON MANITOBA**

Previous 3rd Div Honorary Conferences had been held in Edmonton or Calgary. BGen Awalt wanted to move the conference to different Brigades. The first move was to Victoria, BC and then COVID moved the conference to online which delayed the Brandon visit for a year. Thankfully the restrictions were lifted and this year's conference was a hybrid of Honouaires and guest speakers being present in person and online.

With an early trip to the airport Friday morning (really early for some) HLCol Diamond met up with 15th Field Honoraries HCol De Genova and HLCol Foster and LCol Purcell and CWO Roberts who were representing the Brigade at the conference. They flew to Winnipeg, rented a car and made the drive to Brandon.

The conference started Friday evening with a social in the 26 Field Officers' Mess with overflow into the WOs' & Sgts' Mess. The Div Command Team of BGen Fletcher and CWO Bantock welcomed everyone and were excited to be meeting in person.

Saturday started with breakfast at the hotel and then back to the Brandon Armoury to start the conference at 9am with a safety briefing.

The Commander, BGen Fletcher opened the conference with his update. This frank discussion included comments about our need to improve our technology to be in step with our peers and adversaries. Cyberspace is another constant threat - this is from adversaries as well as "amateurs" testing their skills. He was proud of the past 13 months of COVID related DomOps - the troops stepped up when needed. This led to discussion of the Continental Defense of NA - this is more than planes and ships. It will involve generating a land component that can move fast and contact searches. It may include different Reserve mission tasks and will go beyond fire and flood support.

CAF Reconstitution was also addressed. The challenge of replacing the "missing middle" which is part of the approximate 8,000 members that the Reserves are currently under strength. At present the Army is not recruiting and training sufficient members to replace those leaving. They are looking for bold solutions such as 1 Brigade focusing on training at St Jean for the next year. The recruiting needs to continue but recruits need to be trained. There is also work continuing on the policy front such as what needs to be completed on the medical file at the timing of joining and what can be completed over time.

The last major review of the Army was Force 2013 - a lot has changed since then, so Force 2025 is needed. There are new technologies and adversaries that need to be considered. Army Council is hoping to make a decision on this at the end of November but it may take until December to ensure all options are considered. This will include looking at what we are currently doing and need to continue with and also change / stop. Training requirements - currently require approx 50 days to complete and members have 37.5 days to parade. The math doesn't work here. The focus on training will be at the Individual level vs Collective to ensure recruits and new leaders are getting the training they need.

Culture Change was another topic of discussion. The work has begun but it will take 3 to 5 years for all the changes to be implemented. As this is happening the focus to stop the bad behaviour and observe and report the bad behaviour will assist in the transition that is taking place.

2022 will be a busy year for 3rd Div as it is the Consume year. This means deployment time with the need being more at the leadership level vs the soldier level. The Reserves will be part of the deployments.

DComd BGen Awalt was next up and thanked all for attending. He also commented on the Honorary pin that he saw in Victoria and at last night's social. The Soldier Readiness Policy was the first topic and included the

need for baselines for the soldiers as well as leadership. This means going beyond NES and addressing participation before it becomes an issue. By establishing this bar it will ensure we are ready for domestic operations and new requests coming to the reserves.

Digitization is coming. Work is happening on an app that will allow soldiers to submit paysheets online, update training on their phones and find the Unit training plan on the app so they can plan their schedules.

His comments on Force 2025 included ReRolling and Amalgamation. There is a desire to maintain the history and heritage of the Units but questions have to be asked about the need for new buildings vs keeping and maintaining old buildings that were built for a different purpose. There has been Composite and Tactical Grouping and Consolidation in the past and this will continue as we move forward. Once the needs are confirmed this will lead to direction on recruiting and equipment needs that will enable the changes to happen.

The DComd closed by thanking the Honoraries for what they have done and commented on their importance during this time of change. With the leadership looking “down and in”, the Honoraries can assist with the “Up and Out”. This includes making sure the COs and RSMs get out to community events.

The Reserve DSM brief comments were to work with the RSMs and if you “See Something, Say Something”.

After a busy morning it was on to the buses with a box lunch for a trip to Shilo. This visit included observing the sighting and firing of the guns. The group was able to see BGen (Ret'd) Selby fire his “last round”. The surprise for the group was that 5 Honoraries were invited to fire the gun. HLCol Diamond was fortunate to be one of the 5. There is hope that the shell from his round will make its way west. It will make a fitting tribute to his Great Grandfather who was a gunner in the Boer War and WWI. After this excitement, it was back on the bus to return to the armoury for the conference.

The first presentation was from the CFLC / Employer Support group. They provided an overview of the changes taking place and focus of each team. At a National level the focus will be to get Associations involved with Executreks and the Units will be encouraged to focus on getting employers to local exercises / events.

Former 39 CBG Commander Col Paul Ursich joined the conference remotely and presented on Cultural and Professional Conduct. This includes the effort on moving announcements to policy development. As noted earlier in the conference, it will take 3 to 5 years for these efforts to be finalized. As part of this presentation, the Brigade reps were asked to share what is happening in their Brigades to support these efforts.

--38 CBG focused on the establishment of their Diversity Inclusion Advisory Committee (DIAC)

-39 CBG commented on their current initiatives that resulted in the BC Soldier Handbook and outlined their plans for the near and long term

- 41 CBG had an epiphany this year when female soldiers were asking why are we waiting for change - now is the time to move. This has led to a Culture Change Conference in Banff later in November that will include a presentation by LCol (Ret'd) Eleanor Taylor. All 3rd Div Honoraries were invited to attend this session remotely.

The closing comments were to “Build Trust and Work Together”. Once the MND’s mandate letter is issued it will be incorporated into the efforts to implement this change.

The last session of the day was from the National Advanced Placement and Prior Learning team. This is a great program for current and former members to continue with their post secondary education. We also had a sneak peak on what the BCIT Military Employment Platform will look like once completed.

The Commander and DComd closed the first day of the conference and it was back to the hotel for most of the attendees to get ready for the scaled down version of the Brandon Military Ball.



After a great evening and an extra hour of sleep due to the clocks changing, the day started with breakfast at the hotel and then back to the armoury for the balance of the conference.

HLCol Fitch was first up and gave an informative presentation on the role, structure and impact of the Canadian Rangers. It was also noted the great impact the Cdn Rangers have had over the past year with the support they have been giving in the remote and northern areas.

As the conference was coming to a close, each of the Brigades provided their thoughts on how the Honoraries were having an impact in their areas.

#### 41 CBG - Col Vernon

- Be involved at the Unit level
- Attend the exercises and dinners
- Share key messages such as the success of FTSE, etc

#### 38 CBG - Col Borque

- Build relationships with COs and RSMs
- Connect with the community and attend the dinners
- Help soldiers looking for employment
  - This includes resume writing / review, practice job interviews, introductions, etc
- Network with other Honoraries and share best practices

#### 39 CBG - LCol Purcell

- Promote your Units to the community and Canada
- Promote and aide on Unit initiatives
- Recruit your replacement

The Commander closed the session by thanking all the Honoraries for attending the conference and for those travelling to have a safe trip home.



Host unit



Commander's comments



DCommander comments



Reserve DSM comments



At the Shilo Range



39 CBG Reps LCol Purcell and CWO Roberts



Gun being sighted



Close up of the gun





Rounds to be fired



With the shell from the round I fired



Group photo of attendees at the conference



Saturday night dinner

# CHINESE CANADIAN MILITARY MUSEUM SOCIETY AND ANAVETS, PACIFIC UNIT NO. 280 6 NOVEMBER 2021

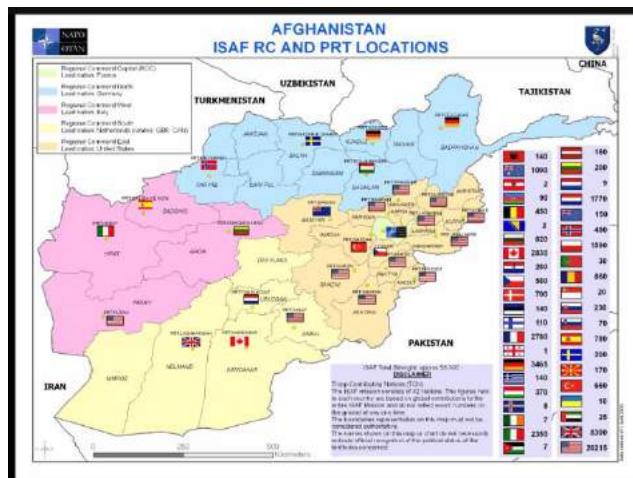
Kudos to the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit # 280, for hosting this morning's forum on ZOOM with special guest speaker LCdr John MacLean, RCN (Ret'd), who served in Afghanistan on two operational tours (2007 at ISAF HQ in Kabul and 2010 at ISAF Intelligence Fusion Centre in Kabul). Cdr Maclean provided a detailed historical perspective on Afghanistan and its people as well as a summary of both tours and some commentary on the Mission itself. An enjoyable Q & A session followed with many interesting observations made and addressed. Commander MacLean was thanked for his excellent presentation by the host, King Wan, on behalf of the many members present. The regular business meetings followed the presentation (ANAVETS with King Wan in the chair and the Museum with Bud Wong in the chair).

Thank you ANAVETS and CCMMS for the most interesting forum. Very well done indeed!!



## Outline

- Afghanistan – NATO organization
- My Deployments
- Afghan History
- Afghan People
- The Taliban
- Success or Failure?
- Questions?







Kandahar



The Silk Road



Canadian LAVs



Kabul



Afghan People



## VANCOUVER'S NATIONAL ABORIGINAL VETERANS DAY CEREMONY SOLDIERS ON

By Major (retired) Dan Thomas, CD

Vancouver observed its 17<sup>th</sup> annual National Aboriginal Veterans Day Ceremony at Victory Square in cool and windy weather on Monday November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. For the second time, the event took place under COVID-19 precautions that limited in-person attendance and required masks. Live streaming and significant local media coverage, however, helped bring the service home to families, the public, and individuals unable to attend in person.

As co-founders, Elder Kelly White (Snuneymuxw and Musqueam First Nations) directed the logistics and sequence of the event, while Veteran and Elder Robert Nahanee (Squamish First Nation) led the Pipe Ceremony and observances. Dignitaries and wreath presenters represented multiple First Nations and Métis organizations, governments, first responders, unions, and Veterans' associations. (In fact, it was a challenge to keep attendance within the maximum permissible 50 participants in close proximity to the Cenotaph.)

"We are grateful to the families of our Aboriginal Veterans for the sacrifices they have made, and continue to make," wrote Ms. White prior to the ceremony. "We honour our Warriors of the past, and of today, for fighting for the rights of the People of Turtle Island and Mother Earth."

For the first time here, a senior serving member of the Canadian Armed Forces laid a wreath. Colonel Scott Raesler, Commander 39 Canadian Brigade Group and a United Nations veteran, was accompanied to the Cenotaph by Warrant Officer Brenda Morris, an Indigenous soldier from Labrador who has served overseas and as an instructor on the Bold Eagle Indigenous summer training program. Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond and Association Vice President Ted Hawthorne represented The British Columbia Regiment (DCO), including laying a wreath with MCpl (R) Chuck Davey.

"Aboriginal Veterans fought for the freedoms most other Canadians enjoy today, and we honour the great sacrifices and contributions they have made," added Ms. White. Unfortunately, they also faced injustices and discrimination when returning from past wars. Nowadays, Canadians are increasingly concerned about rectifying historic harms and building appropriately respectful relationships with our country's original populations. In honouring Indigenous veterans and paying tribute to fallen warriors, the National Aboriginal Veterans Day Ceremony is a milepost towards Reconciliation that we will continue to support.















### REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY ICBC HEAD OFFICE, NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C. 10 NOVEMBER 2021

An annual Ceremony of Remembrance was held at the Head Office of ICBC in North Vancouver on Wednesday, November 10th at 11:00 in the morning. President of the Regimental Association, Jim Barrett, lead the Veterans, featuring President Emeritus Archie Steacy and his contingent from the British Columbia Veterans Commemorative Association, into the rotunda for the ceremony. The observance was conducted by the Regimental Association Padre, Captain (Ret'd), the Reverend Gordon Barrett, and the Parade was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd) James Barrett. BCRs also in attendance were Vice President Ted Hawthorne and Kelly Parkes.

Well done and thank you to ICBC for the memorable ceremony!



**CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT OF HONORARIES PARADE  
THE DRILL HALL,  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
10 NOVEMBER 2021**

Prior to the commencement of the Change of Appointment Parade at the Drill Hall on the evening of November 10<sup>th</sup>, presentations were made to the outgoing Honorary Colonel, Ted Hawthorne, in the Officers' Mess by Honorary Colonel Al De Genova (15th Field RCA) in recognition of Colonel Hawthorne's work in the early years of the Honour House Society and by the incoming Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani in recognition of Colonel Hawthorne's support.

After the short reception, the Commander of 39 Canadian Brigade Group, Colonel Scott Raesler, and Colonel Hawthorne joined the Regiment on parade. The evening's program included very kind opening remarks by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vince Virk, followed by Colonel Hawthorne's farewell address, presentations to the outgoing Honorary Colonel by all three messes, the Change of Appointment Ceremony, including the usual signing of certificates, very kind remarks by the Brigade Commander, the presentation of flowers by Colonel Farid to Gayle Hawthorne, and concluding with a general salute to the Brigade Commander and outgoing Honorary Colonel.

The Parade was dismissed, and Gayle and Ted Hawthorne were lead by Pipe Major Andrew Hayes to each mess where the Hawthornes bought a round to honour the arrival of their two new Great Grandsons, Keenan Goutsis and Connor McLaughlin!

Congratulations to the outgoing Honorary Colonel, the incoming Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond.

Up the Dukes!















