



THE DUKE

Volume 3, Issue 30
March 2023



MARCH 2023

Inside this issue:

Jan 2023 Events.....	2-22
Feb 2023 Events.....	23-48
Mar 2023 Events.....	49-82
The Barrett Bunker.....	82-84
Duke's Den.....	84-86
Museum Society.....	86-97
Association Kit Shop.....	97
Remembrance.....	98
Asleep.....	98-102



Published by The BC Regiment (DCO) Association
682 Wilmot Street, Coquitlam, BC, V3J 6P4
Email: Association@dukeabear.com

**Articles,
Announcements
&
News Releases**

Editor's Note: The first three months of 2023 have passed quickly, and the BCR Regimental Association Battlefield Tour in May is just over a month away, as is the burial in early June by the Regiment of two of our fallen soldiers from the Battle of Hill 70 in August 1917. Sadly, this edition notes the passing of several of our comrades including former HCol Bill Ireland, Cpl Hothi, former Association President Bob Fearnley, and our last surviving veteran of World War Two, L/Cpl Charlie Barnhardt.

The Duke is only as good as the articles we receive, so we encourage our readers to send in pictures, with stories of the BCR or other event which you feel would interest our readers. Please note that the chapters from January until the end of March captures the activities from The BCR Weekly News previously published, minus invitations, and that new articles on Regimental history, activities, and remembrance well worth your reading are enclosed afterwards. On a personal note, I wish to thank all those who have contributed historical articles for publication, especially Ted Hawthorne who is Editor Emeritus of this publication and is at the heart of many of the articles, and Mr. Don Manning, from our BCR Museum Society, who finds and researches many historical articles focusing on our soldiers so that their memory is not lost.

Jim

LCol (Ret'd) JD Barrett, CD
Editor 'The Duke'

JANUARY

NEW YEARS LEVEE 1 JANUARY 2023

The Canadian Tradition of Levee is an old one, and a perfect opportunity to visit friends and other units in the local Garrison. The BCR contingent of 'early risers' included Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond, President of the Association, Jim Barrett and Chairman of the Charitable Trust, Ted Hawthorne). Our first stop was the Wardroom of HMCS Discovery. The CO of HMCS Discovery, Lieutenant-Commander Rebecca Hardie welcomed us to her unit, and we met up with many colleagues and friends including Dr. John Blatherwick, King Wan, Mark Zwanski (Friends of Vancouver), including a strong contingent from NOABC. The wardroom was open to all ranks for Levee and was very well attended. Many thanks to Commander Hardie for the extraordinary welcome and reception.



The group then proceeded to Bessborough Armoury to visit the 15th Field Artillery Regiment, RCA where Levee was held in the WO's & Sgts' Mess and was hosted by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Nick Watts. Many thanks to the Gunners for a most enjoyable time indeed!



L-R: Jim Barrett, HCol Farid Rohani, Capt Stocker, BCR, HLCol Bill Diamond, HCol Al DeGenova, Ted Hawthorne outside Bessborough Armoury

The next stop of the day was paid to the Officers' Mess of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada with the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Kent Wickens, hosting the event. Also, in attendance was Major-General Rob Roy MacKenzie, Chief of Reserves. Many thanks to our Seaforth friends for such a great time and thank you to Major Steve McNally for the first-class tour of the newly renovated Officers' Mess, a "show piece" for sure!



The last stop on the Levee Tour was at 39 Service Battalion in Richmond where the event was held in the Officers' Mess and was hosted by Lieutenant-Colonel Anh Foort.



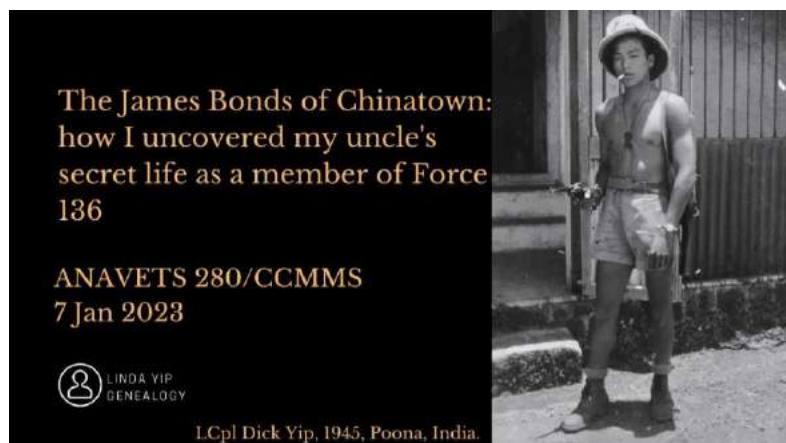
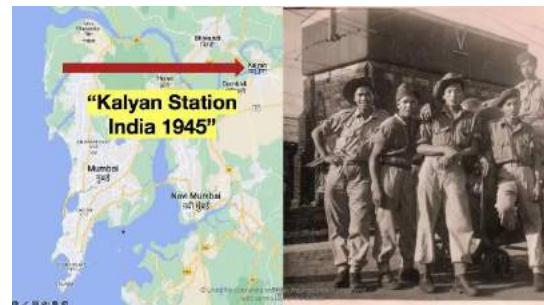
We were also pleased to visit with 39 Brigade Sergeant Major, CWO Tony Harris, and 39 Service Battalion Regimental Secretary LCol (Ret'd) Will Watkins. The Levee Tour was a complete success with Vancouver weather cooperating for a mild and sometimes sunny day.

Happy New Year and Up the Dukes!

CHINESE CANADIAN MILITARY MUSEUM SOCIETY AND ANAVETS, PACIFIC UNIT NO. 280 7 JANUARY 2023

The Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit # 280 program for the morning forum on ZOOM commenced with special guest speaker, Linda Yip, APG, writer, photographer, storyteller, and genealogist, delivering an excellent presentation which provided an overview of her amazing research project entitled **The James Bonds of Chinatown - how I uncovered my uncle's secret life as a member of Force 136**, which took fifteen years to complete. The host, King Wan, thanked Linda for her most informative account. The presentation was followed by an extensive and thorough Q&A session with many members expressing their admiration and thanks for such an impressive address.





Following the guest speaker, the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit No. 280 held their respective regular monthly business meetings. The meeting for ANAVETS was chaired

by President King Wan, and the meeting of CCMMS was chaired by the President, Judge (Ret'd) Randall Wong.

Thank you ANAVETS and CCMMS for their continuing service and dedication to our veterans and to the community!

2022 FOOD BANK PROGRAM SANCTA MARIA HOUSE DELIVERY - 12 JANUARY 2023

The collection of an impressive array of canned goods and non-perishable food donated by the members of the Regiment and the Regimental Family during the Christmas Season was delivered to a very grateful Sancta Maria House (Agape Street Ministry), a women's shelter in Kitsilano, on Thursday morning, 12 January 2023. Vice President of the Regimental Association, Ted Hawthorne, was greeted by the House Parent, Yvonne Rodriguez, who thanked the Regiment and the Regimental Family for their annual support. Ted conveyed greetings from the Regiment and Regimental Family, presented a very generous donation cheque from our very own Chuck Davey, in memory of our good friend and colleague, WWII Veteran, Agnes Keegan and thanked Sancta Maria House for their good work.



Many thanks to the Regiment, the Ops Staff, in particular Kudos to Warrant Officer Gerri Davidson for her great assistance and support during a very busy day at the Drill Hall, the Regimental Family and our friends at HPLaw, ReMax Generations Real Estate Partners and ReMax, Central in Calgary, for their generous support of this important community outreach program.

Congratulations to Sancta Maria House for their great community service.

Up the Dukes!



REMEMBRANCE SERVICE NOAH PANGALIA 14 JANUARY 2023

On Saturday, the 14th of January 2023, a multi-faith Memorial Service was held at the BC Regimental Drill Hall to remember the tragic passing of Noah Pangalia, 19-year-old son of Captain Dil Pangalia, CD (former CO of 2290 BCR RCACC) and Jenifer Ali. Over sixty family and guests attended along with past and present members of 2290 BCR Cadet Corps including former Cadet RSM Robert Ernie, Capt (Ret'd) Archie Pow, Capt (Ret'd) John More, LCol (Ret'd) Bruce Kadonoff and LCol (Ret'd) Jim Barrett, Maj (Ret'd) Roger Prouse, and Maj (Ret'd) Russ Lacey. From 2290 BCR were Capt Jordan Liang and Lt Roger Wong and several cadets as well as members from the Support Committee. HCol Farid Rohani, HLCol Bill Diamond, LCol Vince Virk, RSM Arn Matibag attended in support. Maj Govind Reddy from the Regional Cadet Support Headquarters is to be thanked for his assistance to the family.

The ceremony was jointly presided over by the Regiment's padre, The Very Reverend Christopher Pappas and Mr Giani Harmindar Singh. Both Dil and Jennifer spoke about the life of Noah. The Last Post and Rouse was played by the BCR Bugle-Major Chris Ahern and The Lament by BCR Piper Rich Nicol. The CO, LCol Vincent Virk, spoke on behalf of the Regiment and the Regimental family to the many in attendance. A reception followed with family, friends and many of the Regimental Family visiting in remembrance of Noah.

Our thanks to the Regimental Staff who attended and set up for the service.

Noah will be remembered.





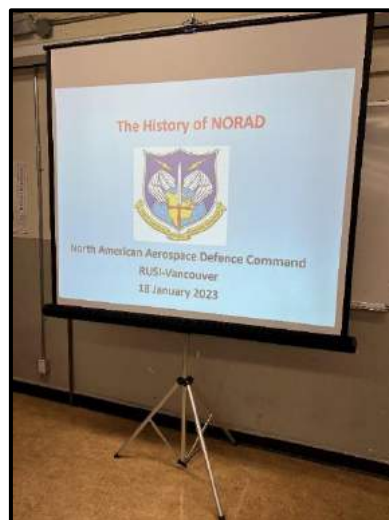
Pangalia and Regimental Families

**ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE, VANCOUVER
OFFICERS' MESS 15th FIELD REGIMENT, RCA
BESSBOROUGH ARMOURY
THE 2023 RUSI, VANCOUVER SPEAKERS SERIES
18 JANUARY 2023**

The outstanding presentation of Colonel (Ret'd) Keith Maxwell, OMM, CD, on the topic of "The History of NORAD" was the first in the series of speakers of the RUSI Vancouver Speakers Program for the first part of 2023. Colonel Maxwell, the President of RUSI, Vancouver, in addition to the extensive and very interesting history of NORAD during the Cold War, also spoke of the "...plans for a major upgrade of NORAD's sensors, communications and weapons systems to maintain its capabilities for another generation." A thorough Q & A followed to conclude the "not to be missed event." The presentation was preceded by the first catered luncheon (roast beef, gravy, vegetables, dessert, tea and coffee) since the start of the Pandemic in 2020 and it was a complete "sell out."



Congratulations to RUSI, Vancouver for the excellent speaker series and kudos to our good friend and colleague, Keith Maxwell, for his solid historical presentation!





Maj (Ret'd) Peter Moogk

Editor's Note: Peter Moogk was presented with the **Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers** by the Minister of Fisheries, The Honourable Joyce Murray, at a brief ceremony in the WOs' & Sgts' Mess held prior to the luncheon. Congratulations Peter!

RUSI Vancouver Presentation – 18 January 2023

RUSI Vancouver will hold its first event since the start of the pandemic as we all try to return to normal (with precautions). There will be a catered lunch at the Bessborough Armoury Officers' Mess, starting at noon, followed by a presentation at 1330hrs. Our presenter, Professor Jim Boutilier, has cancelled for health reasons so our President, Keith Maxwell, will step in with a presentation on the history of NORAD including plans for a major upgrade of NORAD's sensors, communications and weapons systems to maintain its capabilities for another generation.

Col Keith Maxwell OMM CD



Col Keith Maxwell is the President of RUSI Vancouver. His military career began in the Militia in 1968. Two years later he joined the PPCLI and was subsequently commissioned in 1973. After transferring to the Air Force in 1977 he served in a number of NORAD posts. Col Maxwell flew as AWACS crewmember for 15 years carrying out intercept operations against Soviet flights into North American airspace on many occasions. After serving in three NORAD Regional HQs, he was subsequently posted to NORAD HQ in Colorado as Director of the Air Defence Operations Centre. While at HQ NORAD he served in the NORAD Command Post providing strategic and tactical early warning of SCUD missile launches from Iraq in the 1991 Gulf War. Following this Col Maxwell joined Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), in Mons, Belgium as the Chief of Air Command & Control. He retired in 1998, joining the NATO International Staff in Air Command and Control Policy and Technology. Col Maxwell has a History degree from the University of Manitoba and graduated from the Canadian Forces Staff School, the US Air Force Air War College and the CF Senior Defence and Security Studies Program. He was appointed as an Officer in the Order of Military Merit (OMM) in 1989 while serving at Alaskan NORAD Region.

Wednesday Lunch – Jan 18, 2023

Lunch will consist of Roast Beef (Sirloin Tip), mashed potatoes (with gravy), mixed carrots and peppers with a small selection of desserts. The bar will be open as usual. Lunch will be restricted to 30 attendees. (If there is a good response that limit may be raised to 40.)

Lunch starts at **1200hrs**, Keith's presentation in the lecture room at **1330hrs**

Cost will be \$25 per person. **Reservations and payment in advance is required.**

Those wishing to attend must RSVP to dgfoster60@gmail.com and confirm their attendance by **prepaying** for their lunch tickets by 13 January. ePayment may be made to:- 15real100th@gmail.com

For further information, contact HLCol Don Foster at (604)809-6242 or dgfoster60@gmail.com

2781 BCR (DCO) POWELL RIVER CO'S MESSAGE JANUARY 2023

A new year and new opportunities for our cadets. We've just received the new release of the Re-Scope for the cadet program. I'm currently reading through the Training Management Guide and will be communicating to our cadets and parents what will be upcoming for the 2023-24 year in the program. From first blush it looks like some fantastic updates that will make the program more flexible for our cadets and still allow them to

have an incredible experience! We have some training calls to go through first - when we know, you know.



