Volume 2, Issue 10 April 2017



THE DUKE



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THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF VIMY RIDGE

9 APRIL 2017

It was a beautiful sunny spring day to hold the ceremony marking the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge and to pay homage to the service and sacrifices made by Canadians during the First World War.



The extensive program for a ceremony of this magnitude featured the following:

- Arrival of dignitaries, 21 Gun Salute;
- Review of the Honour Guard;
- Welcome of dignitaries by the Honourable Kent Hehr; Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence;
- Fly-past by replica period biplanes;
- Placement of boots by Their Royal Highnesses The Duke of Cambridge and Prince Harry;
- L'hymne à la Beauté du monde performed by Isabel Boulay accompanied by the Ottawa Children's Choir:
- Address by His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada:

- Dante's Prayer, performed by Loreena McKennitt;
- Commitment to Remember by Canadian Youth;
- Address by the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau;
- Salluit, performed by Elisapie Isaac;
- Address by HRH, The Prince of Wales;
- Address of the President of France, François Hollande;
- Prayer, Brigadier General Guy Chapdelaine;
- Act of Remembrance, Veterans;
- Last Post, Minute of Silence, Rouse and Lament;
- "Dedicated to you", by Johnny Reid;
- Laying of wreaths;
- "Crier tout bas", by Coeur de pirate;
- National Anthems:

God Save the Queen

O Canada

La Marseillaise;

- · Departure of Dignitaries;
- CAF Guard and RCMP Guard march off.





We were most proud to see fellow Duke Corporal Kelden Edwards on parade with the Guard of Honour. Congratulations Corporal Edwards for representing the Regiment in such a fine fashion! Other members of the Regimental Family were Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, President "Recce Bob" Remple, VAC/BCR representative Charlie Bernhardt (28 Armoured), accompanied by his son, Rob, BCR Museum VP Keith Maxwell, Honorary Captain and our European Field Agent Gauthier Hebbelynck, MWO Ronald Leblanc and his wife Tami, and David Letson. Other friends of the Regimental Family in attendance were Honorary Colonel Bill Rogers (15 Field RCA), Seaforth Highlanders: Honorary Colonel Michael Shields, Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Rod Hoffmeister, the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Ursich and RSM, CWO John O'Connor, Honorary Colonel Dale Murray (5 Field RCA) and retired Major General Stu MacDonald.













On the occasion of the visit of Corporal (Ret'd) Charles Bernhardt, 96, of Summerland, B.C., the official representative of the British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) at the Centennial of Vimy, 9 April 1917 – 9 April 2017.

Ode to Vimy Ridge, April 2017 for Charlie Bernhardt

Seeing 3600 pairs of boots at Vimy, What would that 3600 say: if they witnessed their Ridge today?

Standing on that sacred ground old soldier with medals wonders: "Are we mortals so equipped; So inspired to that direction? Are we so radical or so wise, to avoid War's most ignorant way?"

Not as a tourist, but as a pilgrim, came he him, that elderly Summerland gentleman. In beret and blazer with his son, Old soldier sees, green fields Between distant sentinel trees, and 3600 pairs of boots "What would the dead say?"

Reverent in that sacred place, where pale Freedom and Justice, stand near Mother Canada weeping, soldier asks: "Was the price too high?

So, tell me, tell me, John McCrea, (as you were the spokesman of your day),
"What would 66 thousand say?"
"What does Mother Canada say?"

David B.J Snyder, UE CD Penticton, B.C.

VIMY DAY

100th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION - 9 April 2017

On April 9th, 2017, the 100th Anniversary of the launch of the Canadian Corps successful assault on Vimy Ridge, the Army Cadets of the Lower Mainland from units present at the attack gathered in Vancouver's Mountain View Cemetery to remember and honour our fallen soldiers from the Great War from 1914-18 who are buried there. Almost 500 graves from veterans are present, many of who succumbed to their wounds after being returned to Vancouver. Supported by Mr. Glen Hodges, the Executive Director of MV Cemetery,

this is the third year that the Army Cadets have gathered to remember Vimy Day at the cemetery. Cadets numbering over 300 were present from the BCR, Seaforth, R West R, 39 SVC Bn, and 15 FD RCA, supported by a mixed band, including RCAF Air Cadet musicians, musicians from the 2381 BCR (Irish Fusiliers), Piper Mason Wilcox from 2290 BCR (101 DCOR), and a mini pipe band from POCO Seaforths. Ably supported by the CO of 39 SVC, who erected tentage for the guests at the Cenotaph and at the lunch area, and the staff of MV Cemetery, along with the Salvation Army WWII 'Snack' Truck Staff, St John's Ambulance volunteers providing first aid, Her Honour Lt-Governor of BC, Judith Guichon, and Col Dave Awalt, Commander of 39 Canadian Brigade, were in attendance as VIPs, as well as Mayor Gregor Robertson from Vancouver, who read the proclamation appointing 9 April 2017 as Vimy Day in the City. Also in attendance were many senior officers, including HLCol Al De Genova from 15 FD, LCol Doug Evans BCR, HCol Bill Diamond from 39 CER, and Vice President Gayle Hawthorne and others from our BCR Association and BCR CO's Committee.





The cadets led by the Vancouver Flag Party, and the Cadet Band under the command of Major Ken Whitney, were commanded overall by Cadet RSM Jalen Hall from 2290 BCR, with the RSM of 15 FD RCA as the Parade 2IC. On arrival at the Cenotaph and the main grave site, each cadet fell out and took post in front of a veteran's headstone. Four 2290 BCR cadets in period costume carrying ceremonial drill Lee-Enfields manned the sentry posts at the Cenotaph. The MC for the service was our own Cam Cathcart, and 'In Flanders Fields' was ably read by Mr. Christopher Gaze from 'The Bard on the Beach'. The Lament and escort piper for Her Honour was MWO Ronstat from the POCO Seaforths.







Following an excellent parade and service, all the cadets and her Honour attended at MV's Celebration Hall, where they were served lunch (Lisa's famous vegetarian chili) by Roger & Louise Prouse, Linda Whitney, and volunteers from 2290 including Mrs. Lisa Wroblewski and Dr Alastair Younger, our Sponsoring Committee Chair. We should not forget Maj Jim Barrett, CO 2290, who sits on the Vimy Committee with the Prouses, Cam Cathcart, Ken Whitney, and MWO Steve Kern, our parade marshal, and who writes all the parade orders and acts as the Vimy Parade Officer-in-Charge on the day of the Parade. Cadets and guests also had a unique opportunity to speak to Vimy Ridge in France via a wireless station which was set up on site. Our thanks and congratulations to all who attended and supported this event.