### REMEMBRANCE DAY THE DRILL HALL 11 NOVEMBER 2021

This year, with the ongoing COVID – 19 Restrictions, we remembered the service and sacrifice of our Fallen on this special day of Remembrance at the home of the Regiment, The Drill Hall in Vancouver at 11:00 in the morning. The Regiment provided a Guard for the limited service at the Cenotaph at Victory Square and representation at the service held at Christ Church Cathedral. The Regimental Association conducted an excellent ceremony of commemoration with the Regiment in formation on parade, featuring President Jim Barrett, as Master of Ceremonies, and Regimental Association Padre, the Reverend Gord Barrett, officiating. Wreaths were placed by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vince Virk, and the RSM, CWO Tony Harris, for the Regiment and President Jim Barrett and Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani, for the Regimental Association. The traditional Regimental Toasts were given by President Jim Barrett for the Fallen and Colonel Rohani for the Regiment. A reception followed with COVID-19 Protocols fully observed at all times.

We will remember them!!

Up the Dukes!









**VANCOUVER REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY  
THE CENOTAPH AT VICTORY SQUARE  
THE INAUGURAL PRESENTATION OF  
THE CAMERON CATHCART YOUTH POEM OF REMEMBRANCE AWARD  
11 NOVEMBER 2021  
By: Jim Stanton**

Cam Cathcart was a visionary and a true Canadian patriot. He was determined to tell the many stories of this great nation in a creative and meaningful way.

Among his many projects, Cam wanted to make sure that programs were established aimed at our youth, to make them aware of the legacy our veterans have provided us because of their service.

He had cadets take responsibility for the Flag Party at Remembrance Day, he initiated the Passing the Flag Ceremony at the Olympic Cauldron where a veteran passed the Canadian flag to a cadet in a symbolic gesture of passing the torch.

In 2006 Cam decided a competition should take place in which young writers could submit poems with a Remembrance Day theme.

The winning poet would then read his or her poem at the Victory Square Service; and the City of Vancouver would present the student with a framed copy of their poem along with a scroll from the City.

This year, Great Lakes Productions, who had used the Victory Square precinct to produce a film, made a generous donation to make possible the Cameron Cathcart Youth Poem of Remembrance Award.

The British Columbia Regiment Association Charitable Trust, took up the torch and led by Ted Hawthorne and Bill Diamond, established the Cameron Cathcart Youth Poem of Remembrance Fund.

The first recipient was Mikah Nanson, a first year UBC student for his poem "The Forgotten Algonquin," was presented with his scroll and a cheque for \$250.00 by Vancouver Mayor Kennedy Stewart.

This a fitting legacy for Cam and his dedication to the youth of Vancouver.







**Editor's Note:** Jim Stanton, a friend and colleague of the Regimental Family, has been appointed by the City of Vancouver as Director of Ceremonies for Vancouver Remembers following the passing of Cam Cathcart who had been MC from 2002 to 2020. Congratulations Jim on your appointment and for an excellent job at this year's ceremony. It is fitting that you assume the mantle of Cam as his best friend and colleague. Up the Dukes!



## REMEMBRANCE DAY CHINATOWN MEMORIAL PLAZA, VANCOUVER, B.C. 11 NOVEMBER 2021

Chinatown's Remembrance Day Ceremony was held today at noon at the Chinatown Memorial and was very well attended, given the COVID-19 restrictions. Supporters of the service were ANAVETS, Pacific Unit # 280, the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society, HMCS Discovery and 39 Service Battalion. Many public dignitaries were in attendance, including the Honourable Harjit Sajjan, Minister of International Development, the Mayor of Vancouver, Kennedy Stewart, Major-General Rob Roy MacKenzie, Chief of Reserves and Employer Support, and the Commander of 39 Canadian Brigade Group, Colonel Scott Raesler.

Vice President Ted Hawthorne represented the Regimental Association.

Well done and thank you to our friends at ANAVETS Pacific and CCMMS for a memorable ceremony.

We will remember them!

Up the Dukes!







**CAPTAIN EDWARD DONALD BELLEW, VC, 7<sup>th</sup> BN, CEF  
HILLSIDE CEMETERY, KAMLOOPS, BC  
11 NOVEMBER 2021**  
Submitted by: Bob Hall

On Remembrance Day, the Kamloops Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion and the Rocky Mountain Rangers Association held a Ceremony at the grave site of Captain Edward Donald Bellew, who won his Victoria Cross in 1915 at St. Julien as a member of the 7th Bn (BC) CEF. The Ceremony involved the Legion Executive and colour party, a bugler and a piper, both provided by local bands. Mike Bell from the RMRang Association gave a talk on the history of the VCs and Bob Hall from the BCR Association and Museum Society read a biography on Captain Bellew. The RMRang Padre did a reading of a poem on gas.



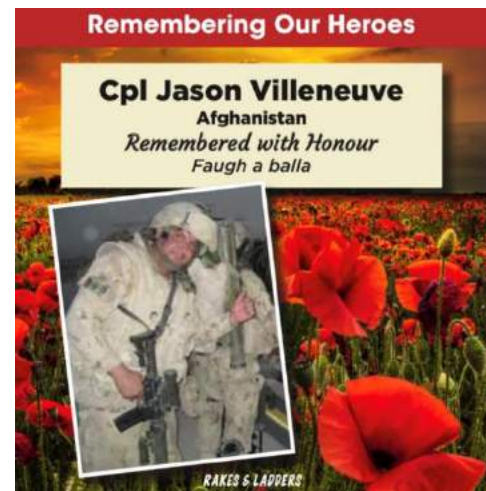
LCol Vecchio CO of RM Rang, Mike Bell President RMRang Assoc and Bob Hall



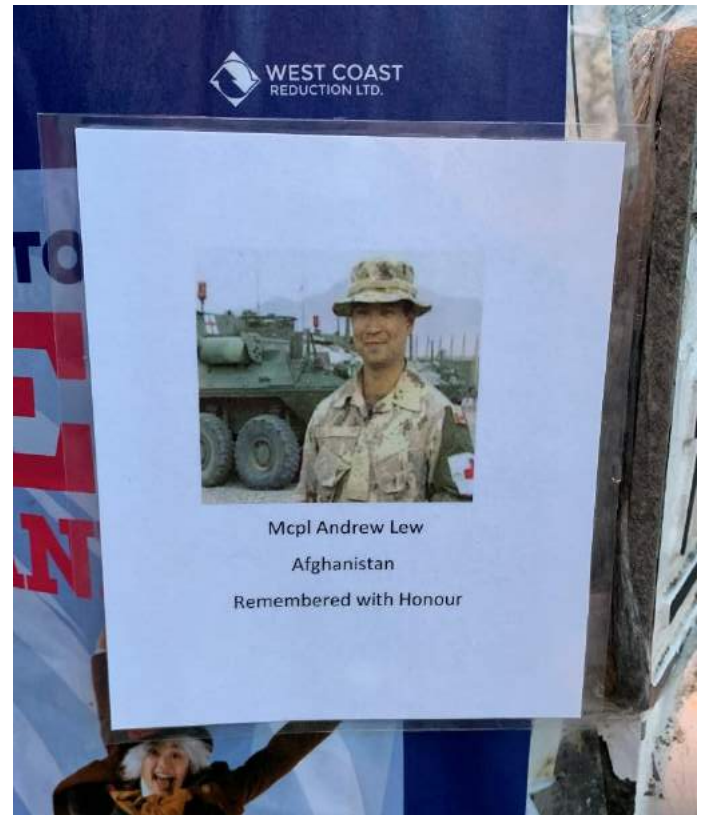
Bellew's grave with wreath

## REMEMBRANCE 2021

By: Jeff Pope







A big shout out to Biercraft on Cambie for allowing me to set up a table for the Fallen

## LEKE BELGIUM REMEMBRANCE DAY 11 NOVEMBER 2021

The accompanying photographs were taken on Remembrance Day, November 11, 2021, at the Belgian War Monument and the Canadian Liberation Monument (Canada Square). Major Shang (NATO-SHAPE Europe) laid a wreath on behalf of the Canadian Government and recited the Act of Remembrance at Canada Square LEKE- Belgium.

Ludwig (Luke) Vandenbussche  
Secretary Belgian-Canadian Remembrance Committee - LEKE  
Honorary Major (BCRA)  
Member of the Board vzw Belgium-Canada







**THE ROYAL CANADIAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY  
COLLEGE OF FELLOWS ANNUAL DINNER  
APPOINTMENT OF LIEUTENANT-COLONEL VINCENT VIRK, FELLOW  
17 NOVEMBER 2021  
By: Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani**



The Royal Canadian Geographical Society, at its College of Fellows Annual Dinner, held on November 17<sup>th</sup> 2021, appointed Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk as a Fellow of The Royal Canadian Geographic Society.

Lieutenant Colonel Virk joins other great Canadian luminaries such as William Shatner (Captain Kirk), Alex Trebek, Margaret Atwood, as a fellow of the oldest Society in Canada.

RCGS Fellows are nominated based on their contribution to Canadian geography, and their example of the enduring values and principles of the RCGS: the resolve to build, courage to explore and outstanding service to Canada.

The College of Fellows was established in 1929, has represented the very best of Canada, and includes many of Canada's most intrepid explorers, geographers, soldiers, astronauts, scientists, actors, and even former Prime Ministers

The Royal Canadian Geographic Society is one of Canada's oldest and largest educational, non-profit organizations, the RCGS, and its iconic publication, **Canadian Geographic**, has been our country's most recognized voice for connecting Canadians with the land, culture, and environment in which they live.

Fellows are entitled to use the post-nominal letters FRCGS (Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society).

A big congratulation to Lieutenant Colonel Virk, FRGGS for being named a Fellow and best wish for success in leading future expeditions with the BCR.

Up The Dukes!!





**2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC SUPPORT COMMITTEE  
EXECUTIVE MEETING  
17 NOVEMBER 2021**

Nyal Wilcox opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and asked for the attendees understanding as the meeting will jump around vs following the agenda as presented. With all accepting this, the first item of discussion was New Business - a Cadet Field Christmas Dinner. Everyone was excited that there was a possibility of a dinner and eagerly supported it. This was followed by a lively discussion about Remembrance Day. The goal is to help the Cadets with tagging and ensure that Cadets in the future have a good understanding of the importance of Remembrance Day. The Commanding Officer, Major Lee Taylor, made a commitment that as long as he is in command, the Cadets of 2290 BCR will be educated about the importance of Remembrance Day.

It was then back to the agenda to receive and discuss the reports as presented with updates. With some skillful chairing, the meeting timing was back on track. The Chair thanked Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond for attending this meeting and seeing no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Up the Dukes!



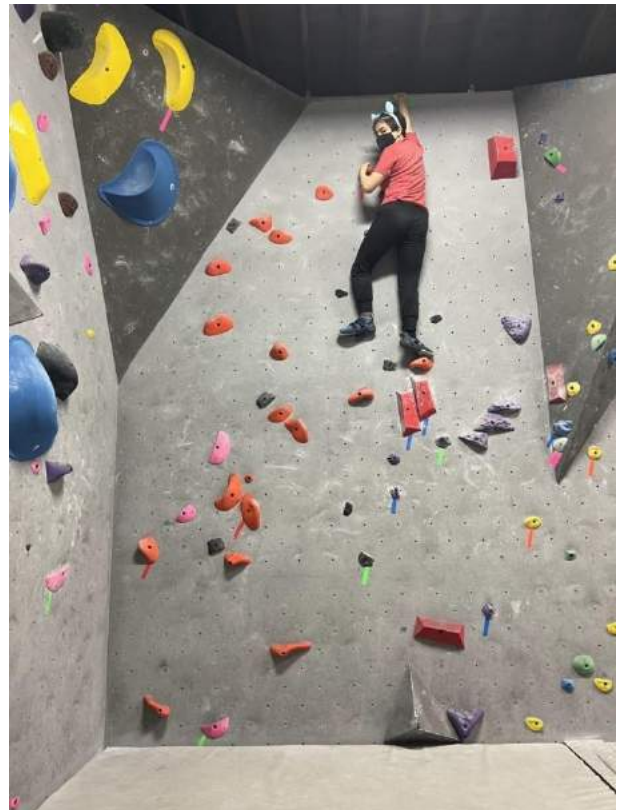
**2781 BCR (DCO) RCACC  
POWELL RIVER CLIMBING CO-OP  
17 NOVEMBER 2021  
By: Sgt. R. Lukianchuk**



On November 17<sup>th</sup>, the Cadets of 2781 BCR (DCO) RCACC received the opportunity to visit the Powell River Climbing Co-Op, on their sports training night. All cadets present engaged in bouldering and rappelling, as well as completing their semiannual cadet Fitness Test.

Each cadet showed exemplary growth from past fitness nights, and almost all expressed avid interest in returning to the Co-Op on the next available opportunity. "When is the next fitness night?" was the most frequent question asked, much to the amusement of officers and NCOs alike.

"At least we know what they like now" says Sgt. Lukianchuk. "The cadets look forward to fitness nights."



**NAVAL SHIPBUILDING MONUMENT PROJECT  
APPRECIATION DINNER  
ROYAL VANCOUVER YACHT CLUB  
19 NOVEMBER 2021**

It was a grand evening at the Appreciation Dinner hosted by the Naval Shipbuilding Monument Project Committee on Friday evening, 19 November 2021, in the Fireplace Room at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club. The program included a pre dinner reception, an excellent three course dinner and wonderful entertainment provided by Riley Inge, of the legendary "Temptations". Certainly, an evening to remember! Kudos to Larry Fournier, Bob McIlwaine and King Wan, the Project Committee Team!







**FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER  
THE DRILL HALL, VANCOUVER, B.C.  
19 NOVEMBER 2021**



Greetings fellow Dukes!

The year 2021 might just be best coined as the year that keeps on giving. I have been very proud of the Regiment and its efforts leading up to and through November. We had a successful Change of Appointment for Honoraries with Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond joining our unit in their new roles and celebrating the accomplishments and efforts of former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne.

Remembrance Day was another special one with the Regiment still not able to conduct a full Regimental Parade in one location, due to health measures. We chose instead to do three distinct smaller parades: with Major Vinning and Sergeant Cobb leading the combined guard for the Victory Square parade at the Cenotaph; Second Lieutenant Pearce and Sergeant Corbett heading a contingent to Christ Church Cathedral (home of our Regimental Colours); and the RSM and I holding a ceremony in the Drill Hall with the assistance of President Jim Barrett and members of the Regimental Association. This allowed the entire Regiment to participate in paying our respects for all those who sacrificed to pave the way for all of us.