Congratulation to our cadets who received their promotions on January 18. Even though they missed the Xmas potluck and promotions at that time, they had the opportunity to be presented with their promotions and swag!



Promotion to Cpl – Trooper Strickland



Promotion to Trooper for both Bajwa Brothers

The first week of January was full of snow and shooting – Our cadets attended a biathlon competition on Mount Washington. Congratulations for a great effort and fabulous training.



Drop and Shoot



Powell River Biathlon Team

**CHINESE NEW YEAR PARADE &
VANCOUVER CHINATOWN SPRING FESTIVAL PARADE
YEAR OF THE RABBIT
22 JANUARY 2023**



The 48th annual Vancouver Chinatown Spring Festival Lunar New Year Parade took place in Vancouver's historic Chinatown on Sunday morning at 11:00, the first Lunar New Year Parade held in Chinatown since 2020 (due to the Pandemic). It was an overcast Vancouver day (5 Celsius) with attendance along the parade route in the thousands.



The signature event featured traditional lion dance teams, cultural dance troupes, marching bands, martial arts performances, and a strong showing of cadets.





The 1.3 km parade route started at the Millennium Gate on Pender Street (between Shanghai Alley and Taylor Street), proceeding along Pender turning south onto Gore Street, turning west on Keefer Street and ending at Keefer and Carrall.





Former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne paraded with ANAVETS, Pacific Unit No. 280, the lead entry in the parade along with 73 other entries this year: a record. Vintage Army vehicles compliments of Western Command Military Vehicle Historical Society followed ANAVETS and transported some of the veterans.



The customary Veterans Luncheon at Floata Seafood Restaurant on Keefer followed the parade and was hosted by King Wong and Kelly Kwong. A wonderful time was had by all!

Happy New Year!

2827 BCR (DCO) PORT MOODY SNOWSHOEING DAY CYPRESS MOUNTAIN 21 JANUARY 2023

From Capt Dean McJennan, CO of our BCR Port Moody Cadet Corps we learn that they had a very successful day up on the mountain where they ran into 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) at the warming hut on Cypress Mountain. A group photo was taken with 2290 BCR, who were being led by Capt Laing (10 cadets) and Port Moody had 26 cadets, 3 staff members including the CO, Lt. T. LU and OCdt M. Dailey. The cadets worked hard and had a lot of fun, weather was great with snow coming down the entire trip. They estimated that they traversed +8km.





THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST ENVISION FINANCIAL PRESENTATION 23 JANUARY 2023

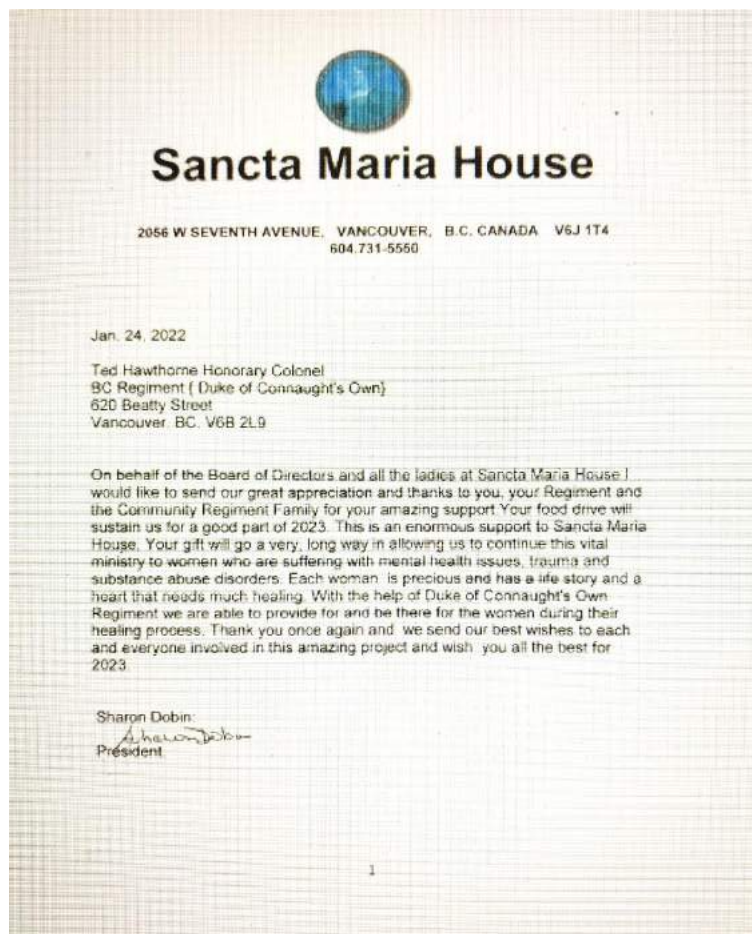
The Chairman of the Charitable Trust and Former Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, attended at the offices of Envision Financial in Surrey and was greeted by members of the Envision Management Team (Robert Deol, Tim McMorran and Kristen Tremblay). In a brief ceremony, Ted was presented with a cheque in support of the Charitable Trust and its very successful programs for the Soldiers of the Regiment, Cadets and Veterans pursuant to “The Tochi Sandhu Legacy Program”. After the ceremony, all in attendance adjourned to the very popular **Tasty Indian Bistro** on 120th Street where everyone enjoyed a wonderful lunch with our very good friend, colleague and supporter of the Regimental Family for many years, Tochi Sandhu.



Thank you to Envision, their Management Team and Tochi Sandhu for their ongoing support and generosity!

Up the Dukes!

Editor's Note: The Envision presentation concludes the Annual Fundraising Program for 2022. The Charitable Trust wishes to acknowledge and thank its many supporters in the Regimental Family and the Community, as we have once again achieved our fundraising goal notwithstanding the difficult times.



Friends of HMCS Vancouver 28 Jan 2023

Good day ladies and gentlemen,

As you are aware, last month in December our Ship HMCS Vancouver returned to their home base Esquimalt. Attached is a U TUBE Holiday Message to HMCS Vancouver from Singer, Actor Alexander Ludwig. Alexander is originally from Vancouver and a big supporter of the military and specifically HMCS Vancouver. You might recognize Alexander from the series Vikings or movie Lone Survivor as well as many other films. Many thanks to Christopher Bennett for organizing this short video. As some of you might recall just before the Ship deployed, Alexander also took part in HMCS Vancouver, Bell Let's Talk Day



Please find attached the first 2023 edition and first since returning from deployment of *Battle Cats Broadcast*, our periodic newsletter to keep our greatest supporters informed along the journey of our deployment.

Warm Regards,

Mark Zwanski
Friends of HMCS Vancouver

Editor's Note: The latest edition of 'Battle Cats' will be attached to your mailing as a separate PDF for your reading enjoyment.

**LUNAR NEW YEAR VISIT AND
CENTENNARY YEAR CELEBRATION
PEGGY LEE
BROADWAY LODGE, VANCOUVER, B.C.
ST. JOHN AMBULANCE
29 JANUARY 2023**

Members of St. John Ambulance and former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne attended at Broadway Lodge (on Lamey's Mill Road near Granville Island) to join in the celebration of the Lunar New Year and to usher in the Centennial Year Celebration for World War II Veteran Peggy Lee. Richard Liu, MStJ, Honorary Brigade Division President, Burnaby Division, was MC for the brief ceremony and presented Peggy with Official Greetings from the Prime Minister along with special gifts and keepsakes. Former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne followed and conveyed special greetings from the Regimental Association and the Regimental Family and presented Peggy with his Regimental Coin to mark the special occasion. Congratulations Peggy and thank you for your service!





Editor's Note: Richard Liu, MStJ, has provided a brief history of Peggy's service, as follows:

"Mrs. Peggy Lee of Prince Rupert, who moved to Vancouver to join St. John Ambulance at 19, served in a civil defence unit called the Women's Ambulance Corps until the end of the Second World War. Her platoon was unique in that it consisted entirely of 20 Chinese women, the only one in all of North America. As the youngest member, Peggy and her platoon, Second Company of Platoon A, were drilled at the Seaforth Armoury in downtown Vancouver, and became comprehensive nurses, firefighters, and stretcher-bearers. They proudly paraded down East Georgia Street in Chinatown, and across to the Beatty Street Drill Hall for inspection. Peggy was the youngest member of this platoon and is now the only surviving member of her platoon at 99 years young (in late-2022)."

February

CHINESE CANADIAN MILITARY MUSEUM SOCIETY AND ANAVETS, PACIFIC UNIT NO. 280 4 FEBRUARY 2023

The Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit # 280 program for the morning forum on ZOOM commenced with special guest speaker, Captain D.L. ("Door") Gibson, MMM, CD,

(Retired), delivering an excellent presentation on “Black History in Canada and Black Canadians in the Canadian Forces” which included a special segment on the 2 Construction Battalion, CEF and the Victoria Pioneer Rifle Corps.



Capt (Ret'd) DL Gibson, MMM, CD



D.L. (Door) Gibson, MMM, CD

Captain (Retired)

Presents to

**The Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans
(ANAVETS) Pacific Unit # 280**

&

**The Chinese Canadian Military Museum
Society**

4th February 2023

Black Military Canadians in the Canadian Armed Forces

No. 2 Construction Battalion

On 5 July 1916, the Department of Defence and Militia authorized the formation of No. 2 Construction Battalion

The battalion was disbanded on 15 September 1920 as Militia Headquarters dissolved the Canadian Expeditionary Force.



No. 2 Construction Battalion



Black History in Canada

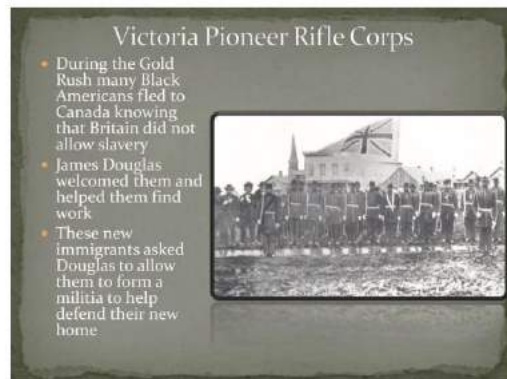
- What happened on Feb 7 in Black history?
- On Feb. 7, 1926, Carter G. Woodson, initiated the first celebration of Negro History Week which led to Black History Month, to extend and deepen the study and scholarship on African American history, all year long.



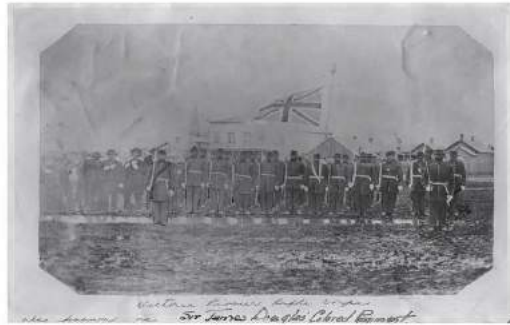
Black Military Canadians in the Canadian Armed Forces

Victoria Pioneer Rifle Corps

- July 1861 with about 50 Black men
- By the spring of 1865, the unit disbanded in disgust



Victoria Pioneer Rifle Corps



The host, King Wan, thanked Door for her most powerful and informative account on the topic of Black Canadians in the CAF and her career in the CAF. The presentation was followed by an extensive and thorough Q&A session with all members expressing their thanks for such an impressive address. Following the guest speaker, the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit No. 280 held their respective regular monthly business meetings. The meeting for ANAVETS was chaired by President King Wan, and the meeting of CCMMS was chaired by the President, Judge (Ret'd) Randall Wong.



Thank you ANAVETS and CCMMS for their continuing service and dedication to our veterans and to the community!

Captain D.L. (Door) Gibson, M.M.M., C.D. (Retired)



Ms. Gibson was born in Halifax Nova Scotia, into a mosaic loving family. While growing up in Herring Cove, a coastal village, Ms Gibson experienced the lives and dismantling of Africville by city officials, creating a diaspora of a Black community in 1967. This was the foundation for Ms. Gibson as she continues to stand up for the rights of individuals, seeking justice and equality.

September 1973 Ms. Gibson enrolled in the Canadian Forces Army Reserve, 723 Communications Squadron in Halifax, NS. In 1975 re-mustered from Radio Operator to Mobile Support Equipment Operator (MSE OP) and transferred to 110 Transport Company. Trained in MTC Aldershot, Kentville, NS and CFB Gagetown, NB, rising to the rank of Warrant Officer in 1983. From 1984-1986 was a Platoon Warrant for a Canadian Youth Program Katimavik – Military Option in MTC Aldershot. The Katimavik Program's Diversity was the steppingstone for a future passion of equality and inclusion in the workplace.

From 1986 to 1991, as G3 Task at Atlantic Militia Area (AMA) HQ, a highlight being of augmenting the Regular Force with 300 Reservists within 48 hours during the OKA CRISIS. After, the Canadian Armed Forces Restructure from AMA to Land Forces Atlantic Area in 1991, Ms. Gibson, transferred to 11 (Victoria) Service Battalion. In 1992 promoted to Master Warrant Officer became Company Sergeant Major (CSM) for Supply and Transport Coy. Followed by CSM Admin Coy at MTC Dundurn, Sask. In 1993, then CSM for Transportation Coy in support of 39 Canadian Brigade Group Gun Camps in Yakima 1992 to 1994 and Fort Lewis 1995 to 2000. In 1998 transferred to 11 (Victoria) Medical (Med Coy) as Service Platoon Commander and in 1999 promoted to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer and appointed Regimental Sergeant Major of 11 Med Coy. In 2003 after the Health Services Group was established in the CF, Ms. Gibson had the honour of being the last RSM of 11 Med Coy and the first RSM of 11 (Victoria) Field Ambulance (Fd Amb).