THE START LINE A Vimy Day Remembrance

By: David Sproule, Victoria, BC

One the eve of the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge I have a remembrance to share from my last year in uniform 25 years ago. On April 9, 1992 I was in Ottawa for a conference of the Provincial Liaison Officers for the National Employer Support Programme and our Chairman advised us that we would be walking over to the National War Memorial. There was to be a service not only to recognize the importance of the 75th anniversary of the battle but more importantly to honour the 12 Vimy veterans that would be gathered there. They were after all well into their 90's. It was a typical April day in Ottawa, sunny but cold and windy and we only had on our CF uniform. I remember it being bloody cold. The veterans were seated front and centre and muffled up in coats and blankets and they all had on various berets and with their medals proudly hanging from their chests. We and they awaited the arrival of the dignitaries.

There wasn't a large group that assembled that day because the event had not been advertised but in retrospect and because of the significance of the moment, there should have been many more present. Soon the official party arrived consisting of the Chief of Defence Staff, General John de Chastelaine, the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney and his wife Mila followed shortly by Their Excellencies Governor-General Ray Hnatyshyn and Mrs. Hnatyshyn. In turn they filed past the veterans shaking hands with each one and chatting briefly as they passed.

Then the officials took up their places in front of the National War Memorial and a brief service was conducted by the Chaplain-General, wreaths were laid and a trumpeter from the Canadian Forces Central Band played "Last Post" and "Rouse". The dignitaries left, the veterans were wheeled away to awaiting vehicles and we returned to our conference. I hope there was a reception or an event of some kind at Rideau Hall for these few distinguished veterans. They were after all, truly national treasures. Somewhere among my papers, I have a program from the event but was unable to locate in time for this article.

I remember watching with pride the ceremony at the Vimy Memorial that marked the 90th Anniversary at the newly refurbished memorial in 2007. The event was full of Canadian symbolism and seemed to rekindle our National awareness of the importance of the Battle of Vimy Ridge and the Memorial itself as its symbol. Thanks to the Federal Government and the Vimy Foundation and other agencies for keeping Vimy in our collective consciousness. I know that those few veterans that I saw on that cold April day 25 years ago as well as the ghosts of that generation, whose blood, sweat and tears claimed that ridge for Canada, would be appreciative of our acknowledgement of their accomplishment and place in our history. Remember – Lest we Forget.

FROM THE BARRETT BUNKER - April 2017

By: Major Jim Barrett



April 9th marked the 100th Anniversary of the taking of Vimy Ridge by the Canadian Corps in 1917, as part of a larger offensive by the Allies at Arras. An attack aimed to relieve pressure on the French, who were being mauled at Verdun. Both the French and British had attempted earlier assaults at Vimy with great losses, and it was up to the Canadian Corps to succeed. All Canadians can take great pride of what was to be the first major success for the Allies since 1914, but we must remember that we were not there alone. The 24th British Division was attacking to the left of the 4th Canadian Division and the 54th Highland Division was to our right flank. Our Regiment can take great pride in that we perpetuate three fighting Battalions of the Canadian Expeditionary Force who took part with three different divisions on that fateful Easter Sunday morning. This edition of the 'Barrett Bunker' briefly covers their experiences at Vimy, and looks at the excellence of our leadership throughout the corps beginning with the Commander of the Canadian Corps, Major-General, Sir Julian Byng.

When we think of the Canadian experience in the Great War, we often recall perhaps the Commander of the BEF, Field Marshall Douglas Haig, and our General Arthur Currie, but we often forget the great contributions of men such as General Sir Julian Byng. General Byng came to the command of the Canadian Corps after successfully orchestrating the withdrawal of all British troops from Gallipoli, without losing a man. He was an innovator and possessed great vision, which is something which any truly successful commander must possess. Byng advanced Officers who demonstrated leadership above position, and had the corps adopt the new infantry tactics developed by General Launcelot Kiggell, Haig's Chief-of-Staff, adding his own refinements.



General Julian Byng

To quote from Ryan Goldsworthy's article about the Vimy battle from the March-April Royal Canadian Military Institute Journal – SITREP, it was the months leading up to the battle with the careful and thorough preparations undertaken by the Canadian Command and soldiers that prepared them for victory. The former CO of the 7th Battalion CEF (British Columbia), BGen Victor Odlum wrote, "Our fights are won or lost before we go into battle."



Brigadier Victor Odlum

Vimy Ridge Trench Model - 1917



General Byng ordered the construction of a large scale model of the battlefield over which all battalions of the corps practiced and rehearsed their attacks, and all known and suspected German positions, trenches, Machine Gun posts, and pillboxes were identified on the map ensuring that each soldier of any rank knew what their objectives were located and what obstacles lay in their path. Detailed maps were distributed down to the lowest levels for the first time.

Preparations included extensive communications systems with laddered signals wire, so that messages could be relayed back through land line. Rail lines were laid to move supplies forward, casualties back, and many of the assault troops were held in chalk tunnels to protect them from German artillery fire and move them closer to the 'jumping off' points to their objectives.

Canadian railway workers build a railroad through captured territory during the Battle of Vimy Ridge in April 1917





The Big Guns fire at Vimy 1917

The artillery presence at Vimy, was the largest numbers of guns collected on a single front by the British Forces in the war to date, forming even a greater concentration than at the Somme in 1916. Shells were in great abundance, and their effectiveness was greatly enhanced by the new '106 fuse' which exploded on contact destroying enemy barbed wire. Lt-Col McNaughton borrowed counter battery techniques from the French and British and improved upon them, including techniques of 'flash-spotting' and 'sound ranging'. The Royal flying Corps dominated the skies, and provided valuable intelligence on the German Positions. 83% of the German Guns at Vimy were destroyed by Counter Battery fire. General Byng decided that a two week bombardment would be sufficient, leading up to an increased tempo of fire in the final week before the attack. Finally, the troops in the assault were supported by an effective creeping barrage.

Vimy was the only time that all four Canadian Divisions attacked together. With the 1st Canadian Division on the right flank, the 7th went 'over the top' at 0530 hours on the morning of the 9th of April 1917. By 0600 hrs, their first objectives at the 'Black Line' had been taken and the second objective at the 'Red Line' had been taken by 0800 hrs for the loss of 459 Killed, wounded and missing.