This week has also shown you can never let you guard down with mother nature. The recent floods caused by the atmospheric river over the weekend has seen the province faced with some serious infrastructure and agricultural damage. The CAF assistance has been requested and comes in the form of both Air and Ground support as part of Operation LENTUS. As of Wednesday, ground support via Edmonton has begun arriving and initial troops from the LdSH(RC) are the first wave. The Dukes prepare for a potential follow on support as may be needed. This means we have begun preparing equipment and personnel for a potential call up as part of some of the training A Sqn will be conducting under exercise LYNX DUKE.

Finally, later this month we have yet another important milestone, a Change of Appointment for RSM. Next week CWO Harris will be passing on the pace stick to MWO Matibag. BZ to RSM Harris for an amazing tenure and welcome to RSM Designate Matibag. Both men exemplify the best of what makes being a Duke so special!

Up the Dukes!

Faugh A Ballagh

Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, CD,  
Commanding Officer

**SERGEANT DUNCAN MAILLIE, CD (RETIRED)**  
**THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN)**  
**THE NORTH VANCOUVER CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**FAST FORWARD TO 22 NOVEMBER 2021**



Captain Duncan Maillie,  
North Vancouver City Fire Department

I joined the Regiment at 17, in June of 1993...walking into the smoke-filled JRs my first night...utterly clueless. What a place, full of characters and yelling. That place, and the Regiment over the next 23 years, rapidly became my home with lifelong friends that I simply now call 'brothers'.



I deployed to the former Yugoslavia in 1995 on the last UN tour...tried to extend for the NATO tour but I think they'd had enough of me, and I was rotated back home, a very unhappy 19 year old.

Over the next 20 years, I had the opportunity to travel all over Canada, the US and Europe with the Regiment either on tasking or on course. The two Regimental battlefield tours I went on and the Cambrian Team deployment are definitely highlights. Being able to actually see regimental history and the monuments and battlefields where these world changing events took place were definitely humbling and also made the history of the BCR more tangible.

In 2001, I joined the North Vancouver City Fire Department. I was a little intimidated going through the process and the interview, but I can say without a word of a lie that my experiences, courses and the Regimental culture of always forcing you out of your comfort zone gave me my success. In my interview, I was able to talk about working within an established structure, the importance of adapting to the culture you are seeking to join and then embracing it. I knew everyone else would beat me in the formal education part of the resume and application process....but no-one was beating me on that interview. Twenty years later, I use the lessons, good and bad, I learned within the CAF and particularly the BCR every day on the job. I had fantastic mentors and supervisors with the Regiment, that later became some of my closest friends. While taking my Fire Officer 1 course a number of years ago (LT qualification), I burst out laughing when a very earnest Fire Dept LT spoke of the stressors of managing 3 firefighters on a daily basis in a firehouse and running that crew on a call. I apologized but didn't mean it. That carried on with future career courses, I knew that I just had to take my lessons and experiences from the Army and the BCR and put a slightly different perspective on them with regard to command and personnel management. It also made me aware of my own shortcomings and seeking to adjust and be better at my profession. And the ability to laugh at pretty much anything....again, not always appreciated, but whatever.

In 2015, after 22 years, I retired at the rank of Sgt from the BCR, after watching with great satisfaction and a huge grin, soldiers I had taught and peers I came up with surpass me and be better than I ever was.

I will be forever grateful to the Regiment for teaching me some invaluable life lessons: you're only special to your parents, its pretty much all funny afterwards, be good to those around you and most of all: be loyal. Loyalty begets loyalty. The opportunities, people and experiences I received gave me the skills, confidence and ability to be where I am now.

Celer et fortis,

Up the Dukes!

Duncan

**FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER  
THE DRILL HALL, VANCOUVER, B.C.  
25 NOVEMBER 2021**



Greetings fellow Dukes!

As of Monday, Dukes have joined the 39 CBG Domestic Response Company (DRC) and our trucks and equipment have been mobilized for the LdSH(RC) elements in the Flood affected regions to support the efforts in getting the Fraser Valley back on its feet. They began the day immediately working on shoring up defenses for the potential increased water levels this week. I am proud of the members who have stepped up and we have more in the wings ready to go if the need increases. The manner in which the Regiment has moved

forward in preparing and anticipating future needs has been nothing short of amazing. Special kudos goes out to Captain Clackson, the Operations Officer, for stick handling the efforts and still being able to MC the Change of Appointment Ceremony for RSM we held last night. To that effect, CWO Harris is the best of the best and I wish him well in his new role as Department of Employer Support Programs (Pacific) Sergeant Major as part of the VCDS shop. RSM Matibag now occupies the office and I am extremely excited to be charging ahead with him as we see our Regiment continue to grow and thrive under his steady gaze.

Up the Dukes!

Faugh A Ballagh

Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, CD,  
Commanding Officer

**CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT OF REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR PARADE  
THE DRILL HALL,  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
24 NOVEMBER 2021**

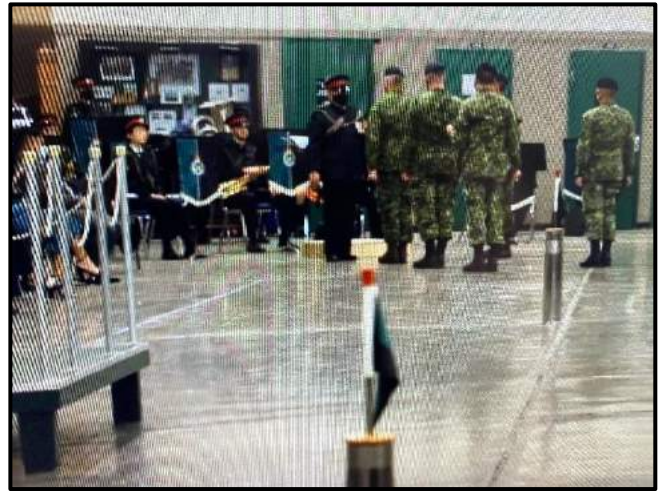
The Change of Appointment of Regimental Sergeant Major was held in the evening of November 24<sup>th</sup> at the Drill Hall in Vancouver and was well attended by serving members, including special guests, Lieutenant-Colonel Paul Lindsay and Lieutenant-Colonel Mike Mallette, the Commanding Officer of Lord Strathcona Horse (Royal Canadians), Regimental Association members (President Jim Barrett, Vice President Ted Hawthorne and Director-at-Large Roger Prouse), invited guests, the Brass & Reed Band and Pipe Major Andrew Hayes. The evening's program, which was live streamed, included a Regimental Salute to Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani, a General Salute to the Presiding Officer, Colonel Scott Raesler, Commander of 39 Canadian Brigade Group, an Inspection by the Reviewing Officer, a March Past, the CO's Address, the Outgoing RSM's Address, the signing of the Certificates of Appointment, the Exchange of the RSM's Pace Stick, the RO's Address, Gift and Flower presentations, the incoming RSM's Address, the Piping Off of the RSM by the Pipe Major playing "Thunderstruck", the Advance in Review Order, the Regimental Salute to the Honorary Colonel, General Salute to the Commander and Dismissal. A reception followed in all messes. What a memorable evening!

Thank you to the Outgoing RSM, CWO Tony Harris, for his many years of dedicated service, and congratulations to the Incoming RSM, MWO Arnold Matibag, on his Appointment. We wish him every success!

Up the Dukes!















**CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT PARADE FOR  
REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR  
ADDRESS OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER  
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL VINCENT VIRK, CD  
THE DRILL HALL  
24 NOVEMBER 2021**

Col Raesler, CWO Colgan, HCols Rohani and Diamond, LCol Mallette and RSM King, Fellow Dukes, and honoured guests:

Everyone, welcome today. Our regiment began in 1883 and since 1945 today marks the 22<sup>nd</sup> COA of RSM here.

The regiment is marking this special occasion during a trying time for the people of British Columbia with the ongoing efforts to remediate from the floods. I must say a few days ago I contemplated postponing this parade

to another day because of floods. But as you can see, we chose to go ahead with it. After seeing how professionally the team here has handled the current situation it is important to our regimental family, soldiers and Canadians to know that the Dukes can simultaneously meet the needs for today and tomorrow. Plus, I told the troops I wasn't going to have them stand on parade again after November and I don't want to break that promise.

I am proud to say there are soldiers from the regiment out there today supporting the needs of the province. The military ground efforts are actually being led by LCol Mallette and CWO King, Mike thank you for taking the time today to attend I know it is extremely busy for you and I also know there is no better person to lead this challenge.

The role of the Regimental Sergeant Major, my right-hand soldier, is an integral member of the command team, the voice of the troops, the presence of discipline and deportment of the regiment and the cultural ambassador for the unit. These are but some of the aspects of an RSM though the role of the Regimental Sergeant Major is so much more than the sum of their parts. IF the Commanding Officer is the mind of the regiment the RSM is its soul.

RSM Harris. A Duke nearly from Birth it would seem. Proficient as a warrior be it with a blade, a rifle or that brick of a laptop you keep. A student of history yet a practitioner of forward thinking. Part Time Soldier full time warrior. To say you were a successful RSM would be an understatement.

Having been RSM during an extremely complex and challenging time with the introduction of the TAPV, a Pandemic, conversion from Armoured Recce to Cavalry, and numerous Domestic Operations you have been the steady hand ensuring through all these changes the regiment never lost sight of Move, Shoot, Communicate.

We often talked about the 'secret sauce' here with the Dukes, what is it that binds us like a family so well? I came to realize over the years you are a big part of that secret sauce and your efforts in leading the documenting and dissemination of regimental cultural values, through such things as the regimental manual, will ensure that the secret will never be lost.

You also lived fully the adage of Once a Duke Always a Duke. You have made it a cornerstone of your legacy. You have enhanced the bonds of all components of the regimental family, with regular touchpoints with our Sentinels, Bands, museum, association, and most importantly former Dukes truly making everyone feel part of the family.

I gave you 3 priorities of mine some how you turned that into 24 big objectives for yourself. Having completed 22 of those objectives you proved to me that reaching for the stars can be done and should be done.

Soldiering with you has made me and all your fellow Dukes a better person, Thank you.

Now for the New guy. RSM Matibag....What can I say... when I think of the soul of the regiment, I can not think of any single person who better fits that role than you. There has not been a soldier that has walked through those green doors which you have not personally mentored. As recently as last weekend you were still getting your hands smeared in grease by doing stables with the troops.

I have watched you build your repertoire of skills over the years. I still remember you as someone who loved field stripping an Iltis fuel pump during long halts, probably why you became a mechanic way back when. Now as an RCMP officer you still find your way around vehicles as a special accident investigator.

Anytime there is a call out be it for Domestic Operations, Expeditionary Ops or even course taskings at the unit your hand is the first to go up. A small example in recent years of your commitment looks like this: 2017 Fires deployed with RCMP up to Williams Lake and then again with the Army back to Williams Lake; 2018



TAPV Driver Maintenance Course, 2019 SSM Course in Gaagetown and Intermediate Leadership Program, 2020 Op Laser, 2021 Fires with RCMP to Clinton and Vernon.

I know with your dedication, love of the regiment, and approach of teaching by example this regiment is in great hands, and I look forward to having you by my side once again as we continue to press into the future.

But none of your abilities to do what you do would be possible without the great support of your family: Simrat, first off thank you for letting him be here so much, Sorry that I can't slow him down, even if I tried, I don't think anything could get him to take his foot off the pedal for the regiment. You have raised amazing children in Altea and Jivan and supported two soldiers not only with your Husband but also your son Jivan a Veh Tech in Shilo. The teamwork you two have is a testament to how your family is an example for all soldiers to see how we can manage it all. And please don't get too upset if one day a Sqn shows up at your cabin on our way to 100 mile house.

Now RSM Matibag, your marching orders:

1. Continue to show us how to be a good human being. Your leadership will be the soul of our culture. So, keep bringing that Heart and dedication to the role.
2. Work to your strengths, particularly in how you develop war fighting capable soldiers. We are in a hard line of work and our troops need you to guide them through it.
3. Once this parade is complete let's get back to preparing for the Fight!

Faugh A Bullah  
Up the Dukes!

**CHANGE OF APPOINTMENT PARADE FOR  
REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR  
ADDRESS OF THE REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR  
CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER TONY HARRIS, CD  
THE DRILL HALL  
24 NOVEMBER 2021**

Colonel Raesler, CWO Colgan, Honorary Col Rohani and Honorary LCol Diamond, LCol Virk, Command Team representatives, friends, family and fellow Dukes,

Like any good Op Order, my speech will be in 3 phases.

Phase 1: Recognition

Phase 2: Leadership

Phase 3: Soldiers

**Phase 1:**

I would like to recognize the leadership of our Brigade Commander, Colonel Raesler and the Brigade Sergeant Major, CWO Colgan for navigating this brigade through the complex environment of a global pandemic all whilst maintaining our core capability to train and deploy soldiers for expeditionary and domestic operations. Throughout, both of you have provided the Regiment with the requisite top cover and support so we could get the job done. The collaborative spirit that both of you foster across the units is the winning ingredient of 39 Canadian Brigade Group.

To Honorary Colonel Rohani, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Diamond and recently retired Honorary Colonel Hawthorne, thank you for your consistent and fulsome support to the soldiers of the Regiment. You sacrifice time, treasure and boundless energy at any given moment with little regard to how it may be of detriment to you and your families. For that level of commitment, we will always remain indebted to your efforts.

To my two Command Team partners, LCol Lindsay and LCol Virk. When I knew our career paths would cross, I had no hesitation to step up to the plate and be your Regimental Sergeant Major. Thank you for always providing me with a forum to speak honestly and valuing my counsel. Your leadership was exceptional and made me proud to salute both of you every day I was on the job. It has been a great run together and an experience I will always cherish and a relationship I will always value.

To the Regimental family to include former serving members, the Regimental Association, both the Brass & Reed band and Pipes & Drums, Regimental Museum and all affiliated Cadet Corps. Your passion to preserve, promote and personify the rich history, traditions and service of the unit and its soldiers, are critical to reinforcing our Regimental culture and portraying the Dukes in such a positive light. Thank you for what you do and will continue to do.