In 1998, Ms. Gibson was Board member for both Leadership in a Diverse Army, 1998-99 Facilitator for Diversity Training Program: Leadership and NCM; in 2001 for Non Commissioned Members Professional Development at CFB Kingston. As a Public Service employee for Base Transport, CFB Esquimalt, Ms. Gibson established the Defence Visible Minority Advisory Group (DVMAG) for Maritime Pacific (MARPA) in 2000. In 2000-2002 was MARPA's Regional Civilian Co-Chair DVMAG, and 2002-2008 was the National Civilian Co-Chair for DVMAG. With L1s, the Defence Diversity Council; the Departments of Directorate of Human Rights and Diversity and Directorate of Diversity and Well Being, Ms. Gibson influenced changes which promoted Employment Equity within the Defence Diversity Advisory Groups of/for all Canadian Armed Forces and Department of National Defence members.

In 2005 a strong proponent of Diversity in the workplace and leadership initiatives in Health Services Group, during the 56TH OMM Investiture received the Member of Military Merit (M.M.M.) presented by Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, The Governor General of Canada.

In 2008 Ms. Gibson transferred to 39 Canadian Brigade Group (CBG) HQ, Vancouver, BC as Wellness Advisor to the Brigade Commander, creating an active Employment Equity focus for all Brigade units. In 2010 as G1 PERS SP-2 specialized in Compensation and Benefits for Reserve Force Soldiers during the Afghanistan War, was Visits Officer for Brigade Ex WESTERN DEFENDER 2011 in CFB Shilo, and COUGAR SALVO 2012 in Bosie, Idaho. In 2013 commissioned to the rank of Captain. In 2015 transferred to 11 Fd Amb as Svc Pl Comd, Adjutant in 2016. Simultaneously, 2008-2017 served as a Regional Liaison Officer and Logistic Officer for Joint Task Force Pacific J3 LAND. Building community relationships with first responder stakeholders within the province of BC; participated in several Domestic Deployments (Floods, Fires and Ice Storms) as well as international exercises; Canadian Armed Forces support during OP PODIUM, the 2010 Winter Olympics and Paralympics in Vancouver; CAF – STAUNCH MAPLE / EMBC – COASTAL RESPONSE / PS PACIFIC QUAKE / USA CASCADIA RISING / ARDENT SENTRY 2016.

After retiring in 2017, Ms. Gibson spent some time doing major renovations on her home in Victoria. In 2020 returned to the work force as a Security Guard, Commissionaire, Pacific Forestry Centre, Feb 2020, and BC Government House March 2020 and finally Site Manager, Canadian Coast Guard, Victoria, Oct 2020 – Jan 2021. In November 2020 Ms. Gibson was called back to Service in the Department of National Defence. MND Harjit Sajjan appointed Ms. Gibson as a Panel Member, for the Minister of National Defence Advisory Panel on Systemic Racism and Discrimination with a Focus on Anti-Indigenous and Anti-Black Racism, LGBTQ2+ Prejudice, Gender Bias and White Supremacy. The Final Report (January 2022) released by The Honourable Anita Anand, Minister of National Defence 23 April 2022. With final activities ending in December 2022, Ms. Gibson, begins the next chapter.

Ms. Gibson continues to volunteer with several not-for-profit organizations and individuals in need. A Member, Royal Canadian Legion Trafalgar Pro Patria Branch # 292; Victoria Poppy Office Fund; Vice President, BC Branch of Last Post Fund, Member of the Diversity and Engagement Committee Last Post Fund; British Columbia Black Historical Awareness Society; Nova Scotia Black Cultural Centre; participant on the National Apology Advisory Committee in a series of community consultations in recognizing the No. 2 Construction Battalion.

When possible, travels back home to Halifax to spend quality time with her precious and large east coast family. Ms. Gibson currently resides in Victoria with her Life Partner of 25+ years and west coast family.

BCR & 15 FD CADET CORPS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY SHERMAN ARMOURY 4 FEBRUARY 2023

Since 2015, all five BCR Cadet Corps along with cadets from 2472 15 Field RCACC have participated in Professional Development Training Sessions aimed at the Senior Cadets and Adult Staff of our Cadet Corps. Hosted by 15 FD for 2023, and organized by the OIC, Capt Jiri Motak of 2472 15 FD RCACC, the location was moved to the Sherman Armoury in Richmond when the Bessborough Armoury was unavailable due to a 39 CBG BMQ Course. Over 38 cadets attended including cadets from our 2781 BCR Powell River Corps who travelled down on Friday Evening. Our thanks to Wilson Yuen of our BCR Irish who let our Powell River contingent into the Armoury for the night. Also in attendance were cadets from Vancouver's 2290 BCR, BCR Port Moody along with their OC Capt Dean McLennan and Training Officer, OCDT Michael Dailey. From 3300 BCR Capt Mitch Hayes attended as a presenter and taught a session on Leadership. The BCR Irish attended as well as their CO, Capt Mike Azzano and a number of staff and Volunteer Instructors.



HLCol Bill Diamond BCR addresses the assembled Senior Cadets and Officers

Our first presenter of the day was Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond, BCR (DCO) who discussed the role of the Honorary Colonels and how they support both their Regiments and Affiliated Cadet Corps. He acknowledged and presented retired LCol Jim Barrett with his HLCol's Coin in recognition of his work as the BCR Association President, the BCR Cadet Governor, and for his ongoing service as a Civilian Training Advisor with our 2781 BCR (DCO) Powell River Cadet Corps.



LCol Jim Barrett & HLCol Bill Diamond



CAF Health Services Presentation

A presentation on Mental Health was given to the cadets by representatives from Canadian Forces Health Services Centre (Pacific) Psycho-Social Mental Health Unit based out of 39 CBG Headquarters in Vancouver on how the CAF supports its soldiers and with Social Worker Preetika Mehra.



LCol Jim Barrett presented on styles of Leadership communications, Orders Formats from Warning Orders to Administrative Orders and Operation Orders (OP Os) and how to extract information from the same with

the aim of senior cadets presenting their own orders to cadets. The presentation included a hands-on scenario based on two different OP Os.



Training concluded with Capt Haye's presentation on Leadership.



BCR & 15 FD Cadet Corps Attendees

In his role as BCR Cadet Governor, LCol Barrett held a short meeting to discuss commonality of issued affiliated BCR Kit and discussion was held to firm up the planned joint ACR at the Sherman Armoury for all five corps currently scheduled for 10 Jun 2023.



L-R BCR Cadet, Capt Mitch Hayes and Capt Jiri Motak

Capt Motak is to be congratulated for his work to pull this Pro D Day together for 2023, and to Port Moody's Capt Dean McLennon for volunteering to host next years event on the first Saturday of February 2024.

**THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
ROYAL VANCOUVER YACHT CLUB
VICE-ADMIRAL ANGUS TOPSHEE, COMMANDER RCN
8 FEBRUARY 2023**

Congratulations to The Naval Association of B.C. for hosting the highly successful reception, luncheon and excellent presentation by Admiral Topshee, Commander of the Royal Canada Navy, at the RVYC. Admiral Topshee spoke on the current state of the RCN and his continuing priorities. The presentation was very well received by the full house and was followed by an extensive Q & A Session. King Wan was the Master of Ceremonies and thanked Admiral Topshee for the most insightful and thorough presentation.





The Regimental Family was well represented at the luncheon with Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond and former Honorary Colonel, Association VP, Ted Hawthorne, in attendance, together with our friends, Honorary Colonel Derral Moriyama (39 Signal Regiment), Honorary Colonel Al De Genova and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Don Foster, 15th Field Artillery Regiment.



Kudos to NABC for this extraordinary event and thank you to RVYC Commodore Cedric Burgers and RVYC for their wonderful hospitality!

Editor's Note: Admiral Topshee was accompanied by Rear-Admiral Steve Waddell, Deputy Commander, RCN, Rear-Admiral Christopher Robinson, Commander Maritime Pacific (MARPAAC) and Rear-Admiral Brian Santarpia, Commander, Maritime Forces Atlantic (MARLANT). The Admirals were in town for the Navy Council meeting. This meeting is usually held in Ottawa, but since this year is the Naval Reserve Centennial, it was decided that they would tour the major cities where there is a naval reserve division to promote it and to engage the Community.

NATIONAL FLAG OF CANADA DAY QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK 15 FEBRUARY 2023



Former Honorary Colonel of the Regiment and Vice President of the Regimental Association, Ted Hawthorne, attended at Queen Elizabeth Park in Vancouver at noon on Wednesday, 15 February 2023, to mark the 58th Anniversary of the inauguration of the Canadian National Flag on 15 February 1965. The 60-foot flagpole, dedicated in 2017, and the Canadian Flag (6' by 12'), were donated by The Flag Shop to honour the legacy of its founder, Jack Braverman. The Flag Shop has generously agreed to donate all future flags for the flagpole as may be required as part of their legacy program.



Editor's Note: the last ceremony was held on 15 February 2020 at the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Canada.

We will remember them!

LEKE, BELGIUM REMEMBRANCE LUNCHEON 12 FEBRUARY 2023

Our good friend, Mr Luke Vandenbussche sends us some photos from the fourth Remembrance Lunch held in the town of Leke on the 12th of February this year. Leke was liberated by the 28th CAR (BCR) in September 1944 as part of the 4th Canadian Armoured Divisions Pursuit to Belgium and Brugges. We look forward to seeing Leke as part of our BCR Battlefield Tour this May.





In Their Own Voices: From the Wright Family Collection CWM20120143-011 George Metcalf Archival Collection Canadian War Museum stories From Canadian Veterans and Their Families. Every Canadian Should hear These Stories and you can make sure They do, for generations to come.

Seeing war through the eyes of those who experienced it is crucial to understanding our military history. Hearing accounts of service and sacrifice from those who have served, and their families makes it easier to understand the complexities of our shared history. Of the 1.1 million people who served during the Second World War, only 22,000 remain. Now is the time to capture their wartime experiences for future generations.

It is essential to collect and archive their first-hand accounts. Everyone should be able to hear from veterans about the impact of war on their lives, the service they gave, and the sacrifices that were made. Their stories offer deeper insight into war and combat, loss and grief, courage, and camaraderie.

Canada's veterans are eyewitnesses to history. They can tell us what it feels like to brave the raging Atlantic on a corvette or drive through Normandy in the belly of a Sherman tank. They can speak of the nerve and resilience it took to survive in times of great strain, whether on a battlefield in Italy, in a bomber over Germany, in a hospital treating the wounded, or in a prisoner-of-war camp. There are so many experiences of war that we can only fully comprehend through eyewitness accounts.

The stories of these men and women can also speak to our treatment of veterans upon their return — how they settled back into civilian life, the challenges they faced, and the opportunities they were given.

Canadians should know how returning veterans helped to build the country we live in, and, of course, veterans can remind us all of the key role Canada played in winning a war that had to be won.

Swift action is required now.

If we don't capture first-hand accounts of valour, service, turmoil, anguish, compassion and patriotism from the men and women who served their country in times of great need, we risk these stories being lost to time. This project will create a legacy for future generations and ensure that our history is never forgotten.

After the battles are fought and won or lost, we owe those who served a debt of remembrance.

Today, our enemy is time.

The youngest Canadian service personnel of the Second World War turn 94 this year, leaving us precious little time to conduct the 1939–1945 portion of our In Their Own Voices interviews.

Preserving these stories and making them available has become a priority. We need to record these first-hand accounts before it's too late, while also setting up a system to capture veterans' voices from more recent Canadian Forces missions — including Korea, service during the Cold War, and more recent conflicts, such as those in Bosnia, Rwanda, the Gulf War and Afghanistan.

Equally important are accounts from spouses and children. These provide us with insights into their own experiences of war, as well as new perspectives on the veterans themselves.

Your support will allow more veterans and their families to be heard, in their own voices. Your support makes it possible for their stories and their perspectives on war to be preserved and used for research, in exhibitions, and as teaching tools for generations to come. When completed, In Their Own Voices will be one of the most comprehensive places to explore oral

histories of Canada's military and veteran experiences. It will be accessible to all and is destined to become an important research and teaching tool for tomorrow's leaders. Help us share the stories we all need to hear. Be part of In Their Own Voices and ensure that our veterans' stories are honoured and remembered for generations to come.

The Plan Carried out over a four-year period, this project will culminate in:

1. A comprehensive oral history program, capturing many first-person accounts of the Canadian military experience from the Second World War to the present day.
2. An online web platform with digital and audio interviews, photographs, and images of related artifacts.
3. Educational resources for classroom use.
4. A conference bringing together experts from all professions, along with veterans themselves, and the publication of a legacy book.

BCR WHISKY TASTING 18 FEBRUARY 2023

Guests assembled at the BCR Drill Hall for the first Regimental Whisky Tasting since 2020, and it was very well attended by both serving, retired, and friends of the Regiment who arrived on Saturday to enjoy a selection of five single malt whisky's on the evening.



The Selection

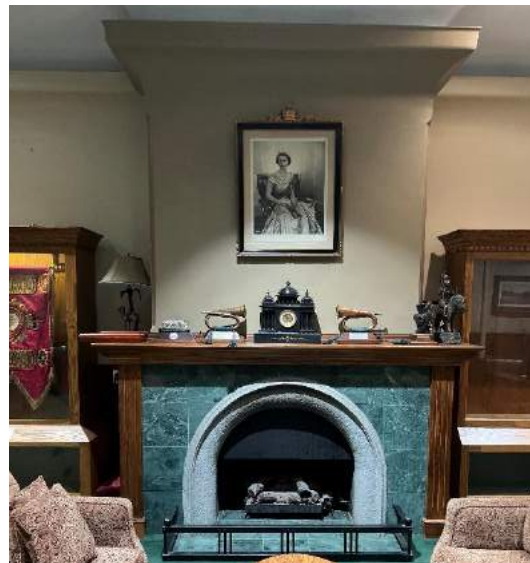


LCol Virk

The festivities opened with a reception in the Officers' Mess followed by the presentations and introductions of each whisky in the Sergeants' Mess with each bottle piped in by Sgt Rosalie Macdonald from the BCR Irish Pipes & Drums. LCol Virk welcomed the guests as the formal tasting began.