The 29th Battalion went over as part of the second wave at 0805 hrs and Tobin's Tigers captured all of their objectives, including the sunken road and Thelus Trench. They were held up for five minutes by a Canadian Battery falling short, before they were able to press on and capture Thelus Wood and the Farbus Line. They had suffered only 68 casualties.

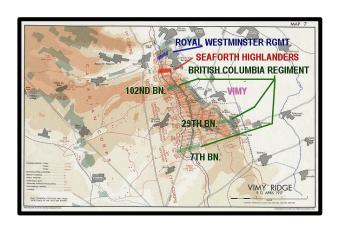
29th (Vancouver) Battalion advances at Vimy



Canadian Soldiers at Vimy in German Wire

As part of the 4th Canadian Division, the 102nd (North British Columbia) Battalion has been part of the first wave and had suffered serious losses. By the time they had secured their objectives, all of the officers in the front line had been killed or wounded. Company Sergeant-Major Russell to command and held the objective despite serious wounds. He received the DCM for his leadership and bravery and was later appointed RSM. The 102nd suffered 214 dead, wounded, and missing at Vimy.

Local BC Units at Vimy during the attack





General Byng talking with General Currie Feb. 1918

Vimy is rightly remembered as a great Canadian Victory, where all four divisions from across our country fought together for the first time. A victory achieved through effective leadership, innovation, improvements in artillery technology, dissemination of maps and critical information, as well as, the applications of improved tactics from the 'lessons learned' from previous battles. We should remember the significant contributions of General Byng who made those key decisions, and who went on to command an Army and led the attack with tanks at Cambrai later that year. He went on to serve Canada as our Governor-General after the war.

General Byng's successor to command of the Canadian Corps was General Currie, who was to further the leadership, mettle, and reputation of the Canadians with the taking of Hill 70 at Lens in August 1917.

In closing, I received a letter recently from a Dr. John Dickenson from Liverpool, who apparently follows '<u>The Duke</u>'. He has been researching a small group of soldiers from Liverpool, who served with the CEF in WW I. In doing research around the death of one of the soldiers serving with the 1st Bn CEF who died in the action near Givenchy in June 1915, he came across my April 2015 article covering the death of Lt. Robert Buscombe, 7th Battalion CEF (BC), on 19 June 1915. He has forwarded me research that confirms that our records are correct. Of interest, a photo of his headstone at Beuvry Communal Cemetery, near Pas de Calais, France, records his death incorrectly as being on 21 Jun 1915. Perhaps the Commonwealth Graves Commission Canada Agency will be able to assist with make a correction and have a new headstone made for Lt Buscombe. On behalf of all Dukes, I thank Dr. Dickenson for his contribution to our knowledge about one of our veterans.

HILL 70 MEMORIAL THE FREDERICK LEE WALKWAY – 24 March 2017

John and Donna Weston hosted a private get together at their residence in West Vancouver on Friday evening, 24 March 2017, to raise support for a unique initiative to profile the contributions made by people of Chinese background to Canada during World War I. Many of these contributions, such as an estimated 140,000 labourers from China who served in support roles behind the front lines, have been largely overlooked by most historians. In addition, the Chinese Community sought to assist the national war effort by the purchase of War Bonds and by enlisting in the CEF. One such example was Frederick Lee from Kamloops who fought with the 47 Bn CEF and was killed in action at Hill 70. The Frederick Lee Walkway to be located at the Hill 70 Memorial is the proposal to recognize the Chinese contribution to Canada during the Great War.



Attendees included the Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC, the Lieutenant Governor of BC, and the Project's National Chair Colonel Mark Hutchings. Her Honour warmly welcomed all attendees and Colonel Hutchings provided full details on the status of the project and remaining funds to be raised. The Hill 70 Memorial is to be completed for its official opening on 22 August 2017. Also in attendance was Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne along with friends of the Regimental Family, Howe Lee, King Wan and Don Foster.

Full details on the Project will be provided as they become available.

DEDICATION OF THE HILL 70 MEMORIAL MONUMENT - 8 April 2017

It was a beautiful spring day to remember the Battle of Hill 70 and to dedicate the newly completed monument to the members of the Canadian Corps who fought in one of the most important battles of the Great War. As many of our readers will know, this Battle was the first time the Canadian Corps was commanded by a Canadian, Lieutenant General Arthur Currie. The Hill was captured by the Canadian Corps and defended against persistent counter attacks by the enemy during the period 15 - 25 August 1917. The loss of life in the Canadian Corps was 1,877 and these fallen members are remembered by the small maple leaves imprinted on the pathways approaching the Amphitheatre.





The program for the Dedication of the Hill 70 Memorial Monument by His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, CC, CCM, COM, CD ("GG") consisted of the following:

- Arrival of the GG at the entrance;
- Private Ribbon Cutting on the pathway at the gates;
- Arrival of the GG in the Amphitheatre;
- Vice Regal Salute and Inspection of the Guard;
- Speeches:
 - Colonel (R) Mark Hutchings, Chairman of The Hill 70 Memorial Project;
 - The Invocation by Brigadier General Guy Chapdelaine;
 - The Minister of National Defence, Harjit S. Sajjan, PC, OMM, MSM, CD, MP ("MND"), complete with his Regimental Tie, addressed the many guests and duly noted that two of the six recipients of the Victoria Crosses for the Battle were awarded to Sergeant Major Robert Hanna and Private Michael O'Rourke, members of the 29 Bn and 7 Bn respectively, which The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own)

perpetuates. The Minister added how proud he was to be at the ceremony as a former Commanding Officer of the Regiment.

- The Mayor of Loos, Jean Francois Caron;
- The Republic of France, the Prefect;
- The Address of the Guest of Honour, GG;
- The Last Post, Minute of Silence, Rouse and Lament;
- Laying of Wreaths (Canada, France, The Canadian Corps, City of Loos-en- Gohelle and the Ambassador of Ireland, represented by Peter O'Connor, Cultural Attache with the ribbon referring to SM Hanna and Pte O'Rourke, as they were both from Ireland;
- Playing of the Hill 70 tune;
- National Anthems of Canada and France; and
- The departure of the official party.











The guests proceeded to the reception held at the Annex at the Loos-en Gohelle City Hall and were treated to an excellent array of food and beverages.