To Sgt Snow of the Regimental Development Group. As my go-to source for anything historical related, your wealth of knowledge ensures our history, customs and traditions are enshrined in our daily activities and guides our soldiers to preserve our proud reputation. You are a force multiplier and deserve much recognition.

My last acknowledgement is saved for the TQMS and incoming RSM, Master Warrant Officer Matibag. You have been my “sunray minor” for 26 years and I have observed you develop into a formidable leader in your own right. Your dedication and compassion for the members of this Regiment is second to none and I would not have been able to accomplish many of my objectives without your support. You are a consummate professional and exactly the right person to be the next Regimental Sergeant Major.

## **Phase 2: To the Senior Leaders**

To the officers of the Regiment. The qualities of officers in the unit are exemplified by the leadership and sacrifices of both of our Commanding Officers in WW1 and WW2 who both died in battle. Your commission grants you the immense responsibility of command authority, which includes committing your soldiers into harms way. At times, command may appear to be a lonely position but always remember that you will have a partner in your Senior NCOs who will back-stop you with their experience and technical expertise. Leverage that knowledge whenever you can.

To the Snr NCOs. You are the guardians of the cavalry tradecraft and are regarded as the mounted maneuver specialists that bring speed and direct fire lethality upon our enemy. Support your officers and provide them with timely, relevant advice and ensure the training and welfare of our soldiers remain always paramount before self.

## **Phase 3: To the Soldiers of the Regiment**

You high speed, low drag, dashing black beret wearing, Cavalry Troopers. You are the best that this country has to offer because you don this uniform, not for wealth or glory, but for service and sacrifice to the profession of arms. Continue to excel in the Trifecta of mounted close combat skills – the principles of Move, Shoot & Communicate. The time to master our tradecraft is during Wednesday nights and weekend exercises, where we can learn from our mistakes, **NOT** when we find ourselves on a two way range. Treat every training opportunity as the real deal because one day, it will be. Remember my mantra, “Amateurs practice till they get it right. Professionals practice till they never get it wrong.”



When it comes to culture, every single one of us must contribute positively to the Regimental culture that we so love. Embrace our differences, leverage our diversity, respect and always look after each other and our battle buddies. I challenge you to be a better person, soldier and leader today than you were yesterday and to leave tomorrow a better Regiment than you found today. That constant cycle of individual and team pursuit of excellence will ensure we respect the heritage left by our Fallen Dukes.

Tonight, soldiers of the Regiment are deploying in support of the BC floods with our colleagues from the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) whose command team are present tonight, and many more of you will depart on Wave 2. Stay safe and watch each others six.

In closing, it has been an honour to soldier with each and every one of you and it has been a privilege to be your Regimental Sergeant Major. I will forever bleed "green, silver, red and black."

Ladies and Gentlemen, Officers, Snr NCOs and soldiers.

Faugh a Ballagh  
"Up The Dukes!"



**THE B C REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION  
CHARITABLE TRUST**  
Suite 208, 1899 Willingdon Avenue  
Burnaby, B. C. V5C 5T1

November 26, 2021

**To the Members of The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) and the Regimental Family**

Fellow Dukes:

**Re: 2021 Bursary Program**

Further to our previous announcements regarding our implementation of the 2021 Bursary Program, notwithstanding the numerous complications resulting from the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, we are pleased to announce that the Charitable Trust has unanimously approved the Recommendations of the Regimental Affairs Committee and will award eight (8) bursaries, each in the amount of \$2,000.00, to serving members of the Regiment at the Stand Down Parade on Wednesday, 8 December 2021. Given the ever-increasing need (costs of education and effects of the Pandemic), we have decided to maintain the increased amount, initially awarded last year, as the circumstances warrant it.

We wish to thank you for your continued support of the initiatives of the Charitable Trust, namely, the Bursary Program, the Cadet Development Program for the five Cadet the Regiment sponsors and the many Veterans' recognition and commemorative events throughout the year. We also continue to pursue one of our main objectives, namely the education of the community at large regarding the tremendous contribution made by the Regiment and our Citizen Soldiers, both past and present, to the remarkable history and development of our Country.

These activities would not be accomplished without the support of the Regimental Family. Thank you once again for that support.

Yours very truly,

**The B C Regiment (DCO) Association Charitable Trust**

Ted Hawthorne,  
Chairman

**MCPL DUKE A. BEAR  
DEPLOYMENT ON OP IMPACT  
BAGHDAD, IRAQ ARRIVAL  
28 NOVEMBER 2021**

The Regiment has received official confirmation today from Iraq that MCpl Duke A. Bear is now in theatre. While Duke is in Iraq on Ops, he will be reporting to us where possible, time and circumstances permitting.

Take care and all the best Duke!

Up the Dukes!



**CO'S COMMITTEE & REGIMENTAL TRUST MEETINGS  
THE DRILL HALL, VANCOUVER, B.C.  
1 DECEMBER 2021**

The December meetings of the BCR Commanding Officer's Committee and the BCR Trust were held in the Letson Room at the Drill Hall and on the ZOOM platform in the early evening of Wednesday, December 1st. Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond chaired the very comprehensive CO's Committee meeting which included thorough reports from the Honorary Colonel, the President of the Regimental Association, the President of the BCR Museum, the Cadet Governor, the Band Governor and the Treasurer of the BCR Trust. The detailed report of the CO was preceded by a special presentation of Sgt Dwayne Snow on the status of numerous projects undertaken by the Regimental Development Group. All reports were very well received by the members. In concluding the afternoon's proceedings, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel, Bill Diamond, chaired the brief BCR Trust meeting.

Excellent meetings and thank you to all members!







## THE CHANDLER PLAQUE

### 1 DECEMBER 2021

(By R.O.Acconci)

Last Wednesday, the Commanding Officer received, on behalf of the Regiment, the Raymond Chandler Plaque in a low-key presentation at his office. The following is a brief synopsis of the plaque's genesis and creation.

Raymond Thornton Chandler (1888 – 1959) was born in the United States to an American father and an Irish/British mother. Due to marital problems his mother took him to London (UK) to live with her relatives and to obtain a formal education – which he did at Dulwich College. He spent his childhood summers at his uncle's home in Waterford, Ireland, where his branch of the Thornton family originated.

After leaving school he travelled briefly in Europe and tried his hand at several professions before returning to the United States and settling down initially in San Francisco, California.

After America's entry into WW1 Chandler felt he should be in uniform but opted to join H.M.Forces, and so travelled up to Victoria, BC to enlist in the 50<sup>th</sup> Gordon Highlanders – a founding unit of The Canadian Scottish Regiment. After basic and advanced infantry training in Canada and the UK, Chandler was transferred to the C7th Bn (1<sup>st</sup> BC) CEF in the field. Where he served in action with the C7th Bn from March to June 1918, attaining the rank of Acting/Sergeant. He was invalided from the trenches due to illness and when recovered, was transferred to the RAF. Chandler ended the war as a pilot trainee and was demobilised in Vancouver, BC in 1919.

Chandler returned to California and in due course became one of America's most renowned crime fiction writers. His famous 'Philip Marlowe Mysteries' series resulted in several Hollywood movies starring the likes of Humphrey Bogart and Robert Mitchum, and rendered Chandler as a screenwriter as well.

Chandler seldomly spoke of his experiences in the trenches as a combat infantryman with the C7th Bn, and wrote very little on the subject. But perhaps his most well known quotation of that experience is:

**“Once you have had to lead a platoon into direct  
machine-gun fire, nothing is ever the same”.**

Raymond Chandler's service in the C7th Bn was first brought to our attention by LCol (Ret'd) Bruce Kadonoff after he read an article on Chandler in the Victoria on-line newsmagazine, 'The Tyee'. This article and some further research, including information provided to me by LCol (Ret'd) Archie Steacy led me to think that we

should establish some recognition at the Drill Hall (DH) of Chandler's service with the C7th Bn. With some further research, including an excellent biography on Raymond Chandler's life, I thought a good plaque to go up somewhere in the DH would be a deserving marker to commemorate Chandler's time in the Regt. I also noted that there was in London (UK) a Heritage Blue Plaque at the house Chandler grew up in and also an Irish Heritage Plaque at the family house in Waterford where he spent his childhood summers. These plaques of course commemorate him as a famous author, but our plaque would recognise his service and his poignant quotation as a combat infantry sergeant in our Regt – specifically, the C7th Bn (1<sup>st</sup> BC) CEF. Of course we would have to acknowledge, as well, Chandler's fame as a crime fiction novelist!

I approached my friend Dan Bellan of Dan Bellan Design, who has vast experience in stonework, for I had thought that the plaque should be rendered in stone. Dan suggested polished black granite and let me know where to purchase it and the dimensions he had in mind. Both Dan & his mother are great fans of Raymond Chandler and he said he and an artisan that works with him at his studio would do the artwork without charge to me, but rather as a patriotic gesture to the Regt and in consideration of his affection for Chandler's Philip Marlowe mysteries. So I naturally left the design of the work to him but did provide a genuine C7th Bn cap badge and a photo of the collar badges (kindly sent to me by Sgt Dwayne Snow).

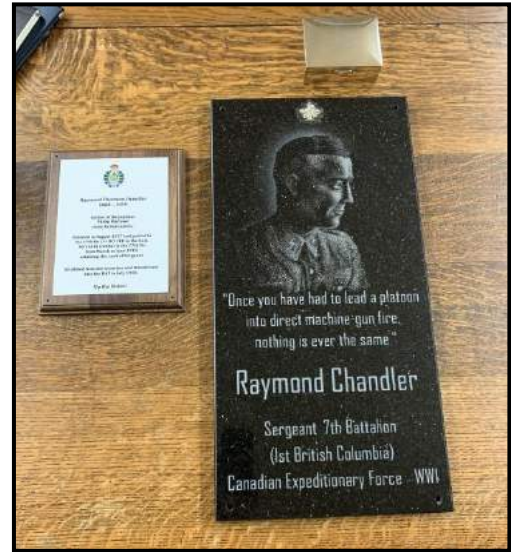
From the excellent biography of Chandler I showed to Dan, he selected a photograph of Chandler in the uniform of the C7th Bn – which we could not locate anywhere else on Google! Dan decided to **hand-etch** Chandler's likeness from the photo to the plaque and include Chandler's poignant quotation along with his name, rank and unit. There was no room for anything else. So I determined we would need a smaller supplementary plaque to go with the main plaque in order to fill out the significance of Raymond Chandler to the BCR – for I thought some of our younger soldiers would not have known of Raymond Chandler, nor would some of our visitors to the DH. My thoughts were also that the plaques would be affixed somewhere fairly prominent so that on any given parade night a young soldier might be reminded not only of the valour of some of our predecessors, but also the scope and talent of others who have gone before.

As a final note on Raymond Chandler – don't trust all the information you find on him in Google (Wikipedia). There are better sources, as well as his Service Record. It seems clear from his fictional character, Philip Marlowe, and some observations from those that knew him well, that Chandler quite possibly suffered in some degree from PTSD. It's fortuitist to have made the connection of Chandler and the Regt and of modest satisfaction to finally mark his service and include his name among the many talented and courageous individuals who have served in the BCR.

\* \* \*







### ISLAND TROOP A SQN LDSH DECEMBER 2021



Island Troop, A Sqn LdSH Cowichan First Nation  
Big House 1 Dec 21

As the IRU, the Strathcona's were bugged out to assist in the flood and damage to British Columbia after the November storms. This will be a longer term requirement as the province recovers from a once in a century event. The regiment is deployed across the lower mainland and interior communities.

One element was detached to Vancouver Island, arriving by air and based at CFB Esquimalt.



From left: Tpr Jamila Aberle, MCpl John Wiggan,  
Cpl Kenon Fitzpatrick and Tpr Gavin Erickson  
In front of the Big House  
1 Dec 21 - Cowichan First Nation Big House



MCpl Stephenson and WO Bell 29 Nov 21  
on the Hescos  
Cowichan First Nation

Their task was to assist First Nations at risk from river flooding on southern Vancouver Island. Thirty one all ranks comprise this mobile force that has been to Halalt First Nation on the Chemanius River and then to Cowichan First Nation on the Cowichan River, the largest First Nation population in BC.

The Cowichan River floods most years and extensive remediation took place at the lower portion over the past summer. These current storms put homes and the Big House at risk. The Big House has great traditional and cultural significance to the community.

I visited the Troop and saw the success that they achieved as a result of their impressive efforts. The Hesco's and sandbagging was executed in very good time due to the coordinated efforts of all concerned with heavy equipment and sand bagging machines, First Nation's crews and old fashioned shovel work along with lifting and moving the bags into position.

The Left Coast Lancers is the informal collection of all ranks and the families of the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps, who are primarily retired, located in British Columbia and the Yukon. The Strathcona assistance is having a direct impact on our colleagues who are living in Merritt, Princeton, Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Vancouver Island. We extend our thanks and gratitude.

Perseverance

David Scandrett

Operations Officer and Maitre de  
Left Coast Lancers  
Vancouver Island





## THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION

#208 – 1899 Willingdon Avenue  
Burnaby, British Columbia  
Canada V5T 5T1

Telephone: 604.961.7522

Email: ted@hplaw.ca

3 December 2021

Members of the Regimental Association,  
Regimental Family, Friends and Supporters

Fellow Dukes:

As a result of the continuing COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions, the annual BCR Food Bank initiative will be sponsored once again by the Regimental Association. The Regiment will be supporting the Food Bank as well with donations from our serving members delivered to the Drill Hall.

For all our friends and supporters of the Regiment, please deliver your donations of canned food and/or non-perishables to the Offices of HPLaw at #208-1899 Willingdon Avenue in Burnaby (one block north of the Brentwood Sky Train Station). Sancta Maria House, a women's shelter in Vancouver, will be the recipient of our efforts. Many thanks and we look forward to your support.

Up the Dukes!