Whiskey Tasting at its best tonight in the Officers' and WOs' & Sgts' Mess of the Regiment a sell out! Very well attended by the Regimental Family, our friends, and supporters.

Special thanks to MC and event planner extraordinaire, Major Adam McLeod and PMC, Major Adam Brown, for an excellent evening!

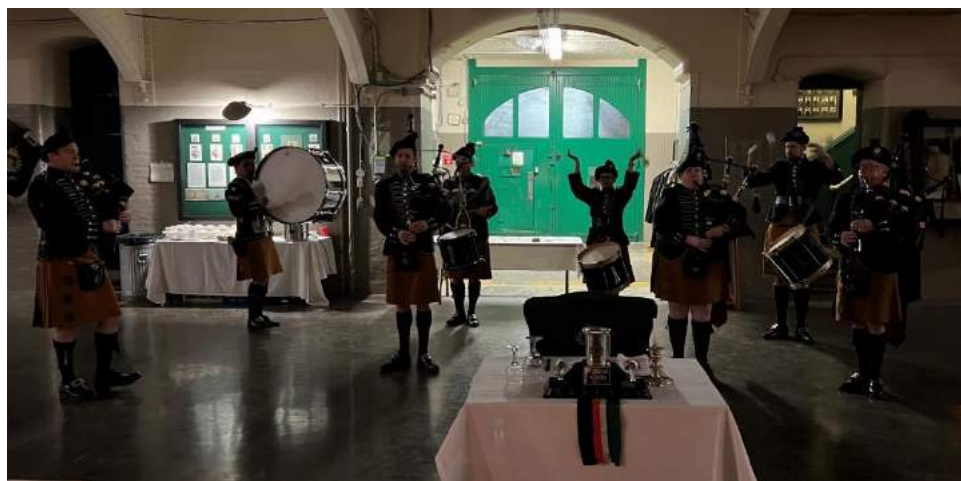
Up the Dukes!

WARRANT OFFICERS' & SERGEANTS' MESS PAARDEBERG MESS DINNER 25 FEBRUARY 2023



The annual Paardeberg Mess Dinner hosted by the Warrant Officers' & Sergeants' Mess, commemorating the 123rd anniversary of the Battle of Paardeberg in South Africa was held on the drill square on Saturday evening, February 25th. The Head Table, consisting of the PMC, Sgt Stephen Cobb, the RSM, MWO Arnold Matibag, the CO, LCol Vincent Virk, the Honorary Colonel, Farid Rohani and the Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel, Bill Diamond, and their respective spouses, and including 39 CBG BSM, CWO Tony Harris and the Padre, The Very Reverend Christopher Pappas, was piped in by Pipe Major Andrew Hayes of the BCR Irish Pipes & Drums.





The BCR Brass & Reed Band led by Director of Music, BDR Brian Smith, provided the entertainment throughout the dinner and both bands presented special performances throughout the course of the evening.







Congratulations and thank you to the PMC and the bands for a special evening.

Up the Dukes!

CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE THE BATTLE OF PAARDEBERG SAINT JULIEN SQUARE, VANCOUVER 26 FEBRUARY 2023

The Regimental Family remembered the service and sacrifice of our soldiers on the 123rd anniversary of The Battle of Paardeberg at Saint Julien Square in Vancouver at noon on Saturday, 26 February.



The dedication and service of our soldiers were remembered as well as our Fallen from the War in South Africa (Privates Whitley, Mackintosh and Jackson).



A wreath was placed by former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne and Sgt Pouya Aliakbar. The Act of Remembrance was recited during the course of the brief ceremony.



They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING,
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM. WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

We will remember them!
Up the Dukes!

BRITISH COLUMBIA VETERANS COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION STUDENT LITERARY CONTEST “TRIUMPH OF DEMOCRACY” RECOGNITION RECEPTION BCR OFFICERS’ MESS 25 FEBRUARY 2023

The British Columbia Veterans Commemorative Association held a Reception in the Officers’ Mess of the Regiment at the Drill Hall on Saturday afternoon in order to recognize seven BC High School students’ winners of the BCVCA Student Literary Contest “Triumph of Democracy”.





Congratulations to the seven recipients and to BCVCA on a job well done!





BCRs in attendance included the former Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, President of BCVCA, Archie Steacy, and our good friend and colleague, Jerry Couling.

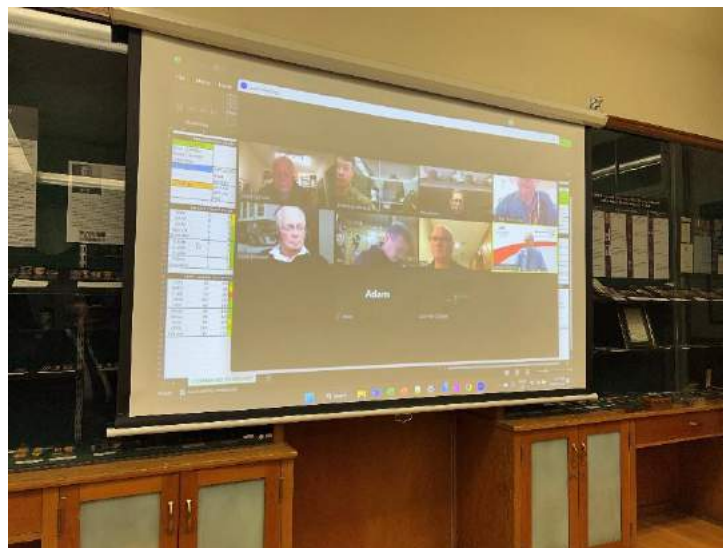
Up the Dukes

March

CO'S COMMITTEE & REGIMENTAL TRUST MEETINGS THE DRILL HALL 1 MARCH 2023



The March meetings of the BCR Commanding Officer's Committee and the BCR Trust were held in person and virtually via ZOOM in the early evening of Wednesday, March 1st. Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani chaired the very comprehensive CO's Committee meeting which included thorough reports from the President of the Regimental Association, LCol (R) Jim Barrett, the Chairman of the Regimental Association Charitable Trust, former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, the President of the BCR Museum, Bill Whalen, the Cadet Governor, LCol (Ret'd) Jim Barrett, the Band Governor and the Treasurer of the BCR Trust, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond, the Chairman of the Trust Advisory Committee, Bill McCarthy, and the CO, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, who provided an update on the training year, a Command Snap Shot and a review of his Strategic Plan (2020-2024).



All reports were very well received by the members. In concluding the afternoon's proceedings, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel, Bill Diamond, chaired the BCR Trust meeting. Major Adam Brown was introduced to the members and attended as a Special Guest.

Congratulations to all member for the very successful meetings.

3300 BCR (Bhai Kanhaiya) BCR ASSOCIATION SPONSORED ANNUAL PIZZA NIGHT 2 MARCH 2023

On Thursday Cadet Parade night our 3300 BCR Staff and cadets had an added bonus to their monthly sports parade with the delivery of pizzas for dinner as part of an annual initiative for each of our five cadet corps which is sponsored by the BCR Regimental Association.



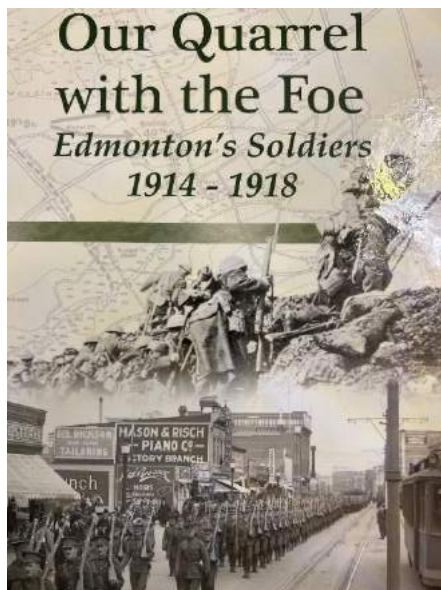
Commanding Officer 3300 BCR Capt Karm Nagra and members of the Support Committee



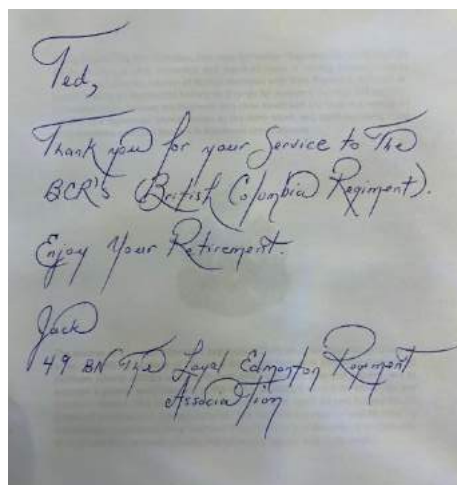
In attendance from the Association were President, Jim Barrett and Roger Prouse, who joined the sixty-Five plus cadets for the evening.

Up the Dukes!

**PRESENTATION TO THE PRESIDENT, JACK BOWEN,
49 BATTALION, THE LOYAL EDMONTON REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
VANCOUVER, B.C.
3 MARCH 2023**



Former Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, presented the latest edition of **The Listening Post** (2017-2020) and his Regimental Coin to our good friend and colleague, Captain (Ret'd) Jack Bowen (former RSM of the LER from 1986 to 1988), President of the LER Association. Not to be outdone, Jack presented to Ted an autographed and inscribed (by the LER Association) edition of "Our Quarrel with the Foe, Edmonton's Soldiers 1914 – 1918", by Ian Edwards.



A brief ceremony was held in the early afternoon at The Italian Cultural Centre, La Piazza Dario. It was a great opportunity to compare notes on Regimental Family matters and current initiatives such as Battlefield Tours.

Our very best wishes to "The Loyal Eddies"!!
Up the Dukes & "Fear No Foe"!

CHINESE CANADIAN MILITARY MUSEUM SOCIETY AND ANAVETS, PACIFIC UNIT NO. 280 4 MARCH 2023

The Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit # 280, program for the morning forum on ZOOM commenced with special guest speaker, Lieutenant-Colonel (Ret'd) L.A.R."Will" Watkins, Regimental Secretary of 39 Service Battalion and the Secretary of the Guild of Waggoneers and Artificers, delivering an excellent presentation on the Guild and its purpose "to provide for the welfare and needs of the citizen soldiers and their families...."



Guild of Waggoneers and Artificers:

The Guild operates as a distinguished body of supporters of the 39 Service Battalion Regimental Family, drawing on a centuries-old heritage going back to the Royal Waggon Train and the Board of Ordnance of bygone days.

In addition, Will reviewed the proud history of Op FAUST which took place from December 1944 to the late spring of 1945 whereby the RCASC delivered much needed supplies to the desperate population of the Netherlands during a negotiated cease-fire. King Wan thanked Will for his most informative presentation.



Biographical sketch: L. A. R. Will Watkins LCol (Ret'd)
Will joined the Royal Westminster Regt in September 1972 and transferred as a Cpl to 156 Coy (VMSB) in Jericho in the fall of 1974. Will served in 12 Svc Bn, Tn Coy in Jericho, Sea Island and the Sherman Armoury in all three messes. Upon receiving his commission as a 2Lt in 1979, Will had the opportunity to fill almost all of the Bn S&T Coy and HQ positions including OC S&T, SLOO. Along with higher HQ positions as SO3 Log at Vancouver Militia District, G4 Ops and G4 CSS (On Guard 90) at 11 Trg Bde before retiring as the CO of 12 Svc Bn in 1998. In 2017 LCol Bobby Alolega asked Will to take on the role of the first 39 Svc Bn Regimental Secretary. This newly created role was to coordinate the multiple veteran and retired member organizations with the aim of bringing a sense of

inclusion and belonging to them and the combined reserve and regular members and cadets' organizations on both the mainland and the island sides of the waters.

In 2018 the Guild of Waggoneers and Artificers was formed to provide for the welfare and educational needs of the citizen soldiers their families and like minded individual in the province of BC. We received our federal charitable status in 2021. As the Regt Secty, Will was appointed as the Guild Secretary to manage the Charity. Guild members come from leaders in the military, industry academic and civic community; all are welcome, and the membership has been growing year on year.

Will is married to his wife Barbara of 44 years and has a daughter Andrea and son David, who have given us four wonderful grandchildren, Will retired from BCTel/TELUS in 2013 after 38years.

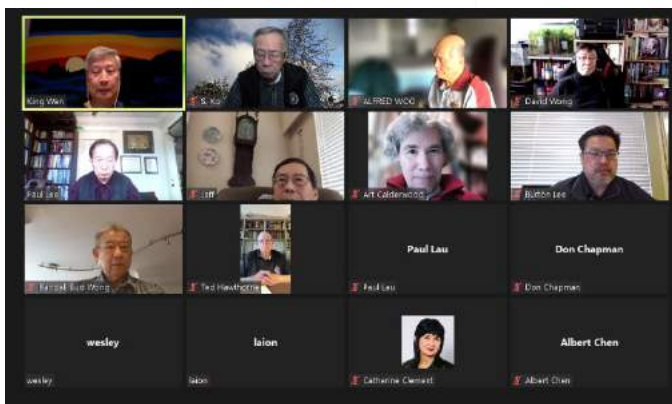
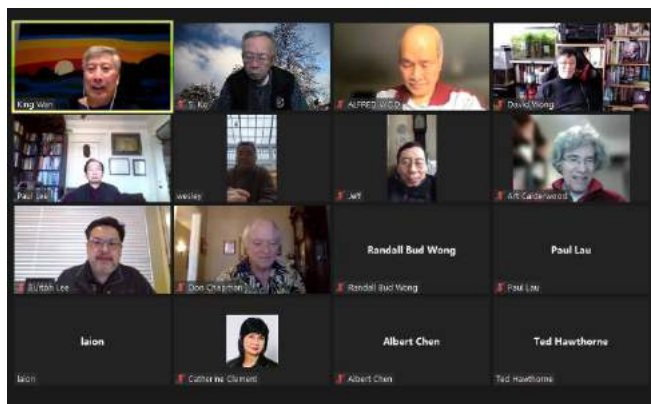
The presentation was followed by a Q&A session with all members expressing their thanks for such an impressive address.