President Bob Remple and Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne had an excellent opportunity to visit with the MND, the CDS, General Jonathan Vance, the Commander of the Army, General Paul Wynnyk, the Canadian Joint Operations Commander, Lieutenant General Steve Bowes, the Commander of the RCAF, Lieutenant General Michael Hood and Colonel (R) Mark Hutchings. Colonel Hawthorne presented his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin to Generals Vance, Wynnyk and Bowes and thanked each of them for their support. Generals Vance and Bowes responded in kind by presenting the

Honorary Colonel with their coins. A special thank you to the MND for including Bob Remple and Colonel Hawthorne and kudos to his staff members Lieutenant Commander Ben Seaby, Matthew Luloff and Elyse Banham for their great assistance.

The Dedication Ceremony was the culmination of ten years of work. Truly a very memorable occasion, a wonderful accomplishment and a tribute to the members of the Canadian Corps!





Editor's Note: Bob Remple and Colonel Hawthorne had arrived early for the Ceremony and were fortunate to observe the Guard and the R22eR Band practise. As the Guard and Band exited the Amphitheatre, Colonel Hawthorne was given a very smart eyes left and very happily returned the salute. While the Guard took a quick lunch break, Colonel Hawthorne and Bob Remple had a quick visit with Corporal Kelden Edwards who advised that he was having a great time and had very much enjoyed a battlefield tour which had been organized for the Guard. President Bob Remple and the Honorary Colonel congratulated Corporal Edwards and thanked him for representing the Regiment so well. In recognition, Colonel Hawthorne presented Corporal Edwards with the Honorary Colonel's Regimental Coin.



LEVEE – 1 January 2017

HMCS Discovery was the first stop for the "BCR 2017 Levee Team" consisting of Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Major Jim Barrett and Past President and Honorary Colonel of 39 CER, Bill Diamond. Commander Bryan Price and many of our colleagues and friends provided us with the usual high caliber Navy hospitality. The crowded wardroom was open to all ranks for Levee this year and was well supported by the Naval Officers' Association.





The next stop was the 15th Field RCA Officers' and WOs' & Sgts' Mess for a brief visit. We paid our respects to the Commanding Officer of the unit, LCol Brent Purcell, and thanked everyone for their hospitality.

Colonel Hawthorne took a brief side tour to visit the ailing Dr. Chacko Simon, a great supporter of the Bursary and BCR Battlefield Educational Programs of the Regimental Association Charitable Trust.

Our last stop was a quick visit to the Officers' Mess of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, now back at the Armoury on Burrard. The Commanding Officer of the unit, LCol Paul Ursich, greeted us and ensured that our visit was a success.

Levee was a most enjoyable time this year, notwithstanding the very icy conditions.



SOVEREIGN'S MEDAL FOR VOLUNTEERS – 5 January 2017

Honorary Captain Agnes Keegan receiving the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers from the Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia on 5 January 2017





REGIMENTAL WHISKY TASTING – 21 January 2017

The annual Regimental Whiskey Tasting hosted by the Officers' Mess and the WOs' & Sgts' Mess was a sellout and a complete success. The festivities featured the presentation of five premium "Whiskies Under 10 Years Old" being the theme for the evening (all retailing for at least \$100.00 each). The commentary once again was provided by Sgt. Ryan Crawford, 39 CBG's very own spirits expert. Pipe Sgt Rosalie MacDonald did an excellent job piping for the whiskies showcased and for the presentation of Band Sgt. Rob Greenslade to the gathering for his remarkable crowd pleasing "Addressing of The Haggis". Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne was in attendance along with Regimental Association Director and Cadet Governor, Roger Prouse.





Congratulations to the PMC, Major Adam McLeod for another enjoyable and successful Regimental Whiskey Tasting evening!



ENROLLMENT CEREMONY – 25 January 2017

The following members of the Regiment were enrolled at a brief ceremony held in the Officers' Mess on a busy parade night:

Pte Christopher Asayo Pte Harmon Gill Pte Ruilin Zhang

The Oath was administered by Major Greg McCullough, OC Training, witnessed by many proud family members and friends of the recruits. Also attending were the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, Captain Jennifer Hillman, Captain, the Reverend Michael McGee and Cpl Kathleen Parker.

Congratulations to our new members of the Regiment.



MONTHLY LUNCHEON – 26 January 2017



The first luncheon of the New Year hosted by the Officers' Mess and coordinated by the Regimental Association was held in the Officers' Mess on Thursday, 26 January 2017. This month's theme was a "British Pub Style Lunch" which was very well received by our many serving members, members of the Regimental Association and our supporters. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne welcomed the many guests, provided details of upcoming events and introduced the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans. Colonel Evans provided a brief summary of the status of the Regiment and thanked everyone for their support.

We hope to see you at next month's Luncheon scheduled for Thursday, 23 February 2017, after the CO's Committee and Regimental Trust Meetings.

BRITISH COLUMBIA VETERANS COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION ("BCVCA") 27 January 2017

A special recognition dinner for volunteers was held at Northlands Bar & Grill in North Vancouver on Friday, 27 January 2017 with over nineteen members in attendance. In addition to the recognition of volunteers of the highly successful BC Licence Plate Program, BCVCA also acknowledged Norm Felix, Manager of Vehicle Registration & Policy Development for ICBC and Ted Hawthorne, HPLaw and Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, by presenting to each of them a Certificate of Appreciation. A special award featuring a framed "official" licence plate 000VAA and plaque was presented to Sharel Fraser by President Archie Steacy in recognition of Sharel's many years of service with BCVCA and Veterans generally. It was a delightful evening featuring an excellent dinner and the traditional hospitality of the team. Also in attendance was Regimental Association Vice President Gayle Hawthorne, also a member of BCVCA.



CO'S PARADE - 1 February 2017

The monthly CO's Parade commenced promptly at 9:00 pm with the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans, taking over the parade. The CO commenced the evening's proceedings by presenting three new recruits recently sworn in at an Enrollment Ceremony held on 25 January 2017. Privates Christopher Asayo, Harmon Gill and Ruilin Zhang were introduced to the Regiment and welcomed by one and all. Three members were then rebadged by the CO, namely Corporals Bostich and Edwards and WO Harris (formerly SALH). The CO then promoted MCpl Chu (39 Service Btn) to the rank of Sergeant and congratulated him on his well-deserved promotion. Colonel Evans congratulated the members, the Ops Staff and newly promoted Captain Ellis on the success of the survival exercise ("Ex. Abominable

Duke") in Harrison and enumerated the upcoming exercises during the training year (Ex. Virtual Dragoon in Vernon, Ex. Cougar Link, Yakama, Ex. Cougar Rage, Lewis-McChord and the Armoured Concentration in August). The CO acknowledged the two awards to Hawthorne, Piggott & Company ("HPLaw") recently announced by CFLC regarding the law firm's support of the Reserves. In addition, the CO noted the support received by Captain Ellis from his employer regarding his deployment on Op. Reassurance. In conclusion, Colonel Evans confirmed that all training events are fully funded for this training year. Great news indeed!