Sincerely yours,

Ted Hawthorne, Vice-President



## THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION

#208 – 1899 Willingdon Avenue  
Burnaby, British Columbia  
Canada V5T 5T1

Telephone: 604.961.7522

Email: [ted@hplaw.ca](mailto:ted@hplaw.ca)

3 December 2021

Members of the Regimental Association,  
Regimental Family, Friends and Supporters

Fellow Dukes:

You will note that your annual dues renewal form may be found in the 2022 Membership Renewal section in **The BCR News**. I look forward to your continuing support of the Regimental Association and the Charitable Trust. As you know, the Regimental Association and Charitable Trust are actively involved in numerous programs and activities supporting our veterans, our serving soldiers and the five cadet corps the Regiment sponsors. As it is imperative that these activities be maintained and supported, I strongly urge you to renew your membership and consider making a donation, large or small, in order to be a part of what we do for the Regimental Family.

In addition, please look for the December 2021 edition of **The Duke** which will be published at month end.

In conclusion, I wish you and your loved ones a happy and joyous Holiday Season, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Up the Dukes!

Sincerely yours,

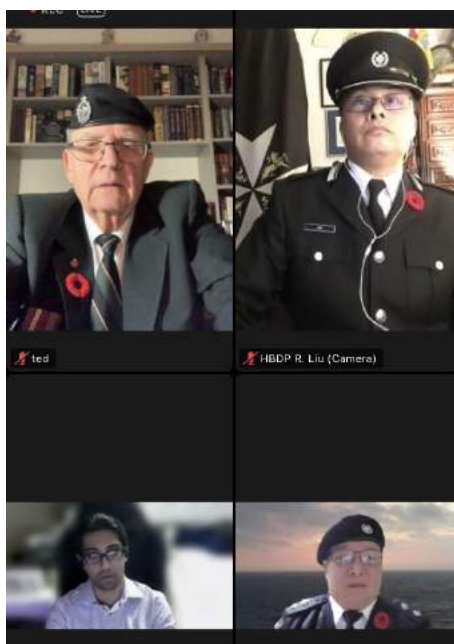
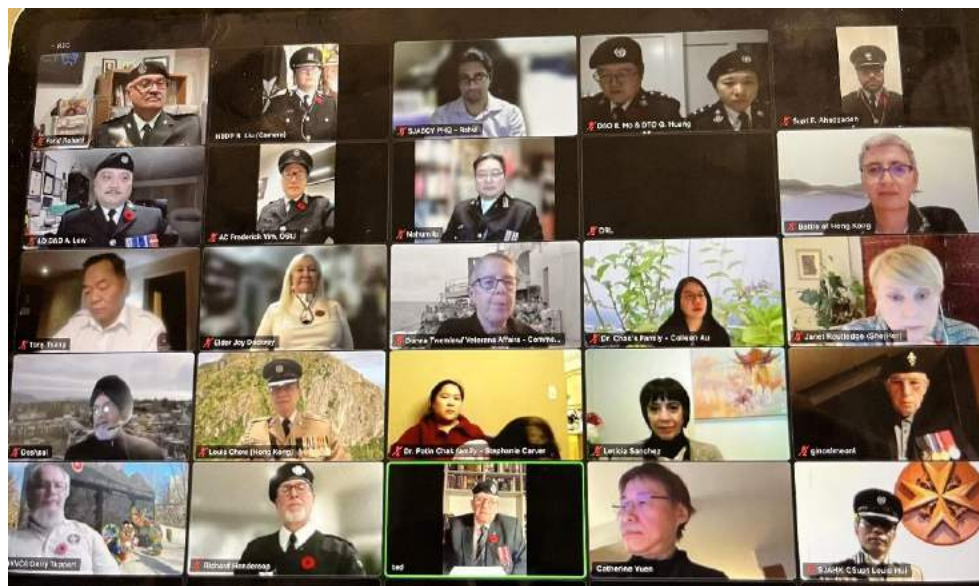
Ted Hawthorne, Vice-President

### ST. JOHN AMBULANCE REMEMBRANCE OF THE 80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF HONG KONG 6 DECEMBER 2021

Congratulations to St. John Ambulance, Burnaby Division, and Richard Liu, Honorary Brigade Division President, on hosting the 80th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony of the Battle of Hong Kong (8-25 December 1941). The ZOOM presentation was very well attended by members of St. John Ambulance from across Canada and Hong Kong and military and civilian members of the community where the service and sacrifice of our soldiers were recognized for their defence of Hong Kong. BCRs attending included the Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani and Regimental Association Vice President Ted Hawthorne.



We will remember them!



## COMMANDING OFFICER'S "HUDDLE" (STAND DOWN) THE DRILL HALL, VANCOUVER, B.C. 8 DECEMBER 2021

The Stand Down "CO's Huddle" was held at the Drill Hall in the late evening of Wednesday, 8 December 2021, after all training sessions were concluded. The memorable evening's program which was well attended included the presentation of Bursaries, each in the amount of \$2,000.00, awarded by the Chairman of the Association Charitable Trust, Ted Hawthorne. Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond presented the Certificates and President Jim Barrett presented the cheques. The recipients were Sergeant Zhou, Corporal Lee, Corporal Nordin, Corporal Son, Trooper Cao, Trooper Fei, Private Guerrero and Private Trinh. The

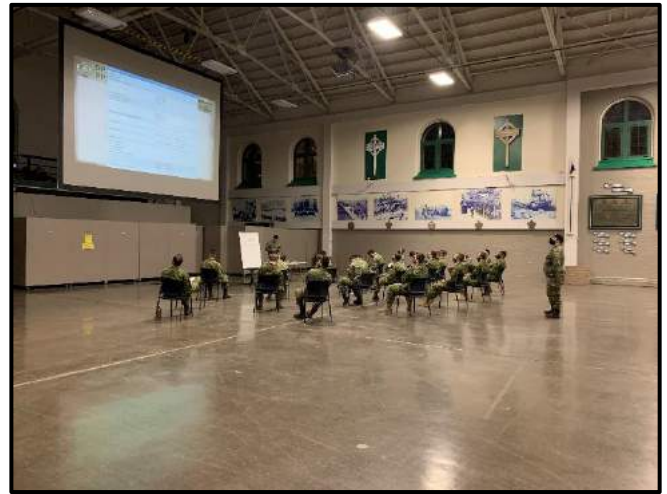
Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, was also presented with a cheque in the amount of \$2,500.00 by Mr Hawthorne for The BCR (DCO) Trust, for the benefit of our soldiers. The Commanding Officer proceeded with four promotions to Corporal, complemented those members who participated in Op Lentus (recent flooding in the Fraser Valley) and concluded the evening with reminders of Saturday's Unit Football Game (Senior NCOs and Officers versus The JRs) and the first mess dinner in almost two years, the Soldiers Recognition Dinner. Congratulations everyone on an excellent Huddle and very best wishes and Merry Christmas!

Remember the Food Bank!!

Up the Dukes!









**REMEMBRANCE OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE BATTLE OF HONG KONG  
CHINATOWN MEMORIAL PLAZA, VANCOUVER, B.C.  
8 DECEMBER 2021**

The service and sacrifice of our Canadian soldiers, members of The Royal Rifles of Canada and The Winnipeg Grenadiers, who fought valiantly in the Defence of Hong Kong, eighty years ago (8-25 December 1941), were remembered at the Chinatown Memorial Plaza in Vancouver by the Regimental Association on Wednesday, 8 December 2021 in the early afternoon. Ted Hawthorne, Vice President of the Regimental Association, placed a wreath at the Memorial in Remembrance.

We will remember them!





## 2021 SOLDIER RECOGNITION DINNER 11 DECEMBER 2021



Traditional Army Christmas tree with OpsO and OpsWO doing a final check to make sure all is in place for the dinner.

The first Mess dinner since 2019 was a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended. COVID put up obstacles but, in true Duke fashion, the Regiment adapted and overcame. The required modifications were all taken in stride.

Pipe Major Andrew Hayes piped in the head table, the Guidon was marched on, the Padre gave Grace prior to dinner. As a COVID adjustment, the dinner was served cafeteria style. While different from previous years, it did allow the CO, LCol Virk, RSM, MWO Matibag and HLCol Diamond to join the serving line and have the chance to interact with all of the guests.

During dinner service, our Brass & Reed Band led by Director of Music, Brian Smith entertained all and even included a few Christmas carols. As the band took a break to have dinner, the Pipes and Drums Band took over the entertainment. Not to be out done, they played a couple of Christmas carols as well as the traditional sets.

After the toasts, the CO gave an inspiring response to the Toast to the Regiment that was well received by the troops. He was able to include remarks about the last minute touchdown pass he threw at the afternoon football game that gave the SR NCOs and Officers the win.

As a Trustee of the Charitable Trust, HCol Diamond was asked to present Cpl Lee with the HMajor Jean Pierre Benamou Bursary. This was the last of the 8 bursaries that the Charitable Trust presented this year.

The CO closed his comments by congratulating Sgt (Ret'd) Iredale on being awarded a CDS Commendation. The announcement reads "Sgt A.D. Iredale - for professionalism and swift actions when rescuing an infant in a stroller and a dog from fast-flowing water, along the Chilliwack River, British Columbia, 18 June, 2018".

The Guidon was marched off, the head table piped off and the dinner concluded. As the head table was walking up the stairs to the Mess, three cheers were given for the CO. A great way to end a fantastic dinner.



One of the adjustments was a spread out dinner. Two to a table and not directly across from each other.



Enjoying dinner as the Pipe Band performs.



Head table for the evening - PMC, Cpl Delaat, Dinner RSM, MCpl Fleming, RSM, MWO Matibag, HLCpl Diamond (took the photo, so not at his seat), CO, LCol Virk, Dinner CO, Cpl Fei and Padre Pappas

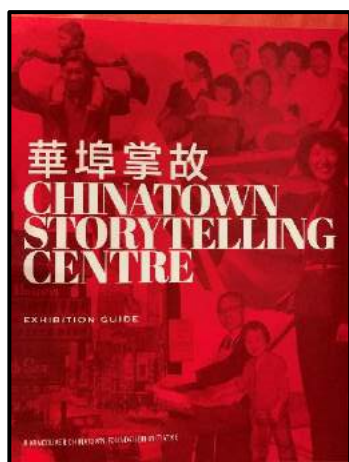
**CHINATOWN STORYTELLING CENTRE  
SPECIAL TOUR FOR  
THE CHINESE CANADIAN MILITARY MUSEUM SOCIETY  
AND  
ANAVETS, PACIFIC UNIT NO. 280  
15 DECEMBER 2021**

Thank you to the Chinatown Storytelling Centre (the “Centre”), a Vancouver Chinatown Foundation Initiative, at 168 Pender Street in Vancouver, for their special tour for the members of the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit No 280 during the mid-morning of Wednesday, 15 December 2021. The program, MC’d by King Wan, very successfully demonstrated, as billed “How Vancouver’s Chinatown Community helped shape our City’s Past, Present and Future” with exhibits including a Visitor Reflection Station, BMO Hall, The Journey Begins, Building Canada, the Exclusion Act & Stronger Together, Fighting for Canada, Family & Food, Yucho Chow Studio, Rogers Theatre, The Boom Years and Chinatown Then and Now.



At the conclusion of the Tour, the group proceeded to the Floata Restaurant on Keefer Street to enjoy a wonderful luncheon sponsored by David Choi. Speakers included CCMMS President Judge Randall Wong, ANAVETS, Pacific Unit No 280 President, King Wan, sponsor Carol Lee and David Choi. Special guests included ten widows of our fallen WWII members.

Kudos to the Centre, David Choi and Carol Lee for this memorable and most successful event!













## FOOD BANK 2021 PROGRAM & CHARITABLE TRUST FUNDRAISING PROGRAM HPLAW 16 DECEMBER 2021

The Regimental Association Annual Christmas Food Bank initiative and the Annual Fundraising Program successfully continues with great support from the Regimental Family, notwithstanding the COVID-19 Pandemic. Regimental Association member and PPCLI Veteran Peacekeeper, Chuck Davey, attended at HPLaw today to deliver an array of canned food and non-perishables and monetary donations to the Regimental Association Charitable Trust in support of our Soldiers' (Bursary Program), Cadets (Cadet Development Program) and Veterans (Commemoration Program) and a special donation to Sancta Maria House in the name of our dear friend and colleague, the late Agnes Keegan. Once again, Sancta Maria House, a women's shelter in Vancouver, will be the recipient of our very successful campaign. Chairman of the BCR Association Charitable Trust, Ted Hawthorne, received the generous donations from Chuck and thanked him on behalf of the Regimental Family for his great support.

Many thanks everyone for your wonderful support!

Up the Dukes!





**WELCOME HOME A/MAJOR PETER STOCKER  
OP IMPACT  
18 DECEMBER 2021**

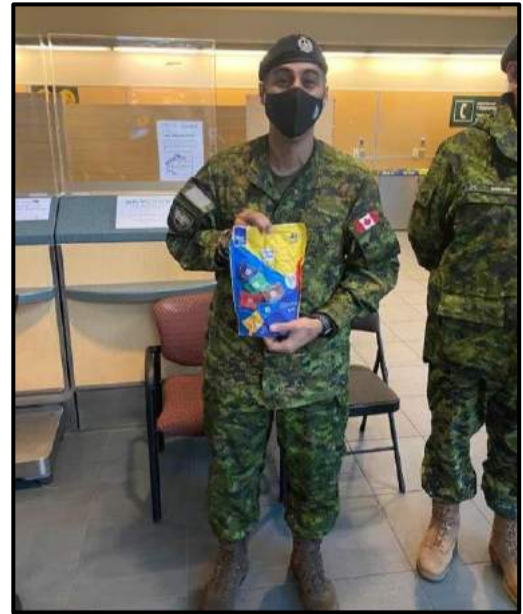
A/Major Stocker is Home from Op IMPACT.

Earlier today, HCol Rohani, HLCol Diamond, the CO, LCol Virk, the RSM, MWO Matibag, the 2IC, Major McCullough, and 2Lt Attalaoui along with A/Major Stocker's wife Gina and sister-in-law Ali were at the airport to greet him. Thanks to airport security and a smooth talking HCol we were able to meet off to the side of arrivals area for a private gathering.

After 35 hours of travel A/Major Stocker was pleased to be home. Fortunately, this included a 3 hour layover in Frankfurt, so the CO received his German chocolate. Duke a Bear was tired from all the travel, so he stayed in his luggage during the gathering.

Welcome home to A/Major Stocker - enjoy the rank for another month.