Following the guest speaker, the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit No. 280 held their respective regular monthly business meetings.



CDS: Comments on Regular and Reserve Force Units on rebuilding their strengths and capabilities (CBC article - Gen Eyre 3 Jan 23)

- CDS in his public comments "...in the later part of 2022 increasingly stark warnings about the future of geopolitical landscape, where the war between Russia and Ukraine could go and the intentions of other disruptive international actors..."
- Concerns: capabilities and sustainment of the CAF;
- Focus:
 - strengthening the CAF capabilities of the soldiers, sailors and airmen;
 - reconstitution and recruiting.





The meeting for ANAVETS was chaired by President King Wan, and the meeting of CCMMS was chaired by the President, Judge (Ret'd) Randall Wong.

Thank you ANAVETS and CCMMS for their continuing service and dedication to our veterans and to the community!

**ST. JOHN AMBULANCE
SPEAKER SERIES – SPRING SERIES
NICOLAS BAUDOUIN, CONSUL GENERAL OF FRANCE
IN VANCOUVER
6 MARCH 2023**

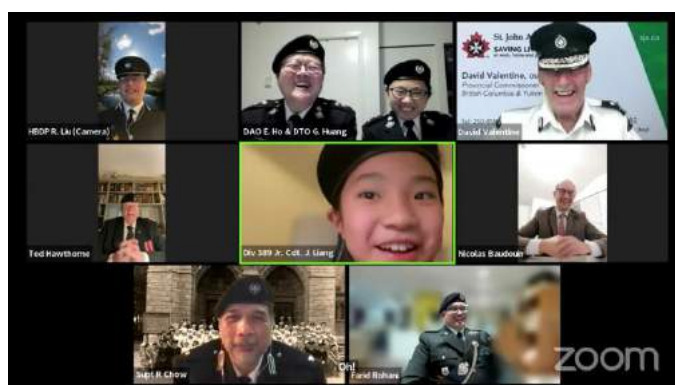
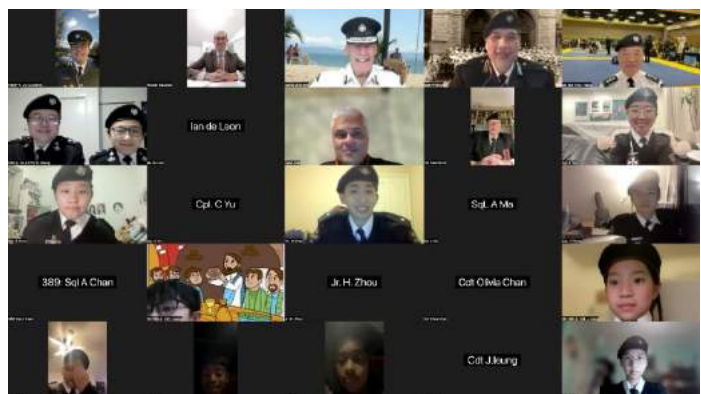


Consul General of France Monsieur Nicolas Baudouin

Congratulations to St. John Ambulance, Burnaby Division, and Richard Liu, Honorary Brigade Division President, on hosting another presentation in the SJA Speaker Series with special guest, Nicolas Baudouin, Consul General of France in Vancouver, attending in the early evening of Monday, March 6th.



The ZOOM presentation, during the Month of Francophonie, was very well attended by numerous members of St. John Ambulance and invited guests, including Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani. The program for the evening included, a pre-event reception where former Honorary Colonel of the Regiment and Vice President of the Regimental Association, Ted Hawthorne, was recognized, introductions by Divisional Superintendent Raymond Chow, the playing of the National Anthems of both countries, welcoming remarks by Cadet Tan and Chancellor of the Priory of Canada, Dr. Andre Levesque, the address of the Consul General on the topic of the history of the Order of St. John and its “French Connection” and the place of Canada in “La Francophonie”, a thorough Q & A by Cadets, and the closing remarks by SJA Provincial Commissioner, David Valentine. A great evening indeed!



Gents - here's the Youtube link to enjoy the post-production video from Monday night's event. Please remember to turn on the Closed Captions (CC) for the subtitles and enjoy:



[20230306 The St. John Ambulance Saint-Jean Canada-French Connection](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hatf1TkLkAk)

March 6, 2023 (Burnaby, BC)0:00 The St. John Ambulance Saint-Jean Canada-French Connection Programme Opens0:42 Pre-event Reception03:30 Official Group Phot...
www.youtube.com

**'ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE, VANCOUVER
OFFICERS' MESS, 15th FIELD REGIMENT, RCA
BESSBOROUGH ARMOURY
THE 2023 RUSI, VANCOUVER SPEAKERS SERIES
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HOPE CARR
7 MARCH 2023**



As stated in the biographical data presented by RUSI, Vancouver:

“Our presenter, Lieutenant-Colonel Hope Carr, headed the deployment a new Canadian Training Assistance Team (CTAT) to Ghana. The CTAT team consists of a gender-balanced task force of four CAF members currently deployed on Operation PRESENCE (Elsie) and will contribute to Ghana’s ongoing efforts to increase the meaningful participation of uniformed women in United Nations Peace Operations. The Task Force recently completed its initial engagements and is now working closely with the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF) on a Garrison Tour of all GAF units across the country, intended to enhance understanding of gender issues and gender barriers impacting GAF. Upon completion of this first deployment, the assessments of the Task Force Commander will drive the composition, frequency and activities of future CTAT deployments commencing in 2023.

As bilateral partners in the Elsie Initiative since 2018, Canada and Ghana share best practices, and together develop and test innovative approaches to increase women's meaningful participation in uniformed military roles in UN peace operations. The ongoing deployment of the task force is part of Canada's commitment to support the GAF under this partnership."

Lieutenant-Colonel Carr provided an excellent presentation on the activities of the CTAT and the associated activities leading to the deployment.

A thorough Q & A followed to conclude a presentation on a very important and timely subject.



The presentation was preceded by the second catered luncheon (roast beef, gravy, vegetables, dessert, tea and coffee) since the start of the Pandemic in 2020 and it was very well attended. Congratulations to RUSI, Vancouver for their excellent Speakers Series.

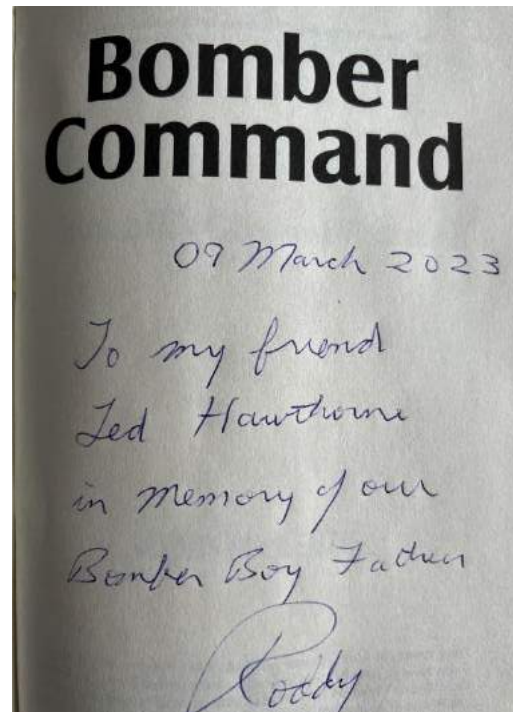




**BOMBER COMMAND, CHURCHILL'S GREATEST TRIUMPH
BY RODDY MACKENZIE
HART HOUSE REATAURANT, BURNABY, B.C.
9 MARCH 2023**



It was a great pleasure to receive my autographed copy of the highly acclaimed "Bomber Command, Churchill's Greatest Triumph" from Roddy today at lunch, on such a beautiful day.



Thank you, Roddy, on a job well done!

We will remember their service and sacrifice!

**KOREAN WAR 70TH ANNIVERSARY
MEMORIAL WALK
FOR PEACE AND REMEMBRANCE
BATTLES OF KAPYONG & CHAIL – LI, SOUTH KOREA
PRESENTATION AT COQUITLAM CITY HALL
9 MARCH 2023**

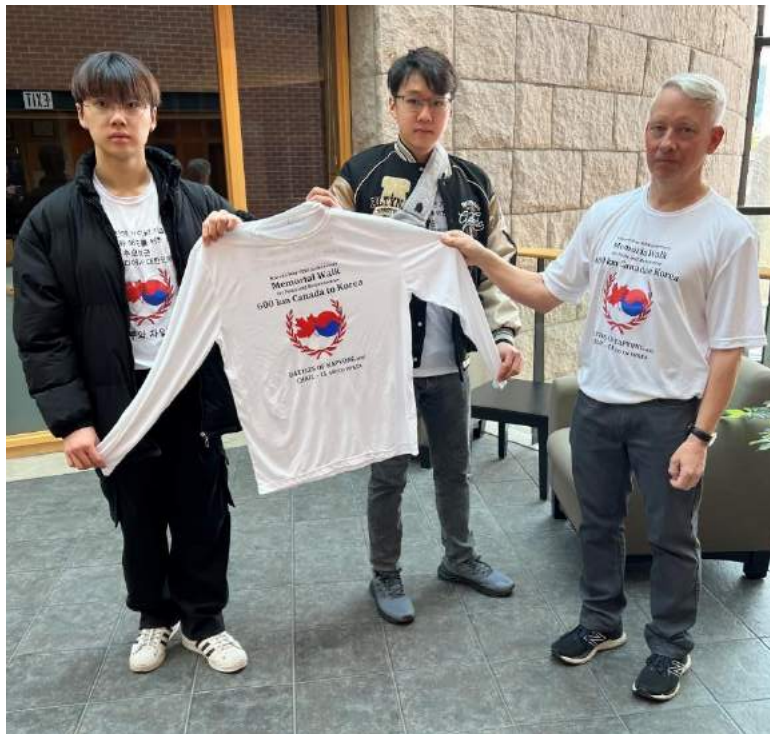


Congratulations to Guy Black and his team as they embark upon their Memorial Walk Program to mark the anniversary of the end of the Korean War. The Memorial Walk will commence on 14 April 2023.

This morning's presentation took place at the Coquitlam City Hall where His Worship, Mayor Richard Stewart, was briefed on full details of the "Walk for Peace and Remembrance" and was presented with his own Memorial Walk T-Shirt.



Thank you to Mayor Stewart for his fine support of this community event remembering the service and sacrifice of our soldiers and the extraordinary role played by Canada, which is very well remembered by our Korean Community.



Also in attendance were former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne and Michael Chang, President of the Korean Veterans Association and Honorary Ambassador of Gapyeong, both of whom thanked Mayor Stewart for his support.

**THE SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA PATRONS' CORPS
DINING OUT OF RETIRING HONORARY COLONEL ROD HOFFMEISTER
SEAFORTH ARMOURIES
11 MARCH 2023**



The Dining Out of former Honorary Colonel Rod Hoffmeister was celebrated in fine form by the Patrons' Corps of The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada in the Anderson Room and the Officers' Mess at the Seaforth Armouries.



Head table guests included Major- General Rob Roy MacKenzie, Chief of Reserves and Employer Support, Colonel Scott Raesler, 39 Canadian Brigade Group Commander, the Commanding

Officer of the Seaforth's, Lieutenant-Colonel Kent Wickens, former Honorary Colonel Rod Hoffmeister and his wife Pat, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Christy Clark and 39 CBG Padre, Major Julie Lees.



MGen Rob Roy MacKenzie



Col Paul Ursich



Col Scott Reisler



HLCOL Christy Clark

It was a full agenda with Grace by Padre Lees, an excellent dinner followed by the Loyal Toast, speeches by the Head Table guests and Colonel Paul Ursich, and a closing speech by the guest of honour, former Honorary Colonel Rod Hoffmeister.



HCol Rod Hoffmeister

The well attended dinner featured the play of the Regimental Pipes & Drums of the Seaforths during the course of the dinner.



BCRs in attendance were Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond and former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne.

Congratulations Colonel Rod for your many years of dedicated service and commitment to your Regiment and to the CAF! Kudos to the Seaforth Patrons Corps, David McDonald, Chair of the Patrons' Corps and MC for the evening, for their exemplary work and recognition of a great Seaforth!

Cuidich 'n Righ!



Seaforth Pipes & Drums

**CAPT ROB ROTHWELL
PRESENTED 22 YEAR SERVICE CD1
7 MARCH 2023**



L-R Capt Dean McLennan, Capt Rob Rothwell, Maj Derek Gee

Capt Rob Rothwell started as a cadet with 2827 BCR (DCO) RCACC many years ago, rising to be the Cadet RSM of that corps before becoming a CIC Officer, and eventually the Commanding officer of that unit. He was presented his bar to his CD on a parade night in Port Moody as their drill hall by Major Derek Gee representing the Commander Regional Cadet Support Unit (Pacific). Capt Rob Rothwell has served the BCR Cadets and Canada for over 27 years. Recognition well deserved.

Up the Dukes!

**2781 BCR (DCO) POWELL RIVER
PROMOTION TO WARRANT OFFICER
WO BUTLER
15 MARCH 2023**



CO Capt Caroline Visser Promotes WO Butler

**REMEMBERING THE PASSING OF
FORMER HONORARY COLONEL WILLIAM E. IRELAND, QC
MEMORIAL SERVICE CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
16 MARCH 2023**



The Memorial Service for Colonel Bill (March 23, 1934 – March 7, 2023) was held at Christ Church Cathedral with Honorary BCR Padre, The Very Rev. Christopher A. Pappas, Rector & Dean of the Diocese of New Westminster, officiating. The moving and very well attended ceremony and tribute to Colonel Bill featured the entrance led by BCR Pipe Sergeant Rosalie MacDonald, The Last Post and Rouse by BCR Bugle Major Chris Ahern and The Lament and departure by Pipe Sergeant MacDonald.