Also in attendance were Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Honorary Colonel Bill Diamond (39CER), Regimental Association Vice President Gayle Hawthorne and Farid Rohani.

GENERAL JONATHAN VANCE, CMM, MSC, CD, CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF VISIT TO VANCOUVER – 2 February 2017

Billed as "An Exclusive Conversation with Chief of Defence Staff ("CDS"), General Jonathon Vance" at the Pan Pacific Hotel – Crystal Pavilion, it was every bit of that and more. Preceding the lunch, General Vance made himself available for discussions on a wide range of topics. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne and Honorary Colonel (39 CER) Bill Diamond had an excellent opportunity to engage General Vance. Colonel Hawthorne presented General Vance with his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin and thanked him for his support. The Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans, was next to meet the CDS who immediately congratulated him on his recent promotion and confirmed that the Canadian

Forces General Order (Canforgen January 2017 De-linking of medical condition from promotion criteria) was very much a matter he wished to settle. The pre-luncheon reception was also an excellent time to visit with our many friends and colleagues. Colonel Hawthorne greeted the new Commander of Maritime Forces Pacific, Rear-Admiral Art McDonald, and discussed a number of matters of mutual interest. The overflow crowd enjoyed an excellent luncheon and was then treated to an outstanding presentation by the CDS complete with ample opportunity for questions.



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At the conclusion of the luncheon, many of the guests participated in a tour of HMCS Brandon (RCN Maritime Coastal Defence Vessel), which was tied up alongside the Canada Place Cruise Ship Terminal. It was a most enjoyable time complete with an exercise by 442 Transport and Rescue Squadron out of Comox. The exercise, conducted in Coal Harbour a beam of HMCS Brandon on a cool and sunny day, included a fly over and monitoring scenario by a CC – 155 Buffalo and manoeuvers by a Cormorant helicopter involving a sea extraction of two SAR Techs.







Regimental Family members also attending included Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Scott Shepherd, National Chair of CFLC, Dan Thomas (Commissionaires BC) and Raymond Greenwood (Canadian Club Vancouver).

Truly an extraordinary day indeed!

FOOD BANK PROGRAM SANCTA MARIA HOUSE – 5 February 2017

The collection of 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) in Kitsilano on Sunday, 5 February 2017. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne was greeted by the House Parent (Shelley) who thanked the Regiment and the Regimental Family. The Honorary Colonel conveyed greetings from the Regiment and Regimental Family and thanked Sancta Maria House for their good work.

Many thanks to the Regiment and the Regimental Family for their generous support of this important community outreach program.

Thank you Shelley for your hospitality!

Most Sincerely

Sharon Dobin: President





HONORARY COLONEL REGIMENTAL COIN PRESENTATION TO RAVI GILL 5 February 2017

Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne presented his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin to Ravi Gill, a good friend and supporter of the Regiment and the Regimental Family, in the presence of his "crew" during the half time festivities at Ravi's annual Super Bowl Party.

Congratulations Ravi and many thanks for the hospitality and support!



2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC THE DRILL HALL – 11 February 2017

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

On 11 February 2017, Major Jim Barrett and the Staff of 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC hosted the third of their series of Professional Development Days on the second Saturday of February, in which all of the BCR Cadet Corps, and 2472 15 FD RCA, were invited to send staff and senior cadets for a series of lectures and discussion topics for the morning, and to partake of a Canadian Armed Forces Familiarization Session hosted by the soldiers of The BC Regiment (DCO) in the afternoon. Topics in the morning consisted of Major Barrett's instruction on techniques of forward planning in which the participants were able to successfully complete training plans covering a three month period, including focusing on budgetary considerations. Guest lecturer, Ms. Tracy Cromwell, the Executive Director of the BC Military Family Resource Centre, spoke on that organization and its responsibility to support military families of the Regular Force and Primary Reserve, including the families of CIC & COATS Officers.

For the senior staff, the day ended with the preparation of a set of orders for a one day field exercise using the new orders formats. Concurrently with the training of the officers and senior cadets, leadership training was provided for the MCpls and junior Sergeants by Mr. Stan Clark.





Our thanks to the Sponsoring Committee of 2290 BCR who hosted a Hot Dog lunch for all participants. All cadets regardless of rank were invited to the CAF Familiarization in the afternoon. Those who attended received a valuable and interesting experience. This was an ideal opportunity for representatives from all of our BCR Cadet Corps to get together and it is hoped that for future sessions that we may see more of our cadet 'Regimental Family' at our home, the BCR Drill Hall.



Also in attendance at the training session were Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, the RSM, CWO Huf Mullick and Association VP Gayle Hawthorne.

Congratulations Major Barrett for your continuing efforts to raise the standard of training for our cadets and officers! It is definitely a building block for future success!

888 AVENGER SQUADRON ROYAL CANADIAN AIR CADETS – CO's PARADE – 14 February 2017

The first CO's Parade of the New Year was held at Walter Moberly Elementary School in South Vancouver and was very well attended with over 155 cadets on parade and many family and friends. The gymnasium was filled to capacity with elbow dressing in effect at all times! The unit was very well turned out complete with a full Band and Colour Party.

The program included a general salute to the Reviewing Officer, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, an inspection and a March Past led by the Parade Commander, WO2 Kabir Dhillon. Very impressive indeed!







The parade was then turned over to the Commanding Officer of the unit, Major Amar Tiwana, who proceeded with the Honours and Awards portion of the program. Major Tiwana presented numerous qualification badges for St. John Ambulance and promoted eighteen cadets to the rank of LAC. Colonel Hawthorne promoted six Flight Sergeants to the rank of WO2 and promoted the Parade Commander, WO2 Dhillon to the rank of WO1.

In addition, many long service medals were presented. Colonel Hawthorne also presented a beautifully framed Commission Scroll to Lt. Becky Tse.





Photos courtesy of Anna Tse

In concluding the magnificent evening, Colonel Hawthorne conveyed the greetings of the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans, and complimented the cadets on a great parade, for their excellent dress, drill and deportment.

Congratulations 888 Avengers for a great evening!