**INAUGURAL “WALK AID”  
VARIETY PARK PLAYGROUND, CENTRAL PARK, BURNABY  
ST. JOHN AMBULANCE  
18 DECEMBER 2021**

The inaugural “Walk Aid” (in aid of “celebrating the health benefits of living a healthier lifestyle”) was sponsored by St. John Ambulance and Burnaby Tourism. The event was held mid morning at Variety Park Playground, Central Park, in Burnaby. The program featured an introduction by the MC, Richard Liu, Honorary Brigade Division President, Burnaby Division, SJA, a Remembrance Ceremony for the Defence of Hong Kong where SJA lost 56 members during the course of the battle (8 - 25 December 1941), brief comments from the CEO of SJA, Tourism Burnaby, and the Mayor of Burnaby, Mike Hurley. A brief presentation to the Chok Family of the SJA Medallion of the Priory of Canada for SJA WWII Veteran, Dr Po Tin Chak, was made followed by a brief walk in the Park. Vice President Ted Hawthorne represented the Regimental Association at the well attended event.

Well done St. John Ambulance!









**CHARITABLE TRUST FUNDRAISING PROGRAM  
AND  
FOOD BANK 2021 PROGRAM**

**RE/MAX, SABRE REALTY GROUP  
20 DECEMBER 2021**

Kudos to Re/Max, Sabre Realty Group, (Michelle Hawthorne and her team) for their great support of the Regimental Association Charitable Trust Annual Fundraising Program and the Food Bank initiative of the Regimental Association supported by the Regiment. Vice President Ted Hawthorne was presented with two donations on behalf of Re/Max, by his daughter, Regimental Association member, Michelle Hawthorne.

Well done indeed and thank you!

Up the Dukes!





## THE BARRETT BUNKER DECEMBER 2021

It is said that history often has a way of repeating itself. As I write this excerpt from our Regiment's history, soldiers from the BCR (DCO) are assisting in OP LENTUS under command of the Commanding Officer Lord Strathcona Horse (LDSH) in Abbotsford fighting back the recent flood waters and assisting with recovery of farms and property on the Sumas Prairie. In the spring of 2004, I was serving in the G1 Personnel Branch at 39 CBG HQ when the Fraser was again on the verge of flooding. Col (then Maj) Paul Ursich was to be in command of our troops from 39 CBG filling sandbags and I was detailed to be the Military Liaison for the City of Maple Ridge. Fortunately, the waters subsided, and we were not required at that time. In the past we have not always been so fortunate, especially in the spring of 1948.



Flooding on the Main Street in Mission, BC 1948

Back in May of 1948, the first twelve days of the month had the heaviest rainfall on record for that time. Followed by an unseasonably warm heat wave which melted the snow off the mountain peaks, the Fraser Valley faced an immense flood which dwarfed the prior record holder of 1894. The 1948 Fraser Flood dwarfed the record by an additional foot of water or 30 cms. Cache Creek was hit hard by 13 May and all other interior rivers reached new heights. By the end of the month the rising waters had breached the dykes at Agassiz and flooded 1200 acres. The Army set up a Flood Control Headquarters at Jericho to work with the civil authorities. Conditions continued to deteriorate and by the 29<sup>th</sup> of May both the CP and CN tracks were under water, trains were at a standstill, roads were impassable, and Vancouver and the Lower Fraser Valley were cut off from the rest of Canada. Conditions were grim and flooding was expected throughout the Lower Fraser Valley.



Barnston Island located on the right across from Pitt Meadows

In response to the civil emergency, the BCR (DCO) was called out and ordered to near Langley and put to work to try to save the dykes on Barnston Island. About 900 head of cattle had already been evacuated by barge by the time the soldiers arrived. Some locals ignored the orders and were confident that the waters would recede as they had in the past.

On arrival, the Regiment met up with an engineer from the Provincial Authorities, who upon completing a survey of the island believed the dykes could not be saved. The Officers of the BCR were unable to convince the locals remaining on the island of the danger, so the soldiers, assisted by civilians, filled sandbags, patrolled the soggy levees, and fought the leaks that developed hour by hour.



BCRs and Local Residents fill sandbags Barnston Island 1948

On 1 June 1948, the Premier, the Hon Bryan Johnson declared a state of emergency and all the troops in the British Columbia were called out and craft of the RCN from Esquimalt were sent over to the Fraser River. The Lower Mainland was divided into five sectors, of which, the BCR's was from Port Mann to the Sumas River on the Fraser. 500,000 sandbags were flown out from Montreal and daily requirements numbered some 200,000.



Irish Fusiliers of Canada (Now BCR) at Ridgeway Dyke 1948

During the night of 3 June, the dyke on the northeast corner of Barnston crumbled, the dyke broke and soon a gap of 100 feet wide, or 30 metres, was created. An RCN Naval Tug was dispatched, and the officers drove around the island to hasten the departure of the remaining residents. This had to be accomplished quickly



as the waters were rising fast and roads were soon under water. The soldiers worked tirelessly to evacuate the residents and their reluctant livestock.



Flooding Barnston Island 1948

This was accomplished by daylight and by morning most of the 250 Barnston Islanders had been taken to New Westminster to join more refugees from the floods. By the next morning, Barnston Island was almost completely under water. Only a few residents in small boats remained trying to save what remained of their possessions.



*Barnston Island, B.C., during the 1948 floods.*

Over 50,000 acres of farmland had been flooded and it appeared that the remaining dykes were now holding. The waters of the Fraser continued to rise until they reached a height of 24.59 feet (average height normally 16 feet). Luckily the Chilliwack and Sumas Dykes held.



Port Mann Rail Yards 1948 Flood  
(City of Surrey Archives)

The BCR was moved down to Annacis Island, and plans were made for the evacuation of Lulu Island and the City of Richmond. Detachments from the LDSH and Canadian Scottish arrived. Fortunately, with a cold spell, the waters eased, and the waters dropped, and on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June, the BCR and the other reservists were dismissed from further duty and returned to their homes.

We live in a province where historically extreme weather events are not uncommon. Preparedness is critical to reducing the devastation which can occur, and this is reflected both in past and current commitment to ensure that our soldiers are ready to help in a timely manner when needed in Assistance to the Civil Authorities. Who knew that almost 70 years later that BCRs and other units of 39 CBG under Command of the LDSH would be standing firm with civilian authorities once again against the floods in the Fraser Valley.

My thanks to Douglas Harker for information from his history of the BCR's, The Duke, and to Swift and Strong, and to other archival sources.

### **SERGEANT JESSICA SCHULTZ, CD FROM SOLDIER TO DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY CANDIDATE**

I was terrible driver. At age 17, with no licence, experience, or self-confidence, I was a driving instructor's worst nightmare. My first time in an Itis, I drove out onto the wrong side of the road, almost got creamed pulling out into traffic and stalled while turning left on the highway. My crew commander was shaking as he got out of the vehicle, knees weak in that special way that only comes from a near-death experience. "Schultz!" he yelled, panting. Then he tried to control his voice, "you're not doing bad, you're just...". He was lost for words, but it was nice of him to try. The next training night, I heard them talking, "ok, who's going to take Schultz this time?" The others avoided eye contact so as not to be chosen. Yes, I was *that* driver.

So it was no surprise that summer when I didn't do very well on QL3, the armoured trades course at the time. However, I will never forget my end-course interview because something unexpected happened. The sergeant said, "other than your driving [coughs awkwardly], you actually did quite well." He went on to say he thought I was smart, and that I should consider becoming an officer (likely since officers don't have to drive!). What's memorable to me about this is not the complement, although very nice, but what I thought about it afterwards. *I fooled him*, I thought. It didn't occur to me that there could be any truth to his words. Instead, as a quiet introvert at heart, I thought I'd found the perfect life hack: if you just don't say anything, people will think you're smarter than you actually are. Maybe there is some truth to this, but it was the beginning of the most important lesson I learned during my service. Or perhaps it was the most important thing I "unlearned."

I grew up in an environment where I was treated like I wasn't very intelligent. No one did this on purpose, but often I was shot down and put-down whenever I opened my mouth. What resulted was a deeply entrenched imposter syndrome; a life-long feeling that I was observing life as an outsider, unworthy of actively participating myself. I'm sharing this context to help express how much my time in the BCR has meant to me. I suspect other members have faced similar challenges.

I came home from QL3 and finally took some driving lessons. I had an epiphany when I realized that driving is way easier if you break it down like a weapons drill.

Mirror. Signal. Shoulder check.

I can do this.

It turns out this applies to nearly everything in life. In fact, 20 years later and now working on my third post-secondary degree, I have yet to come across something I couldn't learn by breaking it down into simple steps, just like a C9 unload or changing lanes on the highway.

Hence, the most important thing I learned during my service was this simple truth:



Anyone can learn anything.

(I also learned that it's good to be terrible at something once in a while. Among other things, it makes you a better teacher. Later, when I learned the terror of being in the crew commander seat with a new driver, it was at least therapeutic to remind myself, "anyone can learn anything! Anyone can learn anything!" as I gripped the dashboard with white knuckles).

This knowledge has carried me through my military career and every other aspect of my life in a way that otherwise would not have been possible. I'm now a marine biologist and professional scuba diver. I've been fortunate to have a number of cool opportunities in my career so far, from diving with some of the world's leading underwater explorers, to visiting the bottom of the ocean in a submarine. I completed my undergraduate degree by working three jobs and my MSc while simultaneously working full-time. I'm proud to say I'm the first person in my family to earn a graduate degree. None of this would have been possible without the confidence I gained in the military. I learned that the world belongs to me too, as much as it belongs to everyone else. It changed my life in every sense.

I'm currently working towards a PhD at the University of Guelph, where I'm using DNA barcoding to discover and quantify the variety of life on the seafloor. My goal is to develop DNA-based tools that will make it easier to measure biodiversity, inform decision-making, and ultimately help address the current challenges faced by oceans and people. Although it seems unrelated to my military experience, my motivation stems from the sense of service I gained in the military. Serving overseas left me with a deep sense of responsibility to make the most of the opportunities I have as a Canadian, and science has become my pathway for giving back as best I can. My service taught me more than I can possibly express, and I am so grateful. In my heart, I will always be a Duke.

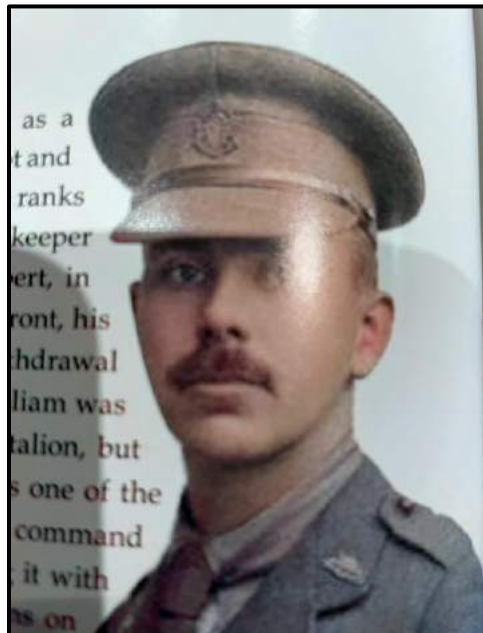






**LIEUTENANT-COLONEL WILLIAM SMITH LATTA**  
**C.E.F, D.S.O. & 2 BARS (MID), 29<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION**

Submitted by: Don Manning, Member, BCR (DCO) Museum Society



**Figure 1 William Smith Latta,  
from "Swift & Strong" (Colourized)**

There is much to be said about Lieutenant-Colonel William Smith Latta, but this narrative of The Distinguished Service Order (DSO), taken from Veteran's Canada's Website also sums up a brave and gallant man.

"This is a military order for officers only, and while normally given for service under fire or under conditions equivalent to service in actual combat with the enemy, it was awarded between 1914 and 1916 under circumstances which could not be regarded as under fire. After 01 January 1917, commanders in the field were instructed to recommend this award only for those serving under fire. Prior to 1943, the order could be given only to someone Mentioned-in-Dispatches. The order is generally given to officers in command, above the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and awards to ranks below this are usually for a high degree of gallantry just short of deserving the Victoria Cross."

To be clear, Lieutenant-Colonel Latta was awarded his DSO in June 1917, meaning he met the criteria for a DSO. He was, after all, one of the eight commanding officers of the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion, according to a Wikipedia article referenced below.

### **Personal**

Date and Place of Birth: 14 April 1879, Ayr, Ayrshire, Scotland

Marriage: 27 November 1907, New Westminster, B.C. to Bertha Annie Sayer

Death: 16 September 1966, Victoria, B.C., Cremated

Occupation: On his enlistment papers he described his occupation as bookkeeper

## **Military Career**

### **Prior to Enlistment / From Swift & Strong**

1900 – Joined the D.C.O.R as a Rifleman.

Was known as an outstanding shot and NCO.

Enlisted with his brother Robert, who joined the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion and was subsequently killed in the withdrawal from the Keerselan Crossroads position.

Was subsequently accepted into the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion when it was raised.

Rose to command of the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion following Vimy Ridge.

Awarded the D.S.O. on three occasions, making him one of only 15 Canadians 20 honoured, mentioned in dispatches on four occasions.

### **Documents Located on ancestry.ca From Family Records**

Infantry Instruction, D.C.O.R., 15 September 1902.

Infantry Non Com, Officers Class Special course, 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment, D.C.O.R., Rank Lance Corporal, 15 September to 15 November 1902.

Annual Drill of Active Militia "E" company, 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment, D.C.O.R, 1 July 1903 to 30 June, 1904, Rank Sergeant.

Certificate of Military Instruction, Infantry, 6<sup>th</sup> D.C.O.R. 15 April to 15 May 1909, Rank Lieutenant.

### **Enlistment, C.E.F. and Following From C.E.F. Military Record**

Reports he served in the Active Militia (6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, D.C.O.R.) in his enlistment papers, 14 September 2014.

Attestation Information: Enlisted November 11, 1914, Vancouver, B.C., aged 35, Commanding Officer H.S. Tobin, 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

Regimental Number: 68741.

Dates of Service: France, 20 May, 1915, Discharge 2 November 1919.