A visit was made to view our Regimental Colours laid up at Christ Church Cathedral



BCRs attending the colours with 7th Battalion (1st BCR) CEF on display

L-R: LCol (R) Jim Barrett, HCol Farid Rohani, Sgt Rosalie MacDonald, Bugle-Maj Chris Ahern, Maj (R) Roger Prouse, LCol (R) Doug Evans, LCol Vince Virk, LCol (R) Bruce Kadonoff, Padre Chris Pappas, RSM Arn Matibag, HLCol Bill Diamond, and former HCol Ted Hawthorne



The Regimental Family was very well represented by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, the Regimental Sergeant Major, Master Warrant Officer Arnold Matibag, Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond, Regimental Association President Jim Barrett, Past President Gayle Hawthorne, Chairman of the Regimental Association Charitable Trust, former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, LCol (Ret'd) Bruce Kadonoff, LCol (Ret'd) Doug Evans, Chairman of the BCR Trust, Bill McCarthy, John McCarthy and Regimental Association Director-at-Large Roger Prouse



LCol Vince Virk CO BCR

A reception followed at the Terminal City Club on Hastings Street where the programme included delightful snacks and beverages, a presentation by the Master of Ceremonies, four speakers, including the Commanding Officer, and ample time to remember our very good friend and colleague, Colonel Bill, in such a friendly forum.



Sgt Rosalie MacDonald with the Ireland Family Sgt MacDonald Bill McCarthy and son John McCarthy





BCR Contingent

We will remember him!

“WEARING OF THE GREEN” HAPPY SAINT PATRICK’S DAY 17 MARCH 2023

We wish one and all in the Regimental Family, our friends, and supporters, a very Happy Saint Patrick’s Day!



Faugh a ballagh, from MCpl Duke A. Bear and Cpl Tony Son, on deployment to Poland on Op Unifier (March-July).

Up the Dukes!

PIPING FOR THE PADRE CONCERT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL 25 MARCH 2023

On Saturday the 25th of March 2023, guests and parishioners joined with The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Irish Pipes and Drums, and the Pipes and Drums of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada in an evening of traditional and contemporary bagpipe music that celebrated the pipe bands from two outstanding and historical Vancouver Regiments.



BCR (DCO) Irish Pipes & Drums

The BCR Pipes & Drums focuses on Irish music and has the honour of being one of the few regimentally affiliated Irish Pipe Bands in the world.



Under the direction of Pipe-Major Andrew Hayes the band played an assortment of tunes ranging from the Minstrel Boy to an Irish polka set, O'Sullivan's March, to a rousing performance of Killaloe.



Seaforth Highlanders of Canada Pipes & Drums

The Seaforth Pipes & Drums under the direction of Pipe-Major Sgt Daniel Bell and Drum-Major Patrick Farrell responded with a performance of traditional Highland tunes including the Diamond, Anniversary March, Wee Highland Laddie, Cock of the North, Macleod of Mull, and others, ending their set with Cabar Feidh.





Massed Bands Performance

Following a special performance of 'dueling pipers' between P/M Andrew Hayes of the Irish and P/Sgt MCpl Britany Crooks, The Massed bands took the stage and played favourites such as Scotland the Brave, Rowan Tree, Garry Owen, Piobaireachd of Donald Dubh, finishing with Amazing Grace and a march off to the Black Bear.

Our host and Master-of-Ceremony fittingly was Padre Chris Pappas who introduced each performance and provided the audience with the history of the units, their Victoria Cross winners, their special relationship with the cathedral, and the preservation of the Regimental Colours of each unit. A highlight was when he read out the actual ceremony for the laying up of the colours of the 7th Battalion (1st BC Regiment) CEF in 1930 with the words and responses of the CO BCR and members of the parish. An excellent reception was hosted following the concert and we would like to thanks the staff for the excellent catering and support.



Dukes in Attendance at the Concert

BCR Association President Jim Barrett middle and HLCol Bill Diamond and former HCol Ted Hawthorne flanked by Pipers bearing their Pennants.

The concert was held in support of Padre Chris Pappas, who's discretionary fund at Christ Church is used to help his pastoral work with the men and women of the BCR and Seaforth Highlanders. Hopefully the first of a new annual event in our regimental calendars!

Editor's Note: I would first like to thank HCol Bill Diamond, Christ Church Cathedral, Padre Chris Pappas, and the members of both bands for their efforts in putting this excellent concert together to support a worthy cause, and those who provided pictures of the event including Lieutenant (Ret'd) Patricia Barrett, CD.

Please find the link to the concert recorded by BCIT journalism student Melanie Levesque who has kindly shared the photos/ videos taken at the concert with us. Many thanks Melanie for your enthusiasm and support.

Jim

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rSDrZKQauXTB3UiXzxsY5CuT1IBXrJD9?usp=sharing>

**THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST
CANADIAN WAR MUSEUM
IN THEIR OWN VOICES: STORIES FROM
CANADIAN VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES
24 MARCH 2023**

The BC Regiment (DCO) Association Charitable Trust is pleased to announce that it has supported the special project of the Canadian War Museum entitled In Their Own Voices: Stories from Canadian Veterans and Their Families by a donation in the amount of \$2,000.00 in memory of the soldiers who served in the 28 Canadian Armoured Regiment (BCR) during World War II. The reader is directed to page 36 of this edition of The Duke for full details of the special project.

Up the Dukes!

**THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
ROYAL VANCOUVER YACHT CLUB
COLONEL KEITH MAXWELL, OMM, CD (RET'D)
29 MARCH 2023**



Congratulations to The Naval Association of B.C. for hosting the highly successful reception, luncheon and excellent presentation by Colonel Maxwell, President of the Royal United Services Institute, Vancouver, who spoke on the topic "NORAD, Its past, present and future". During his many years of service in the RCAF, Colonel Maxwell's extensive postings in NORAD included 15 years on AWACS on intercept operations against Soviet flights, three NORAD Regional HQ appointments and a NORAD HQ stay in Denver, Colorado, as the Director of Air Defence Operations. Colonel Maxwell also served as the Chief of Air Command & Control with the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe ("SHAPE") in Mons, Belgium. On retirement, Colonel Maxwell joined NATO International Staff in Air Command & Control Policy and Technology. The presentation was very well received by the full house and was followed by an extensive Q & A Session.



As the Master of Ceremonies, King Wan thanked Colonel Maxwell for his most insightful and thorough presentation.



Former Honorary Colonel and Association Charitable Trust Chairman, Ted Hawthorne, was in attendance, and joined with our many friends in NABC to welcome and thank fellow Duke, Keith Maxwell, for his service and outstanding presentation.

Kudos to NABC and King Wan!

THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST ANNUAL CADET DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 29 MARCH 2023



The BC Regiment (DCO) Association Charitable Trust is pleased to announce that it has awarded the sum of \$10,000.00 to the five Cadet Corps sponsored by the Regiment pursuant to its Cadet Development Program. The funds were presented to the Chairman of The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) Trust, Bill McCarthy, by former Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, in a brief ceremony held at the offices of W.P.J. McCarthy and Company Ltd. in Burnaby on Thursday morning, 29 March 2023. The award will be distributed equally among the following units for training and educational projects:

2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC
2381 BCR (Irish Fusiliers) RCACC
2781 BCR (Powell River) RCACC
3300 BCR (Bhai Kanhaiya) RCACC
2827 BCR (Port Moody) RCACC

The Regimental Association Charitable Trust would like to thank all of those members of the Regimental Family and friends who have supported our very successful Annual Fundraiser which enables us to continue our various programs supporting our Soldiers, Veterans and Cadets.

Up the Dukes!

PRESENTATION OF PORTRAIT CAPTAIN WILLIAM HOLMES 7TH BATTALION (BC) CEF 29 MARCH 2023



Captain William D. Holmes DSO MC was from Victoria and was one of the Regiment's young heroes of the 7th Battalion (BC) CEF from World War One. He is pictured and described in the Regimental history "Swift and Strong" on page 93. In early 2022, the Regiment's Honorary Lieutenant Colonel, Bill Diamond, was perusing the goods in The Command Post, a Victoria militaria and antiques shop, when he was shocked to

see an original oil painting of Captain Holmes, for sale. He purchased the painting, then brought it to Vancouver. He then had it cleaned, restored, and reframed and has very kindly donated the painting to the museum. On Wednesday March 29th, he presented it and is here pictured with Mr. Tim Ellison who is on the Vancouver Club's fine art committee and was visiting the Commanding Officer.

Captain William Dumbleton Holmes, DSO MC

Born June 10, 1893

Son of William Cuthbert and Clara Eveline Holmes, of Millstream, British Columbia.

Captain Holmes was born in Mangalore, India and his family immigrated to Victoria - he worked on his father's farm before the War and was a member of Victoria's 88th Fusiliers. Holmes volunteered for service overseas in January 1915 with the 30th Battalion. Holmes arrived at the 7th as a reinforcement right after St. Julien.



Captain Holmes DSO, MC
Scouting Officer 7th (1st BC) Battalion CEF
OC Petite Douve Raiding Party November 1915

Lt Holmes saw almost immediate action as the 7th was then deploying into the trenches near Festubert. The newly arrived Lt Holmes was detached as Officer Commanding (OC) of the Battalion's Bombers (the "suicide club" - they stole the name from the MG section who all been killed at St. Julien) along with the other bombers in 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade (2CIB) to form a brigade bombing platoon. Apparently, he made a name for himself, then as an officer from the 8th battalion later wrote, "The bombers of the Battalion

were sent to Brigade Headquarters under Lt. W. Holmes. They were practically all untrained, as was their officer. I have since heard that in spite of this handicap, Lt. Holmes performed gallant service."

Another (5th Bn?) officer wrote of Holmes' and his men, "...at 7 p.m. the bombers were withdrawn to some dugouts and allowed access to a small packing case with scraps of food which had to serve in lieu of rations. Meanwhile a stupendous artillery preparation was being carried on by one British gun. The bombers went forward again, and, by a skillful application of bombs, partly broke down the walls of the connecting trench to the left and right and were then ordered to go out and lie down and wait for the infantry. This they did amid a very hot fire and few of them were long enough unwounded to help the infantry. The 2nd Brigade's bombers were not in good luck. " Holmes was wounded in the chest by grenade fragments and received a gunshot wound in his left side and invalided to the UK where he remained at the BC Depot until recovering - he was posted back to the 7th in October of 1915. He was awarded the Military Cross in the Christmas Honours List (thus no citation was published) in January 1916. Given the dates/timing he likely received the MC for his conduct at Festubert.

Petit Douve Raid : Lt Holmes was promoted to Temporary Captain in December 15'. He was also Mentioned in Despatches in early January 1916 and later that month the MC was announced. Capt Holmes took command of the Scouts during the Petit Douve Raid (Lt Owen being sent on leave). Holmes led the scouts in the most dangerous of tasks - the cutting of the enemy wire and the bridging of the Douve. Six of his men were awarded the DCM. Which I think is a record. For his part in the raid, he received the DSO. His citation reads, "For conspicuous gallantry and resource near Messines on the night of 16/17 November 1915, when in charge of the scouts during a bombing raid. He superintended the cutting of the German wire, and the laying of a bridge over the Douve, sixteen yards from a heavily manned German trench. His gallant conduct at Festubert was brought to notice in May last."

LCol Sproule rightly notes that this was a rarity for a junior officer to receive a DSO. I have note from a website on the DSO that states: "The order was established to reward individual instances of meritorious or distinguished service in war... until recently for officers only and typically awarded to officers ranked major (or equivalent) or higher, with awards to ranks below this usually for a high degree of gallantry, just short of deserving the Victoria Cross."

Sanctuary Wood: The War Diary notes that in late May, prior to the German attack and capture of part of the line at Hill 60/Mount Sorrel that, ".... Captain Holmes was tasked with conducting a two day operation in which members of the 7th Battalion were tasked with the digging of a new trench into no-man's-land which would deny a vital position to the Germans. The new trench, which was called Wildy's Walk, secured the ruins of an old house which lay in between the Canadian and German lines. The length of the trench eventually covered some 130 yards. The work party under the command of Captain Nation and Lieutenant Norman were divided into thirteen ten-man sections. Each was led to their positions by Captain Nation under cover of Merston's scouts. Work was almost complete when shortly after mid-night the Germans discovered what was going on and let loose with intense rifle and machine gun fire. Only two men were wounded as the work party was able to find shelter within their new trench. The next evening the trench was completed by Captain Holmes and 30 men, while Captain Nation led a group of wiremen into no-man's-land to setup a protective obstacle. At the end of the evening the battalion bombers were sent forward and conducted a quick grenade attack, supported by trench mortars on the German sap which had been pushed by the Germans towards the ruins now held by the 7th Battalion. One of the bombers was killed by shrapnel, but otherwise the whole operation was considered highly successful. "

On 2/3 June the 1st Div Counter-attacked. The 2CIB War Diary reports that in the initial counterattack by 1st Div at Hill 60 2-3 June, ".... Captain Holmes was placed in command of B and D Coys (No.2 and No. 4) and was supported by C Coy of the 10th for the attack." "Captain Holmes, whose companies were weak in numbers, found himself confronted by a trench...protected by wire entanglements. This trench had been reported by Lt Merston of the 7th (our Scout Officer at the time) but was hard to locate as it was

hidden by the thick wood. The going through the wood was very difficult on account of the shell holes. It took some time before Capt Holmes could close up his men for an assault - his officers all wounded. Captain Holmes saw the trench was heavily manned and as he was subjected to machine gun fire from both flanks, he decided it would not be possible to rush it without a more adequate artillery preparation. He occupied a ditch approximately 40 yards from the trench and reported the situation at 9:15.... (Part of his force) on the left made a flanking movement and got past this trench.... but seem to have been caught by machine gun fire." The 7th's forward line, under Holmes was then withdrawn to the rear far enough that artillery could be brought to bear on the German trench. The 7th was later relieved and placed in reserve.