NATIONAL FLAG OF CANADA DAY QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK – 15 February 2017

The City of Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, with the support of The Canadian Club of Vancouver, held a special flag raising ceremony at Queen Elizabeth Park to celebrate the inauguration of the Canadian National Flag on 15 February 1965.

The ceremony, very well attended by the public notwithstanding the inclement weather, saw the nation's flag raised on the new flag pole at Vancouver's "highest peak". The new 60' flag pole and Canada Flag (6' by 12') were donated by The Flag Shop to honour the legacy of the 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.



Photo courtesy of Silvester Law



Congratulations to The Flag Shop, Susan Braverman, President, and her mother, Doreen, a founder of The Flag Shop, for a job well done!

Attending on behalf of the Regiment was Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne who was acknowledged by John C. Coupar, Commissioner, Park Board, as "representing the very well-known Vancouver Regiment, "The Dukes"!

2827 BCR (DCO) RCACC (PORT MOODY) CO's PARADE – 21 February 2017

The CO's Parade held on February 21st was a full house with 55 cadets on parade. The cadets were well turned out and their drill and deportment was very well done. The Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, and the Commanding Officer, Captain Robert Rothwell, conducted the inspection. The CO then proceeded with promotions, followed by the presentation of long service medals by Louise Prouse, Honours and Awards Executive of The Army Cadet League of Canada, BC Branch, and Cadet Governor Roger Prouse. The CO then turned the parade over to the Honorary Colonel who proceeded with the presentation of Commission Scrolls to three CIC Officers. Colonel Hawthorne provided background information on the importance of the Commission Scroll and the wording contained therein. It was also pointed out that each scroll was countersigned by fellow Duke, the Minister of National Defence, Harjit S. Sajjan, PC, OMM, MSM, CD, MP. After Colonel Hawthorne's brief congratulatory address, the parade was dismissed and the cadets, CIC Officers and guests enjoyed a brief social with light refreshments.

Congratulations to everyone at 2827 BCR in Port Moody!



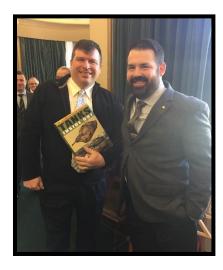
MONTHLY LUNCHEON – 23 February 2017

The February Luncheon hosted by the Officers' Mess and coordinated by the Regimental Association was held in the Officers' Mess on Thursday, 23 February 2017. This month's theme was a "Taste of Italy Lunch" which was very well received by our many serving members, members of the Regimental Association and our supporters. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne welcomed the many guests, provided details of upcoming events and introduced the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans. Colonel Evans provided a brief summary of the status of the Regiment and thanked everyone for their support.





At the request of the Commanding Officer, the RSM, CWO Huf Mullick, took the floor to recognize the 28 years of service of retired Warrant Officer Marvin MacNeill, LdSH (RC). After numerous memorable presentations, Marv thanked everyone for their kind words, presentations and noted that in retirement he will remain active and continue his lifetime of engagement with the CAF by supporting a Cadet Unit in Chilliwack, publishing his operational memoirs and continuing his hobby of bagpiping.







Colonel Hawthorne presented his Regimental Honorary Colonel Coin to Marv and thanked him for his service and all of his work for the Regiment while Operations Warrant Officer.

Congratulations Marv and all the very best in your retirement!

THE ANNUAL PAARDEBERG DINNER – 25 February 2017





The annual Paardeberg Dinner hosted by the WOs' & Sgts' Mess, commemorating the 117th anniversary of the Battle of Paardeberg, was held at the Drill Hall on Saturday, February 25th. The BCR Irish Pipes & Drums led by Pipe Major Matthew Dolan piped in the Head Table consisting of the PMC, Sergeant Stephen Cobb, Lieutenant Colonel Chris Mullins, 39 CBG BSM, CWO Sean Parker, RSM, CWO Huf Mullick, the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne and the Padre, Captain, the Reverend Michael McGee. Brass & Reed Band, led by Bdr Brian Smith, provided the entertainment throughout the dinner and both bands presented special performances during the course of the evening. A very great showing by our two great bands!

After the dinner, the speakers for the evening were RSM, CWO Huf Mullick, who recognized Lieutenant Colonel Chris Mullins, former BCR RSM and 39 CBG BSM CWO Sean Parker, and the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans.

ESQUIMALT, B.C - 2 March 2017





2290 BCR and 2472 15 FD MARKSMANSHIP CHALLENGE

On 4 March 2017 cadets from both 2290 BCR and 2472 15 FD faced off in an air rifle shooting contest for the 'Barrett Marksmanship Challenge Cup', donated by Major Jim Barrett & his brother Captain Gord Barrett in memory of their father, a WW II veteran, AB Seaman G.J. Barrett 1924-2015. The cup was a way to bring back the spirit of inter-cadet corps competitions, to foster comradery between the cadets, and to build marksmanship skills.

Competition was close with both team shooting three scored relays to determine the top shot from each corps, the top shot in the competition, and the overall winner to be awarded the Barrett Marksmanship Cup for the year.

Top shot for 2472 15 FD Cadets was Sgt Victor Villavincencio with a score of 233. Sgt Jack Chen for 2472 BCR carried off the award for 2290 BCR and competition Top Shot with a score of 242, narrowly beating out Sgt Austin Lee's 240.



Sgt Villavincencio Top Shot 2472 15 FD



Sgt Chen Top Shot Overall & 2290 BCR

The winner of the aggregate total scores from the two team was 2290 BCR, who will hold onto the Barrett Marksmanship Cup until 2018 when the competition will be hosted over at the Bessborough Armoury by 2472 15 FD.



2290 BCR Team Cdt Chow, Cdt Hua, Sgt Lee, Sgt Chen, Maj Barrett, Col Hawthorne



Cadets from 2290 BCR and 2472 15 FD

CADET INSTRUCTORS CADRE BRANCH DINNER – 4 March 2017

The 19th Annual Vancouver Area CIC Branch Mess Dinner was held on Saturday night at the Royal Westminster Armoury in New Westminster. The very enjoyable evening included cocktails and a social in the Officers' Mess, a first-class dinner, the Loyal Toast and a Toast to the Branch. Lieutenant Colonel Terry Kopan introduced the Head Table which included the Guest Speaker, Jerymy Brownridge, the CO of The Royal Westminster Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel David J. Vernon, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Vice President of the Regimental Association and 2290 BCR Sponsoring Committee member Gayle Hawthorne, Cadet Governor Roger Prouse, and Louise Prouse, Honours & Awards Executive of the Army Cadet League.