Sailed From Montreal on S.S. Minninabie: 20 May 1915, Rank Captain.

He was reported to have contracted influenza in June 1918, with treatment in France and the U.K. until October 1918. He is shown to have been discharged from medical care in June and later August 1918.

Reported Wounded 9 August, 1918.

Arrival in Vancouver, B.C. on 25 January 1919 on Empress of Asia.

### **A Speech on Return to Vancouver**

The following article appeared in the Vancouver Sun on 3 March, 1919, page 5 from a speech he delivered. It is very instructive on the measure of this man, as well as the men of the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion:



ting too little.

"I want to speak tonight of the front line man," said Lieut.-Col. W. S. Latta, D.S.O., who confined his remarks more particularly to the work of the famous 29th battalion, with which unit he served in France. The Hun was always on the look out for the infantry man. The sniper was ready to get him if he showed his head above the trenches, while the enemy machine guns were waiting for a similar opportunity. In addition the Hun aeroplanes flew overhead with like intent.

#### **Front Line the Test.**

"You could never tell what was in a man," said Colonel Latta, "until you saw him in the front line trenches." The speaker said he had in mind two members of the battalion. There was one fine fellow, a smart appearing soldier, and something over six feet in height. It was, however, extremely difficult to get him near the front line trenches. He was taken sick with some imaginary illness each time he was scheduled to make the trip. On the other hand there was a little fellow, with his toes turned in and a squint in his eyes. He was a man clean through, said Colonel Latta, squint and all. He was always at his post in the trench and was eager to volunteer for service in "No Man's Land" when the opportunity was offered him.

The front line, said the speaker, is the great test-box. Everything that is good in a man will be found then, also everything that is mean and bad. The friendship of the men in the firing line was another remarkable thing, together with the spirit of self-sacrifice shown by them towards their fellow comrades. Colonel Latta told of the fight of the 29th two years ago in the Kemmel sector in front of Mount Kemmel. He referred to Hill 70, where this battalion went into its hardest fight against the best troops that the Germans had. It was a wonderful fight, he said. The men of the 29th fought the Huns to a standstill and not only that but they went forward and took some of the enemy trenches. It was there that Sergt.-Major Hanna won his Victoria Cross.

#### **Men Want Chance.**

Any mistakes that may have happened at the front were not due to the men. It would be the same at home, said Colonel Latta. "If you handle them right and give them a fair start they will not let you down. All they want is a chance to earn a fair and honest living," he said. Those returning had also learned the lesson of co-operation, for they had seen what it meant at the front and what could be done with it at home.

"Questions that have been asked many times during these days," said Major (Rev.) C. C. Owen, "are what were the Allies fighting for and what are the results?" These men who went over, some never to come back, did not do it for nothing. The men in the front lines often asked the question whether the world was going to be any better when the struggle was over. They saw the moral condition of Germany and the ideals and teachings of the Huns. They did not want this standard of life in Canada. They also looked towards Russia and were determined that there would be no Bolshevism in this Dominion. The speaker referred to profit-sharing as one of the solutions of the future. Every man wanted his fair place and his fair share.

#### **Greatest Men Live for Others.**

The highest conception of life, said Major Owen, was given to the world by Jesus Christ. If the world was to be made worth living in, Christ would have to be given first place in it. No one had ever given the people such a high type of Socialism as preached and practiced by Jesus. The greatest men, he said, were those who lived for others and this was borne out all through history.

Towards the end of the meeting a vote of thanks was moved to the speakers and artists by M. J. Crehan, vice-president of the Army and Navy Veterans' association, the concern being given under the auspices of the association, F. J. A. King, president, occupying the chair. In between the addresses there was a pleasing programme of songs and musical numbers, those taking part being Miss Marjorie Stevens, Miss Helen Prestwich, Henry Green, Wilfrid Fee-Sanderson and Madame Carapata. It was intended that Lieut.-Col. Ray Collishaw, D.S.O., the famous aviator, should have spoken, but owing to the state of his health he was unable to appear. The theatre was filled from top to bottom and the collection that was taken up amounted to \$230, netting about \$80 for the benefit of the Army and Navy Veterans.

The following article was published on 18 September 1918, page 7, in the Vancouver Sun, in which Lieutenant-Colonel Latta is quoted on the loss of his comrade Captain Albert B. Watson, MM. at Rosieres, France, on August 9, 1918. Latta was also wounded in the same action.

## TRIBUTE IS PAID TO FALLEN HERO

---

NEW WESTMINSTER—Tribute to the late Capt. Albert B. Watson, M.M., who was killed in action a short time ago, is paid in a letter just received by his father, Fire Chief J. H. Watson, from Lieut.-Col. W. S. Latta. Lieut.-Col. Latta was wounded in the same action, and wrote the letter mentioned from the hospital. He said in the letter that Capt. Watson fell in one of the most magnificent victories in the history of the Canadian corps. Capt. Watson was commanding the company which was acting as a reserve to Col. Latta during the morning of August 9, when an attack was made on the village of Rosieres. Capt. Watson was last seen by Col. Latta springing over the top of the parapet calling out to his men to follow. The battalion lost several splendid young officers in the fight, the writer said, but none of them more highly respected for his qualities as a soldier and better loved for his qualities as a man than Capt. "Doc" Watson, M.M. He was one of those who was pointed out as being "a man without fear."

Source: Vancouver Sun



## Medals Awarded

Latta was awarded the following medals during his military career:

Distinguished Service Order, 4 June 1917

1914-1915 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal, (Pip, Squeek & Wilfred)

Fifth medal is Volunteer Force Long Service Medal



Source: Swift & Strong p. 130

## Distinguished Service Order (DSO)

The award of the DSO is shown on the below image located on ancestry.ca. The date of the award is 4 June 1917, under authority of L.G. 30111, presented to Lieutenant-Colonel William Smith Latta. It was at this time that the Battle for Arras was in progress (see: Longtail website reference below), The second bar was awarded on 4 October 1918. The dates of his "Mentioned in Despatches", which is one of the criteria for this award is also noted on this card. At the time of this award, he held the rank of Major, it appears that the award of the DSO resulted/coincided in his elevation to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

NAME.		RANK.	NUMBER.	UNIT.	HONOUR OR AWARD.
Latta William Smith.		Maj. <i> Lt. Colonel</i>		29th Can. Inf. Bn.	D.S.O.
AUTHORITY.	DATE.	DETAILS. <small>TO BE CONTINUED ON BACK OF CARD IF NECESSARY.</small>			MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES AUTHORITY. DATE.
L.G. 30111	4-6-17.				39890 4-1-17
OTHER AWARDS.					
NATURE.	AUTHORITY.	DATE.			
Mentioned in Despatches	L.G. 30104	1. 6. 17.			
Mentioned in Despatches	L.G. 30106	28.5.18.			
Mentioned in Despatches	L.G. 30110	3.6.18.			
2nd Bar to D.S.O.	L.G. 30111	4.10.18.			
Mentioned in Despatches	L.G. 30111	2.12.18.			
Mentioned in Despatches	L.G. 30111	31.12.18.			

Source: ancestry.ca



Source: Veterans Canada

When Latta was awarded his DSO on June 4, 1917, it was solely a British Army Medal (by Royal Warrant), as Canada did not assume control over awarding this medal to its citizens until the 1930's. Latta's DSO has two bars, only 18 recipients have received this medal with two bars. At the time he was awarded this medal, the recipient had to have been mentioned in dispatches, and, hold the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and higher. In other words his medal was awarded for his performance in combat as a ranking officer.

According to Veteran's Affairs, the ranking of this medal ranks below the following, in Order:

Victoria Cross (VC)

George Cross (GC)

Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB)

Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE)

### **Life after Military Discharge**

Latta's Military Record indicates that he was admitted for a time at Shaughnessy Military Hospital in Vancouver, B.C. April to May 1919.

Swift and Strong indicates that became a land surveyor until his retirement.

A review of newspaper articles as well as other documents indicates the following:

Article dated 4 August 1931, p. 16, from the Vancouver Province



Source: Vancouver Province



An Order in Council (British Columbia) dated 19 August, 1941 appoints Latta, shown as Inspector for the British Columbia Land Settlement Board, as a Director of the Board, with a notation that the OIC appointment was rescinded, unknown date.

There does not appear to be any additional information available to document his civilian life, until his death.

### Death

William Smith Latta died on 16 September 1966 at Victoria, B.C., he was 87 years of age.

An article appeared in The Vancouver Sun dated 20 September 1966, recording his passing. It is shown below. As an aside, there are newspaper articles available recording the marriages of the children of this marriage, and it is interesting to note that the children appear to have respected family tradition by marrying into other military families. Their eldest son, John Blandford Latta, served in the R.A.F. during WWII, was awarded a M.M. and was lost in action on 12 January, 1941, during The Battle of Britain.



Source, Vancouver Sun, 20 September 1966

William Smith Latta was cremated and buried at Royal Oak Cemetery, Victoria, B.C.

## References accessed for this article

Traces of War: <https://www.tracesofwar.com/awards/9/Distinguished-Service-Order-DSO.htm?abc=M>  
Distinguished Service Order: <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/medals-decorations/details/40>  
Orders and Decorations: <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/medals-decorations/medal-type/4>  
Library of Canada: CEF Military Record  
Ancestry.ca: Genealogical Data including Military appointments  
B.C. Vital Events database: Royal B.C. Museum  
Longtail Website: <https://www.longlongtrail.co.uk/battles/battles-of-the-western-front-in-france-and-flanders/the-arras-offensive-1917-battle-of-arras/>  
Find a Grave Website: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/196273304/william-smith-latta>  
Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/29th\\_Battalion\\_\(Vancouver\),\\_CEF](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/29th_Battalion_(Vancouver),_CEF)  
Vancouver Sun, 18 September 1918, page 7  
Vancouver Sun, 3 March 1919, page 5  
Vancouver Province, 4 August 1931, page 16  
Vancouver Sun, 20 September 1966, page 10  
Swift & Strong, Leblanc/Maxwell.Snow/Deschenes, 2011, page 130

## **CANADIAN MILITARY INTERNEES IN SWITZERLAND DURING WORLD WAR 1**

By Mike Richardson

You may be surprised to know that during the First World War, a number of Canadian Army soldiers who had fought on the Western Front, subsequently completed their wartime service living in hotels in the snowy mountains of Switzerland. This short article explains how this extraordinary situation came about, and describes the experience of one such Canadian soldier who hailed from British Columbia.

The exchange of badly wounded prisoners of war (PWs) between the Allies and Germany took place throughout World War 1, some through the neutral countries of Holland and Switzerland, but it is not broadly known that many servicemen from both sides who had been made PWs remained in those neutral countries, serving out the war as internees; in uniform, under military discipline but required to remain there until the war's end.

This remarkable scheme was the outcome of a proposal by the International Committee of the Red Cross. As one element of it, the Swiss Government offered to hold as internees those prisoners from either side who were less wounded or unwell and might, if they re-joined their armies, become useful again. Such prisoners would remain in Switzerland throughout the war and any who escaped would be returned by their own side. This plan suited the Swiss Government admirably. As well as consolidating Switzerland's neutrality, the prospect of filling holiday hotels emptied by the war with persons whose governments would foot the bill, was an appealing one.





Pte Kenneth Foyster  
(Author's collection)

Reciprocal agreements were signed between Germany, France, Belgium and Britain. The system required wounded PWs to appear before a board of Swiss and host-nation judges and the lucky ones were chosen. But the selection process was rigorous and rejection heart-breaking, as it condemned the individual to further years of deprivation and monotony in his PW camp. The first batches of French and German prisoners arrived in Switzerland in early 1916, and thereafter Britain joined the scheme. By the end of the war, nearly 68,000 men from all sides had been brought to Switzerland for internment.

Within the allied parties so selected were many Canadians, and the first of these reached Switzerland in May 1916. They included Kenneth Foyster, a private soldier in the 7<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Battalion (1<sup>st</sup> British Columbia), who lived in Victoria, BC. An out-of-work mining engineer, he had joined the 88<sup>th</sup> Regiment (Victoria Fusiliers) in mid-1914, a militia regiment which had been mobilised and ordered to restore peace during a Vancouver Island miners' strike. Soon after Kenneth enlisted, war between Britain and Germany was declared and he duly signed up for wartime service. Becoming a member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Division, he trained at Valcartier in 1914, then crossed the Atlantic to England and thence deployed with his battalion to France, taking part in the April 1915 Second Battle of Ypres, in which the untried Canadian force greatly distinguished itself. During the heat of the battle, Kenneth was shot through the arm and captured. He ended up in a PW camp at Göttingen in Lower Saxony.

The camp ran a harsh regime, but as Kenneth's arm did not heal, he eventually became eligible for the internment scheme. Happily, he was selected and he arrived in Switzerland in August 1916. On their arrival and during their passage to their final destinations, the internees were amazed to be welcomed by thousands of Swiss along the way, a sharp contrast with the severe conditions in their PW camps.

Kenneth was sent to the alpine holiday resort of Mürren, where his arm eventually healed. There, he and his comrades spent the last two years of the war, accommodated in hotels but under a military regimen. They were comfortable and safe, but not allowed to return home until the war's end. The internees engaged in a host of activities to stave off boredom and even received visits from their relations, who travelled there across western France. But in Switzerland they were required to remain. Sadly, as it did universally, the influenza pandemic arrived in 1918 and a number of internees died as a result. Kenneth returned to Victoria in 1919, eventually becoming a Vancouver schoolmaster.



Mürren in the early 1900s  
(Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division,  
Photochrom Collection LC-DIG-ppmsc-07039)



You can read Kenneth Foyster's unique story in my book *'Keeping The Old Flag Flying'*, based on his vivid memoir. It describes Kenneth's fascinating journey from BC to Europe, his stirring part in 2<sup>nd</sup> Ypres, his time as a PW and internee, and his life thereafter. You'll meet a host of legendary and idiosyncratic characters along the way.



Internees at Mürren – Kenneth Foyster behind the Bishop's left shoulder  
(Courtesy of Bruce Taylor)

*'Keeping the Old Flag Flying'* can be purchased as a paperback, or as a digital download via your App Store.

The digital version is widely available, including at [Nook Books](#), [Kindle](#) and [Apple Books](#).