Hill 60: Two weeks later, Captain WD Holmes DSO, MC (MiD) was killed in action at Hill 60. Sadly, the Bn War Diary does not have the CO's Summary of Operations Report on the Battle. The diary only notes that the attack was successful and large numbers of enemy were captured. It also mentions that the Bn was then subjected to intense German artillery fire for the rest of the day. However, the 2CIB War Diary reports, "On the night of 11/12 June the 7th was holding the trenches on Hill 60. At 10:00 a.m. the enemy started shelling Hill 60 and the whole line was subjected to a very violent artillery attack - During this attack Captain Holmes, DSO, who had so gallantly led the left counterattack against Mount Sorrel on June 3rd was killed".

Written By Warrant Officer Dwayne Snow, CD

MARCH UPDATE FROM 3300 BCR (BHAI KANHAIYA) RCACC

Editor: From Lt Harminder Palak we have received an update from our BCR Surrey Cadet Corps:

Here are a few updates from events that occurred in March:



Snowshoeing:



The cadets spent the day snowshoeing various trails on Cypress mountain. We started off with the easy trail, had lunch at the lodge and explored the more difficult trails all the way up to the top warming hut.



The cadets enjoyed having a snowball fight with each other and then challenged Captain Nagra to a snowball fight. By the end of the day, the cadets were exhausted and most of them slept on the bus.



Gold star expedition: Gold star and master cadets went on the Gold star expedition in Vernon during spring break. The cadets canoed, hiked, and navigated from one location to another.





From 3300 BCR, Sgt Jasleen Mangat was the only female candidate that attended the pre-para training in Vernon during spring break this year. She challenged herself to work hard physically and mentally, even

though she did not meet the requirements for Para, we are proud of her and hope she will try again next year.

Captain Larden has been with 3300 since it's inception and a part of the CIC for many years. He has decided to retire and move to Merritt, BC. Today was his last parade night, we celebrated him by getting



him a "good riddance" cake which was auto-corrected by the baker

we wish you well.

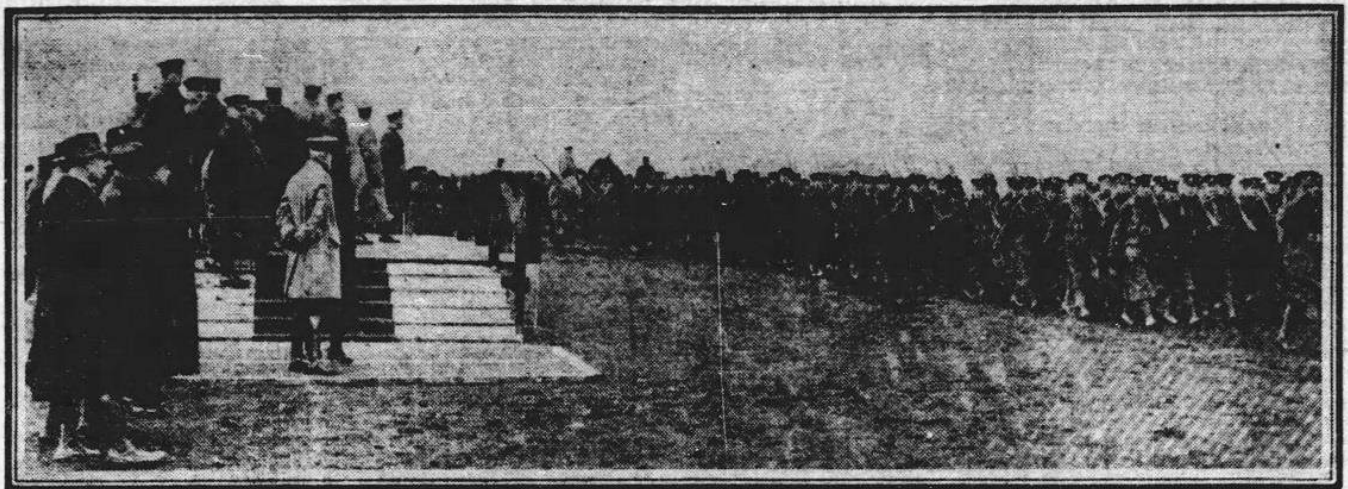
Lt Harminster Palak

Editor: We thank Captain Michael Larden, CD for his many years of service to the Cadet Instructor Cadre and to the Regimental Family through our 3300 BCR (Bhai Kanhaiya) RCACC.

THE BARRETT BUNKER MARCH 2023

For this edition of the Barrett Bunker, we build upon an article I recently wrote for the BCR Weekly news which looked into the late 19th and early 20th century practise of military photographers enhancing their photographs to make a more exciting and dramatic portrayal of the brutality of war. In the hunt for two special photos of the 29th (Vancouver) Battalion (one of our three fighting battalions perpetuated by the BCR (DCO)) advancing at Vimy Ridge in 1917, I came across a photograph from a newspaper that I saw for the first time showing the 7th Battalion (1st BC) CEF being reviewed on Salisbury Plain by His Majesty King George V prior to the Regiment deploying to the front in Belgium, and ultimately our first major action at St Julien in April 1915. It lists all the units from BC which made up our unit of the time and to no doubt shows that we were indeed the 1st BC Regiment.

KING GEORGE REVIEWING SEVENTH BATTALION



—Illustrated London News.

The above picture was taken when His Majesty was inspecting the Seventh Battalion (First British Columbia), Canadian Expeditionary force, on Salisbury Plain just before the departure of the men for the front. The Seventh Battalion, which is part of the Second Brigade, includes men from the following units: 6th Regiment, Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles, Vancouver; 11th Regiment, Irish Fusiliers of Canada, Vancouver; 88th Regiment, Victoria Fusiliers; 102nd Regiment, Rocky Mountain Rangers, Kamloops; 104th Regiment, Westminster Fusiliers of Canada, New Westminster; Nanaimo and East and West Kootenay detachments. The battalion was given permission to add "First British Columbia" to its designation. Lieut.-Col. W. Hart McHarg is in command.



The above photograph is the actual of the 29th Battalion (Vancouver) CEF (Tobin's Tigers) advancing at Vimy Ridge 1917. Below is the picture of the 29th advancing at Vimy most often seen in publications with both artillery shells exploding and dead in the foreground that were added in later for effects by the official photographer Captain William Castle. This was a common practice at the time and was considered part of the 'art' of war photography until banned by the war office. Notwithstanding the additions the original picture was taken at some risk to the photographer during an advance under fire and is a remarkable shot.



Sometimes it was hard to tell what was real and what was not with the skill of the photographer.

This practice in late 1917 was ordered to cease by the War Office as counterproductive to the war effort and rightly so.



Canadian 'Going Over the Top'

This photograph by Canada's Official War Photographer, Captain Ivor Castle captured this scene of Troops 'Going over the Top' but on close examination of the picture the soldiers still have the canvas breech covers over the bolts of their rifles. The main photo was taken of troops on a training course and enhanced with shell bursts from pictures from a British Trench Mortar School outside St. Pol. His successor, Lieutenant William Rider-Rider did not believe in such enhancements or the use of staged scenes.

These photos were taken in mid to late 1916 with the issue of the steel helmet and the replacement of the Ross Rifle with the Lee-Enfield Mk III's as shown here.

DUKE'S DEN

MCPL DUKE A. BEAR WELCOME HOME! 1 MARCH 2023



Welcome home from overseas, MCpl Duke A. Bear! A little pre-deployment leave and back on Ops to Poland later this month. You think Duke is busy, so is his Regiment!

Up the Dukes!

MCPL DUKE A BEAR OPERATION UNIFIER POLAND MARCH- JULY 2023



MCpl Duke A Bear's official handover, from former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne to Cpl Tony Son, took place this evening at the Drill Hall during a very busy parade night.

"Operation UNIFIER is the Canadian Armed Forces mission to bolster the capabilities of the Security Forces of Ukraine through the provision of critical military training".

Our very best wishes to Cpl Son and Duke for a safe and successful deployment. Take care my friends!

Up the Dukes!

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

Editor's Note: We are please to present another article by Society member Don Manning highlighting another one of our past Dukes from WW II.

Lt. RAYMOND WALMSLEY K37129 (PREVIOUSLY RAYMOND LOISELLE) 28th ARMoured REGIMENT (BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT) RCAC



As WWII casualty records are now becoming more accessible, I decided to search for Duke's who are buried at Holten and located Lt. Walmsley. Accordingly, I was able to locate his Military Record at the Library Canada website, here follows an article on Lt. Walmsley.

LIEUTENANT RAYMOND WALMSLEY

Regiment & Unit/Ship

British Columbia Regiment, R.C.A.C.
28th Armoured. Regt.

Date of Death

Died 11 April 1945

Buried or commemorated at

HOLTEN CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY

IX. C. 5.

Netherlands

- **Country of Service** Canadian

Personal Information

Birth: 25 October 1920, Vancouver, B.C.

Change of name, 1942: from Loiselle to Walmsley

Marriage 6th February 1942, Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver, B.C. to Dorothy (Margaret) Scott

Children of the Marriage: A daughter was delivered still born, according to a notice that appeared in The Vancouver Province on 13 September 1945.

Death 11 April 1945, Breddenburg, Germany, aged 24 years 9 months.

Burial: Holten Canadian War Cemetery

Service Record Extracts

Lt. Walmsley's Service Record spans almost five years, the following is provided to give some perspective to his military service:

Attested to BCR (DCOR) Non-Permanent Active Militia: 7 June 1938

Attested to CASF, promoted to Corporal: 7 December 1939

Promoted to Sergeant, 1st Battalion, New Westminster: 5 August 1940

Confirmed Rank as Sergeant, 1st Battalion, DCOR at Nanaimo, B.C.: 5 November 1940

Files a Statutory Declaration of Change of name: 22 November 1940, Nanaimo, B.C.

On Command to Unit? Destructors Course, Camp Borden: 29 November 1941

Returned from "On Command": 15 December 1941

Permission to Marry: 26 January 1942 (to Dorothy (Margaret) Scott)

"On Command" to CAC Serial 2: 26 February 1942

Transferred to C.A.C., Camp Borden to C.A.R.: 11 March 1942

Qualified Unit Instructors Class II: Gunnery: 10 April 1942

Returned from "On Command": 15 April 1942

S.O.S. On Courses: 30 April 1942

S.O.S. CA (C) Embarked, #3 CACRU D032: 2 April 1942 – 16 April 1942 (Disembarked in U.K.)

T.O.S. CA (O): 3 May 1942

Disembarked, U.K.: 12 May 1942

T.O.S. #3 C.A.C. RU, U.K.: 13 May 1942

Attended f.o.p. to 9th Canadian Armored Regiment (B.C.D.)

Rank apparently lowered to Cadet: 29 June 1943

Discharged from Military – Camberley, Rank Cadet: 31 Dec 1943

Returned from OCTU Course at 100 (Sandhurst) OCTU/RAC: 11 February 1944

Reverts to status of Pre Cadet: 12 February 1944

Awarded The Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp: abt. 12 February 1944

Qual? 90% on Gunnery Class at CAC School: 14 – 26 February 1944

Qual 71% on Gunnery Course: 28 February 3 CACRU – 4 March 1944

Struck off Strength while taking OCTU course: 15 June 1944

SOS to Y5 List on proc on OCTU Course OCTU 100 (Sandhurst) Rank Sergeant 3CAC RU XL 3CA CRV: 14 April 1944

Return from #100 (Sandhurst) OCTU RAC Rank Lieutenant: 5 August 1944

Taken on Strength on return from Sandhurst CACRU: 6 August 1944

CACRU CAC Training Course "Qualified": 20 August to 17 September 1944

Proceed on CMHQ Course 705 Ser. No. 525 at AFV SCH Lulworlt 3CACRU: 29 November 1944

Return from CMHQ Course 705 Ser 525F 3CACRU: 6 December 1944

Attend CMHQ Course 705 Ser 525F "Qual Pass": 6 December 1944

Qual 66% on E ? at 3CACRU: 14 December 1944 to 5 January 1945

SOS to 2CACRU from 3CACRU: 12 February 1945

TOS from 3CACRU: 13 February 1945

SOS to CAC C X4 List 2CACRU: 19 February 1945

SOS X4 List to 28 Armored Regiment: 4 March 1945

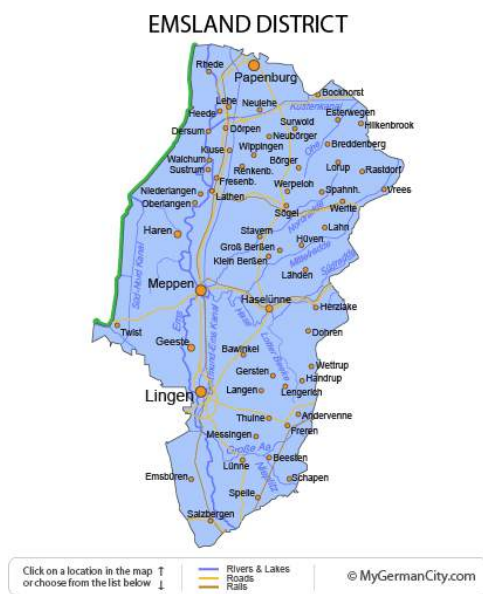
Killed in Action: 10 April 1945

SOS: 11 April 1945

Note 1: Lieutenant Walmsley was killed while leading the Regiment's attack on the town of "Breddenburg", Germany, according to a media report that appeared in the Vancouver Province on May 12, 1945. A Google search indicates that there is a Breddenburg in Germany but no Breddenburg. Today, Breddenburg is a municipality in the Elmsland District of Lower Saxony, Germany.

Note 2: The May 12, 1945, Vancouver Province article reproduced in this article indicates that Lt. Walmsley was seriously wounded during his training at Sandhurst. As he did not accompany the 28th Armored to Normandy in July 1944, it was likely because of his injuries in training, likely delaying his arrival on the front until March 1945.

Note 3: According to a Notice related to his marriage which appeared in The Vancouver Sun dated 3 November 1944, Lt. Walmsley received his commission at the completion of his training at Sandhurst.