Also attending from the Regimental Family were the Commanding Officer of 2290 BCR (101 DCOR) RCACC, Major Jim Barrett and his wife Patricia, the DCO of 2381 BCR "Irish Fusiliers" RCACC, Captain Jackson Wong and Captain Jiri Motak, of 2290 BCR.

Colonel Kopan introduced the Guest Speaker, Jerymy Brownridge, Private Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor of BC, Her Honour Judith Guichon, and the Executive Director, Government House, who delivered an excellent address on the Office of the Lieutenant Governor which was very well received by all attendees. All guests received a complimentary copy of "A Crown of Maples, Constitutional Monarchy in Canada", compliments of Her Honour, Judith Guichon.

Congratulations to Lieutenant Colonel Kopan, Committee Chair, and his Committee, for an excellent evening and dinner. "Illuminate Viam"!



Photo courtesy of Wayne Emdy

CAPTAIN ELLIS – OP REASSURANCE IN POLAND – 6 March 2017

Just to provide a little insight to what I am doing on Deployment:

Workup was fast and furious, but relatively painless as our OR sent me out the door with my files in a row and four weeks in Edmonton, conducting ranges, receiving various deployment briefs, and multiple immunizations was over before I knew it. I was lucky enough to go home for just over a week, and see my family at home, and at the unit. After receiving many well-wishes from both of my families, I was back in Edmonton, and getting loaded on a plane bound for Eastern Europe.

After a brief stop-over in Prestwick Scotland we landed in Poland and took a cruiser on a long ride for 5 hours to the DPTA training area in Western Poland. This base is approximately 342 square kilometers temporarily housing many NATO nations for training, mostly Poles, Dutch and US. We received a quick handover from the previous rotation, and got straight to work on our rotation. Our main task on Op REASSURANCE is to conduct interoperability training with NATO allied through a series of joint exercises, and my role is the Ops 2/ Plans 2 responsible assisting the HQ with day-to-day ops, and long-term strategic planning. We are housed in a former Communist barracks, with a full kitchen, and proper gym facility for exercise. I will be attending out first major exercise, which is a month long exercise in Hoenfels Germany, and will be the on-the-ground ops representative from the Task Force. The lead unit will be of US origin, and it should be a great opportunity to conduct some effective training.

I am looking forward to more operations later on, as well as traveling to the different training locations that we will be visiting throughout Europe over the next six months. I will be able to provide more updates as time progresses, was just looking to check in.

Paul 06 Mar 17





UPDATE FROM OFFICER CADET WONG – 11 March 2017

Major Prouse,

It has been a while since I have emailed you and I apologize for not replying to some of your previous ones, I had some difficulty accessing this email. However, since returning to school after the winter break, lots have been happening.

We started the second semester of studies after the winter break and there have been lots of activities to keep us all busy. The most significant of these was Exercise Blizzard Nordique the annual winter exercise that the Cadet Wing participates in. We conducted the exercise at CFB Valcartier where the snow was as tall as I was and the temperature always below 0 degrees. The exercise is meant to teach recruits like us how to survive in the winter and the complexity of winter warfare. This exercise brought back many memories of my first winter exercise with 2381 RCACC where we used snowshoes and arctic tents and learnt to build quinzhees. A new experience from this exercise was eating rabbits instead of just rations. We roasted a rabbit over the fire and survived off of that for dinner. I do not have many pictures of the exercise; however, the link below will allow you to see all the things that we do.

https://www.flickr.com/photos/cmrsj-rmcsj/collections/72157671599800321/

The school year is nearing its end with only two more months for me at this base. During this time, we will be having many events including the Commandant's inspection, the Drill Team Competition, and the Final Parade. Studies are going fairly well as I continue to pursue a Bachelor's of Science and perhaps another degree if I have the time for it. After the Final Parade, I will be going back to finish my Basic Training at the Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School before I move to the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston. I will continue the rest of my bachelor's degree at Kingston as I continue my career training to become an Armoured Officer.

Aside from school, I make sure I take time to do sports and explore the city. I go to the gym every weekend to play badminton aside from fencing with the school team during the week days. I also took four of my friends on a trip to New York City during the reading break on the last week of March. I took many photos and video, and I am currently working on a video project as a hobby.

Lastly, I would like to thank you again for emailing me from time to time and supporting me and many others who have chosen to pursue a career in the military because of the BCR Family. Please send my gratitude and regards to Mrs. Prouse and Colonel Hawthorne for their continued ongoing support of our military careers. I have attached two photos. One of which is the photo of my squadron, Iberville. The other is a portrait of me in scarlets.





Thanks, Officer Cadet Wong

RICHARD T. LEE, MLA, DEPUTY SPEAKER PRESENTATION TO HPLAW – 24 March 2017

Richard T. Lee, MLA for Burnaby North and Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, attended at the offices of Hawthorne, Piggott & Company ("HPLaw") on Friday, 24 March 2017, and presented Congratulatory Certificates to the firm's Senior Partner, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, on behalf of the Premier of the Province, Christy Clark, and himself, in recognition of HPLaw receiving a Provincial Award and a National Award from the Canadian Forces Liaison Council ("CFLC") for their support of Reservists in the Canadian Armed Forces.

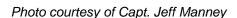
Major Adam McLeod, an Associate lawyer with HPLaw who nominated the firm for the award, was also part of the presentation ceremony.



CANADIAN FORCES LIAISON COUNCIL ("CFLC") 2017 EMPLOYER SUPPORT AWARDS CEREMONY – 25 March 2017

The biennial Awards Ceremony of CFLC (BC) was held on Saturday, 25 March 2017 at 11:00 am in the Officers' Mess of The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada. The program included opening remarks from Colonel Nigel Whittaker, Regional Liaison Officer (Pacific) and Mr. Lyall Knott, QC, BC Chair of the CFLC. Brigadier General Nic Stanton, Deputy Commander of 3 Canadian Division, also addressed the attendees and provided a thorough backdrop and context to all guests regarding our Reservists and the mission of CFLC. General Stanton introduced the Guest of Honour, the Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia. Her Honour delivered a very gracious welcoming address to conclude the list of speakers. Good friends Lieutenant Colonel Terry Kopan and retired Commander King Wan, were also in attendance and acted as the Aides de Camp for Her Honour.