The paperback is available through a broad range of online booksellers, including [Amazon](#), [Barnes and Noble](#) and [Waterstones](#). [The Book Depository](#) offers free delivery worldwide.

Spiderwize, Peterborough 2018. ISBN: 978-1-912694-39-6, eBook ISBN: 978-1-912694-40-2.

## DUKE'S DEN



Wishing everyone  
a very  
Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year!





**The BC Regiment (DCO) Association  
Annual Dues – 2022**

Fellow Duke,

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

Please complete the information section so that our information is current. In addition, also ensure that your military service information has been forwarded to us so that your information is current military service remembered.

Also, please provide us with your current e-mail address.

**NOTE: Please return this form and your payment to 682 Wilmot Street, Coquitlam, B.C. V3J 6P4. Do not tear-off any portion of the form.**

Many thanks

**Personal Information Up-date:**

Service Number \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse/Partner Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone No. (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print your e-mail address clearly.

**Donations to The BC Regiment (DCO) Association Charitable Trust**

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

1. Annual Dues: **\$40.00** \_\_\_\_\_  
Payable to: THE BCR (DCO) ASSOCIATION

2. Charitable Trust Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Payable to: THE BCR (DCO) CHARITABLE TRUST

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

Up the Dukes.



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



**CHALLENGE COIN**  
\$20.00 (plus postage)



**SWIFT & STRONG**  
\$50.00 (plus postage)

## ASSOCIATION KIT SHOP

The BCR Kit Shop is now online:

<http://www.canex.ca/military/military-kit-shops/army-kit-shops.html?cat=1262>

You can now buy a BCR tie, blazer crest, lapel pin, hoodie and PT Shirts (male and female option) through Canex online. You pay online and they are shipped direct to you.

The blazer crest is available online at <http://www.canex.ca/british-columbia-regiment-blazercrest.html>

The Kit Shop has the following items for sale:

1. Mini Guidons – estimated cost is \$130.00 – in stock.
2. **NEW:** BCR cap badge on cuff links, pens and pocket watch.
3. **NEW:** BCR flag (36" x 72") - \$150.00

To place an order, please e-mail [KitShop@DukeABear.com](mailto:KitShop@DukeABear.com)



Mini Guidons



Cuff Links  
\$35.00



Pen  
\$25.00



Pocket Watch  
\$105.00



## ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

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

## TRUSTEES OF THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST

Don Bentley Andy Conradi Bill Diamond (Secretary) Ted Hawthorne (Chair)	Bill Ireland Bill McCarthy Archie Steacy
--	--

## ASSOCIATION SPECIAL PROJECTS

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

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

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

## NOTICE TO ALL PROVINCIAL EMPLOYEES

The Provincial Employees Community Services Fund (“PECSF”) is registered with Canada Revenue Agency’s Charities Directorate as a Charitable Employee Trust. Each year the PECSF runs a fundraising campaign for provincial government employees throughout BC. Please consider designating the BCR Charitable Trust when supporting this program.

# REMEMBRANCE

## IN MEMORY OF AGNES KEEGAN

**WW II Veteran, Life member of the Royal Canadian Legion,  
Army Navy Air Force Veterans Association of Canada and  
long time SGT. at Arms of ANAF Unit #100.**



**SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 1920 ~ OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**

**Agnes passed away peacefully at the grand old age of 101  
on Sunday afternoon at The Cottage Palliative Care facility  
in Vancouver on October 17th, 2021.**

**Details of her Celebration of Life to follow.**



### EDITOR'S NOTE:

The following Face Book Post by The Army Cadet League of Canada on 19 October 2021 announcing the passing of Honorary Captain Agnes Keegan is reproduced verbatim herein with the kind permission of the League.

### Army Cadet League of Canada

The ACLC BC Branch is deeply saddened with the news of Agnes's passing. She was an amazing volunteer to the 2290 RCACC. She will be greatly missed.





## **Army Cadet League of Canada - La Ligue des cadets de l'Armée du Canada**

It is with sadness that we learn of Mrs. Agnes Keegan's passing.

Mrs. Keegan was a long-time dedicated volunteer of the 2290 BCR (Duke of Connaught's Own), RCACC and supporter of our BC Branch. The ACLC wishes to send its' sincere condolences to her family and the BC Branch members who worked with this wonderful lady.

Her exceptional and generous volunteer service will be remembered.

Photo: September 2020 - Agnes Keegan (right), pictured with Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne celebrating her 100th birthday.

Army Cadet League of British Columbia

### **IN MEMORY OF HONORARY CAPTAIN AGNES KEEGAN 1920-2021**

Louise and I have had the pleasure and honour of knowing Agnes Keegan for nearly 35 years. She first came into our lives when I assumed command of the 2290 BCR RCACC in 1986. For many years prior to my arrival, she had been the Legion Rep for the 2290 for several years. While on one of her many visits, she recognized a need for Cadet CO help with non-Cadet training items like Cadet canteens, preparing food for Cadets on day training exercises, and soliciting funds from the Legion and other sources. This was well before the Army Cadet League even thought of Parent Support Committees. She sought out help from Cadet parents to help with these and other tasks in order to take the pressure off serving COs.

Around 1972, the late Roy Rigby Jones formed a BC Committee to start Parent Support Committees in every BC Army Cadet Corps. Today, many Cadet Corps across Canada have such Committees strongly supported and governed by The Army Cadet League of Canada. I have



always maintained that Agnes Keegan was a real pioneer when it came to Army Cadet Corps Support Committees. I also learned in the early days of my Command not to get into a discussion with her about her role. She knew her job and was not about to take any advice from me. She would say, "Tell me what you need and I will make it happen."

Right to the end of her long and productive life, she was there for our Cadets - in any way possible.

I would be very remiss if I didn't mention her good friend, Chuck Davey. Chuck was there for Agnes whenever she needed him - from driving her to Cadets, to ANAVETS, to the Doctor, or to hairdresser appointments, Chuck was there for her. And, whenever she needed someone to talk to, Chuck was there too. Thank you, Chuck, from the bottom of our hearts.

She was a WW2 Veteran, a proud Scot, and a proud Canadian who led a life of service to others. We will all miss Agnes very much.

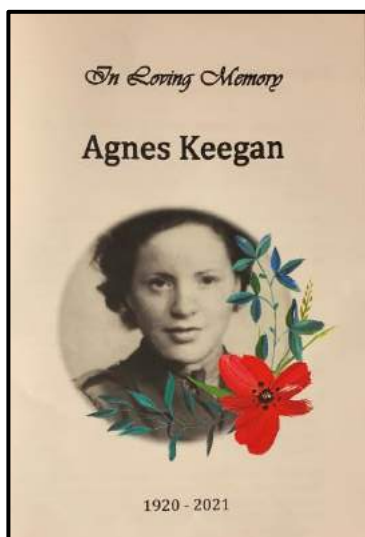
Up the Dukes!

Retired Major Roger Prouse CD and Mrs. Louise Prouse

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR  
HONORARY CAPTAIN AGNES KEEGAN  
ANAVETS UNIT #100, KINGSWAY  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
21 NOVEMBER 2021**

The Regimental Family remembered the service, dedication and sacrifice of our dear friend and colleague, WWII Veteran, BCR Honorary Captain Agnes Keegan, at a Celebration of Life hosted by ANAVETS, Unit #100, in Vancouver in the early afternoon of Sunday, 21 November 2021.

It was a full house, by COVID-19 standards, complete with a Flag Party compliments of the Cadets from 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC, OC Captain Marek, a Piper, a Memories Slideshow, an Open Microphone with many speakers, including the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, and the Regimental Sergeant Major, CWO Tony Harris, a medley of Piper's Tunes (favourites of Agnes), food service and a reception. Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond and Incoming RSM, MWO Arnold Matibag, were also in attendance, along with many members of the Regimental Association and the Support Committee.





Thank you to our friends at ANAVETS for the memorable service of remembrance for Sgt-at-Arms Agnes Keegan.

We will remember her.

Up the Dukes!









## **THE PASSING OF CORPORAL (RET'D) JASON VILLENEUVE 25 OCTOBER 2021**

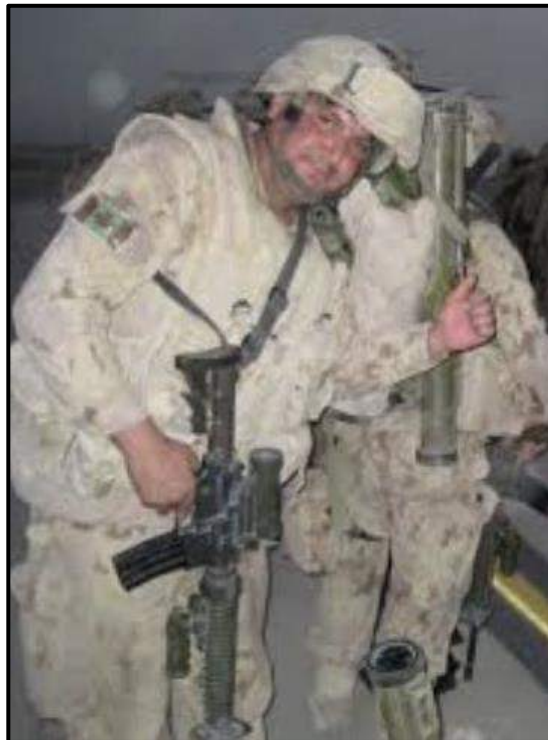
Fellow Dukes.

The Regimental Family is saddened by the news of the passing today of Corporal (Ret'd) Jason Villeneuve due to medical complications. Corporal Villeneuve served in Afghanistan on two tours, TF 1-08 and TF 3-09, along with a number of other members of the Regiment.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Corporal Villeneuve and may he now rest in peace.

We will remember him.

Up the Dukes!



## IN MEMORIAM



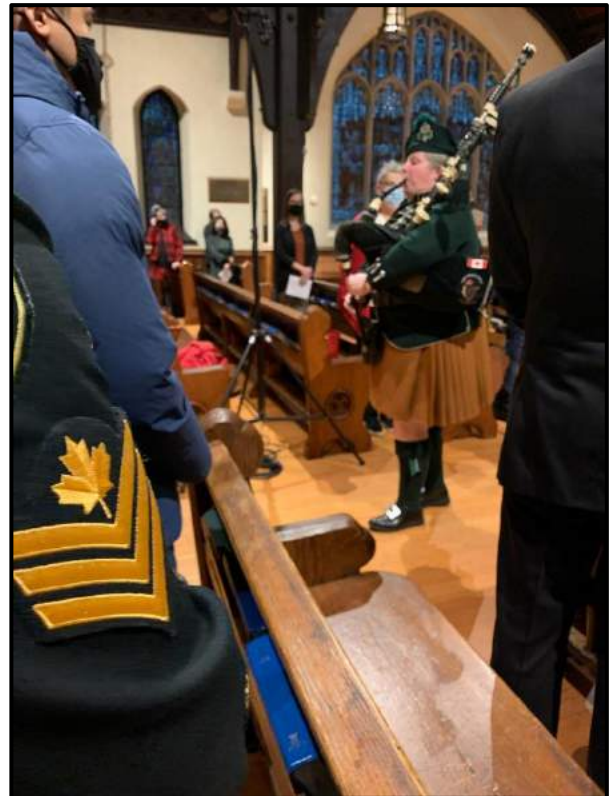
Submitted by: Cpl. James Alexander



Attended by many family and friends, and members of the CAF community, a Celebration of Life was held at Vancouver's Christ Church Cathedral on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, in tribute of Cpl. Jason Villeneuve's memory and the family he leaves behind. Jason was a proud member of the Regimental family having served as a reservist within The BC Regiment (DCO), completing two tours to Afghanistan and contributing to the promotion of the Veterans Transition Network, a program designed to support military members in their return to civilian life.



The Very Reverend Chris Pappas, Dean and Rector, presided over a touching ceremony in the church that brought together several stories and remembrances in thanksgiving for the life of Jason. Heartfelt contributions from Jason's Father, Marcel, and close friends, (and ex BCR's) Tim Laidler, and Ana Adamik, brought somber moments to the ceremony which was also complemented by Bugle Major Chris Ahern, Pipe Sgt. Rosalie MacDonald, and music from the Church choir and organist.



While a solemn experience for those in attendance, the countless tales and memories shared between friends brought smiles and laughter to the reception that followed the ceremony, truly in celebration of Jason's life. Stories of Jason's work to assist Afghan interpreters in their journeys to Canada, as well as lighter examples of adventures, travel, and shenanigans with friends filled the room. As everyone shared the impact that Jason had on their lives, the experience of grief also allowed room for moments of joy, something Jason was able to bring in life, and in memory.

At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember him. Rest in peace, Jason.



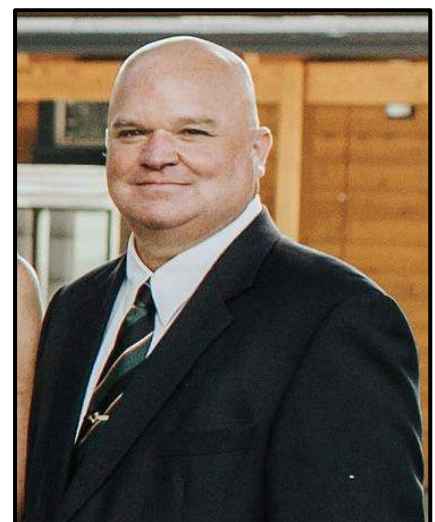
## TROOPER PATRICK J. WHALEN

**PASSED AWAY NOVEMBER 2021**

### **President's Comments:**

I have included a notice regarding the sudden passing about two weeks ago of one of our former Troopers, Patrick Whalen, whom I recruited back about 1984 or 85. Brother of Lt (Ret'd) Bill Whalen, our Museum President, Patrick completed his basic training in Vernon as part of the Summer Youth Employment Programme and completed his Recce Crewman's Course (TQ 1 as it was known back then) with the Regiment. He served about three years with the BCR.

As you can see in the photograph, Patrick was proud of his service with the Regiment. Our condolences go out to the Whalen family for their loss.



**BCR (DCO) 1984 – 1987**





## **ASLEEP**

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