Source: <https://images.mygermancity.com/maps/emsland-district.gif>

Campaign Medals Awarded or Entitled (Source: Veterans Canada)



1939 – 1945 Star



France and Germany Star



Defence Medal - War Medal 1939 – 1945



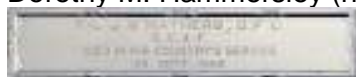
CVSM & Clasp (Canadian Volunteer Service Medal)



Memorial Bar (Source Canada.ca)

Issued 1947 to:

Dorothy M. Hammersley (his widow, then remarried)



Memorial Cross (Source: Canada.ca)



Issued 1945 to:
Mrs. Dorothy M. Walmsley (his widow) and Mrs. Anne Loiselle (his mother)

Selected Media



Vancouver Province, 3 November 1944 page 14, Mrs. Walmsley served as a Nursing Sister in the U.K. during the war.

Notice/Announcement in The Vancouver Sun

MRS. DOROTHY M. WALMSLEY, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W H Scott of Vancouver, was born in England in 1919. Her father was with the Canadian Army and her mother with the Imperial Nursing Service during World War I. She was married here February 6, 1942, to Lt. Raymond Walmsley, who went to England in May of the same year and received his commission at Sandhurst July 31 of this year.

Vancouver Sun, 3 November 1944 page 18
 COUVER DAILY PROVINCE, SATURDAY, MAY 12

Lt. Walmsley Dies as Wife Sails for Home

Lieut. Raymond Walmsley, 24, was killed in action leading The British Columbia Regiment's attack on the German town of Breddenburg on April 11, the day his wife, serving overseas with the St. John Ambulance Brigade, sailed for home.

Mrs. Walmsley, who is living with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Scott, 906 West Seventeenth, has been informed that her husband was killed instantly by a sniper's bullet.

A letter from a brother officer says that the town was "as usual held by Germans fighting to the bitter end." The Vancouver tank unit, attacking under "a withering burst of mortar and machine gun fire," was ordered to take its objective as soon as possible. He commanded the leading troop.

JOINED IN PEACE.

Son of Mrs. A. Loisele, 5333 Chester, he was educated at St. Patrick's and King Edward High schools, and enlisted for active service with The B.C. Regiment (D.C.O.R.) in which he had enrolled in peacetime, the day war was declared. He was married here in 1942, just before going overseas.

Lieut. Walmsley was severely injured in training at Sandhurst, from which he was commissioned last July, and spent several months in hospital. He rejoined his regiment only this February.

Besides his wife and mother, his sister, Miss Awia Walmsley, lives here.



LIEUT. R. WALMSLEY

"Khaki College" Set Up Overseas

OTTAWA, May 12.—(CP)—With the Canadian Army switching from an operational to static role following the end of hostilities in Europe, defense headquarters announced a comprehensive educational program that starts out with "basic civilian training," includes a khaki college and duty courses as part of the regular day's schedule.

The plan is designed to keep the troops occupied while waiting repatriation home.

The program affects about 300,000 overseas army men. It will not retard the process of repatriation.

Domesticated reindeer and wild caribou have somewhat similar physical characteristics.

Vancouver Province, May 12, 1945 page 32

INJURED

Tpr. Edward Gaythorpe Ross, Armored, slightly injured, son of John A. Ross, Vernon.

Lieut. Raymond Walmsley, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Loisselle of 5333 Chester, was killed in action on April 11 while fighting in Germany. He joined the DCOR in 1939 and went overseas with the 28th Canadian Armored Division in 1942. He was injured during training in England and later fought in Holland and Germany. His wife, Ambulance Sister Dorothy Walmsley, was a St. John Ambulance driver in England for seven months and returned to Vancouver last week.

Source: The Vancouver Sun 10 May 1945 page 3

Burial:

Lt. Walmsley was buried initially at Roman Catholic Church Burial Ground, Borger Cemetery, Netherlands. Lt. Walmsley was subsequently re buried at Holten Canadian War Cemetery, Holten, Rijssen-Holten Municipality, Overijssel, Netherlands, Plot IX.C5, the date of dispatch is 3 February 1947.



Image courtesy of Wouter van Dijken

Sources Referenced for this Article

Military Record, Library Canada: <https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/Home/Search?q=Raymonf%20Walmsley&>

Laurier Institute: <https://lmharchive.ca/canadian-divisions-of-the-normandy-campaign/4th-canadian-armoured-division/>

Breddenberg, Germany: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Breddenberg>

Commonwealth War Graves Commission: <https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/2228111/raymond-walmsley/>

Find a Grave: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/14041681/raymond-walmsley>

Veterans.gc.ca: <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/2228111?Raymond%20Walmsley>

Book of Remembrance, WWII, page 573:

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/books/page?page=573&book=2&sort=pageAsc>

Marriage Record and Death Record: Royal B.C. Museum Archives.

Article researched and prepared by:

Don Manning

Member, The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Museum Society

January 12 January 2023



Lt. GEORGE WALTER NATION 7TH BATTALION (BC) CEF

A memorial is erected close the Cross of Sacrifice at James Bay Cemetery in Victoria, B.C. which honours members of the family of Frederick and Abigail Nation, including Lt. George Walter Nation, 7th Battalion, CEF.

Family: Birth: 21 July 1894, Toronto, Ontario

Lt. Nation was the son of Frederick Nation (1861-1956), a director of Northern Crown Bank, "which was taken over by The Royal Bank of Canada in 1918". In 1916, Frederick and his wife Abigail nee Geach (1866-1920) lived at 1320 Rockland Avenue, Victoria, B.C.

Death: 25 July 1916 near Zillebeke, Flanders (age 22)

Burial Location: Plot VI.C.9 Railway Dugouts Burial Ground Transport Farm, Zillebeke, Arrondissement Ieper, West Flanders (see link below). (This location suggests that he was involved in an action near Ieper, Belgium.)

Military Attestation Details

Name: NATION, GEORGE WALTER

Rank: LT

Regimental Number: 77259

Date of Birth: 1894-07-31

Place of Birth: Toronto ON Canada

Enlistment Date: Nov 7, 1914, 12:00AM

Place of Enlistment: Victoria BC Canada

Unit: 30th Overseas Battalion

Reference: RG 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 7239 – 36

Item Number: 556815

Record Group: Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF)

Digitized service file - PDF format: B7239-S036

Excerpts from Military Record:

Occupation at Attestation: Law Student, Bodwell & Lawson, Victoria, B.C.

Attestation: 7 November 1914, enlisted as a Private in 30th Battalion, CEF

Previous Military: 88 Regiment Victoria Fusiliers. Victoria, B.C.

Sails for England from Halifax on SS Vanderland (SS Megantic) 23 Feb 1915

Transfer to 7th Battalion CEF: 8 May 1915

Joins 7th Battalion, Rank Temporary Lieutenant 8 May 1915

Transferred to Shorncliffe for office training: 27 October 1915

Assigned to 5th Officer's course: 14 January 1916

Taken on Strength, 7th Battalion: 19 April 1916

Embarked to France: 22 April 1916

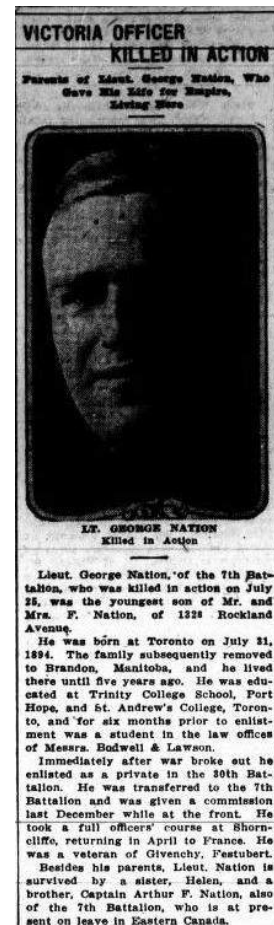
Reported Killed in Action: 25 July 1916

Medals & Decorations:

Not eligible for 1914-1915 Star

Plaque and Scroll s.n. 783480 forwarded to father 22 Feb 1921

Memorial Cross forwarded to father as his mother had passed away.



Obituary, 1 August 1916, The Daily Colonist, Victoria, B.C.



Credit: Veterans Canada

Links

CEF Record: <https://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.item/?op=pdf&app=CEF&id=B7239-S036>

Find a Grave, Belgium: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/12325433/george-walter-nation>,

Memorial Location: Ross Bay Cemetery, Victoria, B.C. Canada, note the date shown for his birth appears to be incorrect when compared to his attestation document:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/183758481/george-walter-nation>

Northern Crown Bank: <http://mhs.mb.ca/docs/business/northerncrownbank.shtml>

Book of Remembrance: <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/490333>

UPDATE FROM BCR MUSEUM SOCIETY



Former Commanding Officer of the BC Regiment, Lt Col Romano Acconci corralled the Regiment's collection of First World War Trench Art and had it polished and coated to prevent tarnish. It has been returned to display in the museum. The work was completely paid for by donors.

BCR Museum: WW1 Trench Art - Recondition Project.

By R.O.Acconci.

Our museum holds a number of artefacts known as Trench Art and these pieces were made from spent shell casings primarily by soldiers usually at Rest Areas during WW1. Sometimes they were made by civilians who acquired the shell casings and then sold them on. In some cases, civilians sold them on for soldiers as the shell casings themselves were deemed to still be Government property – and because of this, they were seldom signed!

But as three of our four pieces were clearly crafted by members of the 29th & 102nd Bns, we can safely assume that they were not made for resale! The fourth piece, (second from the left), is very ornate and skillfully made, and when I first joined the Regt in 1978 it formed part of a lamp in the WOs & Sgts Mess. It bears the date 1918 and Amiens...but has no unit identifier. The fifth piece, (on the far right), I believe is a 75mm gun shell casing and was presented to the Regiment by the BCR Ladies Auxiliary at the end of WW2 – hence, our Regt'l cap badge.

We took these five pieces to Acme Plating Ltd, now sadly, relocated to Mission – they were once conveniently operating on south Granville. Acme cleaned, polished, and lacquered them. They will not likely have to be re-polished within my own lifetime!

This modest project cost \$800 and was underwritten by Ted Hawthorne (former HCol), Museum President Bill Whelan & Colin Fenby (both of whom were former Lieutenants in the Regt) and myself. We believed this to have been a very worthwhile project because of the historical importance of these artefacts and because it was a good way to maintain and preserve the longevity of these pieces. There will be other such modest projects to be tackled in due course, and this one was the beginning.

BCR 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 tie and lapel pin. They also have the BCR hoodie and PT Shirts (male and female option).

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

These items can be purchased online and shipped to you at home.

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 Camp Flag (36" x 72") - \$150.00
4. **Regimental Ties** - \$45.00

To place an order, please e-mail KitShop@DukeABear.com

Mini Guidon



Cuff Links - \$35.00



Pen - \$25.00



Pocket Watch - \$105.00

REMEMBRANCE

We remember all past members of the Regimental Family who have passed away during 2022.
May they Rest in Peace knowing they are not forgotten.



ASLEEP

**CPL DILBAG 'DYLAN' HOTHİ
BCR NCM**



Cpl Dylan Hothi joined the BCR about 2011 and continued to serve in the Regiment as well as following a career in policing. He was well liked by all who served with him and will be remembered as a cheerful, keen and reliable soldier. At the time of his sudden passing, he was 27 years old.

From 26 Feb BCR Weekly News:

This week the Regiment said farewell to two of our members. Cpl Dylan Hothi's Memorial Service was held in Delta last Wednesday honoured by his close family, friends, and over one hundred members each from both the BC Regiment and the Surrey Police Department in attendance. Saturday saw the service for our former Trooper and President of the BCR Association and his daughter Gayle.

They will not be forgotten.



TROOPER ROBERT FEARNLEY BCR



Former BCR Trooper from the late 60's early 70s, Bob Fearnley and an adult daughter perished in a house fire at his residence in North Vancouver on the evening of the 8th of February. Bob was a former North Vancouver City Councilor as well as a former President of the BC Regimental Association.

City of North Vancouver Mayor Linda Buchanan said in a statement, "I am incredibly saddened to learn of the passing of Bob and his daughter. Bob was an active member of our community and dedicated many years to public service, having served on City Council from 1996 to 2011. On behalf

of Council I want to extend my deepest condolences to the friends and families across the North Shore who are grieving this tragic loss.”

They both shall be remembered.

LANCE CORPORAL CHARLES BERNHARDT 13 MARCH 1921 – 4 MARCH 2023



On the morning of Saturday the 4th of March 2023, our last surviving World War II member of the 28th Canadian Armoured Regiment (British Columbia Regiment) CAC, passed away just short of his 102nd birthday.

His son, Rob Bernhardt advised that his father’s health had been deteriorating for some time and that as per his request there will be no service but rather a gathering of the family later in the spring.

On behalf of all of the Regimental Family we pass on our sincere condolences to the Bernhardt family.

The Passing of LCpl (Ret'd) Charlie Bernhardt 28 Canadian Armoured Regiment (BCR)

As a follow up to last Sunday’s edition of **The BCR News**, the link to Charlie’s obituary is set forth below, for your easy reference.

https://www.castanet.net/obituaries/BERNHARDT%2C_Charles/27673/



Mrs Gayle Hawthorne BCR (DCO) Association President reads the citation.



**REMEMBERING THE PASSING OF
FORMER HONORARY COLONEL BILL IRELAND, QC
(MARCH 23, 1934 – MARCH 7, 2023)**



Fellow Dukes: We remember the passing of our good friend and colleague, the former Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Bill Ireland, a great supporter of the Regimental Family for many years. We have attached the link to today's edition of The Vancouver Sun, for your reference:

<https://vancouversunandprovince.remembering.ca/obituary/william-ireland-1087258043>

We will remember him!

Editor's Final Note:

We hope that you enjoyed reading this edition of The Duke, which covers off all the activities engaged in by the BC Regiment and our Regimental Family from 1 January until the 30th of March 2023. This becomes part of the history of the unit.

We thank all those who have contributed to the many articles attached, especially those who write articles for us on a regular basis. Of course, any errors are mine to both admit and correct.