The seven Best Practices Awards were presented by Her Honour. The final ward, a Certificate of Excellence for support to the Canadian Armed Forces ("Best Employer") was presented to Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Senior Partner of Hawthorne, Piggott & Company ("HPLaw"), by the Lieutenant Governor. Major Adam McLeod, an Associate at HPLaw and the nominator, accompanied Colonel Hawthorne to receive this acknowledgement.







In conclusion, a brief ceremony was conducted to mark the Change of Appointment of the BC Chair from Mr. Lyall Knott, QC to Mr. Derral Moriyama.

A reception followed with an excellent opportunity to visit the many friends and colleagues in attendance.

Regimental Family members attending included the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans, MWO Ron Leblanc, Regimental Association VP Gayle Hawthorne, Honorary Colonel 39 CER Bill Diamond and Dan Thomas.

MONTHLY LUNCHEON – 30 March 2017

The March Luncheon hosted by the Officers' Mess and coordinated by the Regimental Association was held in the Officers' Mess on Thursday, 30 March 2017. This month's theme was a "Taste of Greece" which was very well received by our guests. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne welcomed everyone, provided details of upcoming events and introduced the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans. Colonel Evans provided a brief summary of the status of the Regiment and thanked everyone for their support.



ST JULIEN MESS DINNER - 1 April 2017



The Officers' Mess held their annual St Julien Mess Dinner commemorating the 102nd anniversary of the Battle of St Julien (24 April – 5 May 1915) on 1 April 2016 in the Drill Hall. The Head Table was comprised of Colonel David Awalt, 39 CBG Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans, the Commanding Officer, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Major Don Bentley, "Recce" Bob Remple, President of the Regimental Association and the PMC, Major Adam McLeod. The Regiment's two volunteer bands, the Brass & Reed Band and the Irish Pipes & Drums, had a very strong performance and added a great deal to the overall success of the evening. The Toasts were given by OCdt Brian Murata (The Queen), Capt Adam

Brown (The Fallen), OCdt. Richard Zheng (HMCS Vancouver), OCdt Sam Serviss (The Rifles) and Maj Don Bentley (The Regiment). The Commanding Officer delivered a "State of the Regiment" report and Colonel Awalt closed with a speech very complimentary of the Regiment. Major Don Bentley was "mugged out" in true Duke fashion after 40 years of service to the Regiment! Congratulations Don and well done!





CHURCHILL SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF VIMY RIDGE GUEST SPEAKER, COLONEL (RETIRED) KEITH MAXWELL 11 April 2017

The Churchill Society of British Columbia ("CSBC") marked the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge with an excellent presentation by Colonel (Retired) Keith Maxwell in the Main Ballroom of The Vancouver Club on Tuesday evening at 7:00pm. A full house was treated to a first class presentation covering "the mobilization and development of Canada's Army in the First World War and the training and experience that prepared it for such a notable achievement." Colonel Maxwell also provided greater context regarding the British Army Spring Offensive of 1917, known as the Second Battle of Arras, detailed information on the Four Canadian Divisions (48 Battalions) that saw action and attacked simultaneously, and the role of British Columbians, both senior and everyday soldiers.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne presented his Honorary Colonel Regimental Coin to Colonel Maxwell in recognition of his years of support of the Regiment and the

Regimental Family. Colonel Hawthorne also presented his HCRC to Brooke Campbell, Vice President of CSBC and a great supporter of the Regimental Association and its Charitable Trust.

An excellent evening was enjoyed by all!





ST. JULIEN DRUMHEAD SERVICE & CO'S PARADE - 12 April 2017

The Regiment and Regimental Family commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge by conducting a non-denominational Drumhead Service at The Drill Hall on a regular parade night. The traditional service consisted of marching on the Guidon while the Regiment and 2290 BCR(101 DCOR) RCACC were on parade, the singing of O Canada, the "Piling of the Drums" to form an "altar" in place while the Regiment formed a hollow square, presenting the Guidon to the Padre, the Reverend Michael McGee, the placing of the Guidon over the altar by the Padre, piping the Lament by Pipe Major Matthew Dolan, playing the Last Post by outgoing Bugle Major John More and Reveille by Bugle Major Chris Ahern and concluding the service with marching off the Guidon.





The Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Doug Evans, proceeded with a CO's Parade by addressing the soldiers and complimenting them on their turnout and by awarding and presenting CO's

Commendations to Pipe Corporal Jennifer Belanger and Band Member Yukari Mametsuka for their excellent support.

To conclude the evening, retired Lieutenant Colonel David Sproule, presented a completely refurbished bugle to be known as the BCR "Last Post Bugle" to retired Bugle Major John More who in turn presented it to the new Bugle Major, Chris Ahern. Bugle Major Ahern was invited to play a charge which he smartly completed while facing the Regiment. It was a fitting conclusion to an excellent Drumhead Service and CO's Parade.







Photos courtesy of Joe Ng

Also in attendance were Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Honorary Colonel Bill Diamond (39 CER), Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Scott Shepherd, Vice President of the Regimental Association, Gayle Hawthorne, and numerous members of the greater Regimental Family.

Many thanks to the Regiment and the Regimental Family for a great evening!

VAISAKHI DAY PARADE IN SURREY – 22 April 2017



There was a strong BCR presence at the 19th annual Vaisakhi Day Parade in Surrey which attracted over 400,000 people to the annual celebration of diversity and inclusion. The CAF contribution to the annual New Year and commemoration festivities was led by the Pipes and Drums of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, followed by the 39 CBG contingent (including BCR representation of Corporals Hogan, Lee, Parker and Sidhu with Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne) and representatives from the RCN in Esquimalt, a marching unit from 3300 BCR (Bhai Kanhaiya) RCACC accompanied by the CO, Major Lee Taylor, DCO, Captain Karm Nagra and SC Chair Harminder Palak) and the CO of 888 Avenger RCACS, Major Amar Tiwana. BCR Corporal Zhou manned the G-Wagon

static display close to the start line of the parade (Gurdwara Sahib Dasmesh Durbar). Notwithstanding some poor weather during the last half of the parade, nothing dampened the spirits of the revelers. Truly a great celebration with tremendous hospitality all around!



ANZAC DAY
VICTORY SQUARE – 25 April 2017



The annual observance of ANZAC Day was held at the Cenotaph at Victory Square in Vancouver at 6:00 p.m. The commemoration ceremony marked the 102nd anniversary of the Battle of Gallipoli.

Members of the Regimental Family in attendance were Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, 39 CER Honorary Colonel Bill Diamond, Bugle Major Chris Ahern (Last Post and Rouse) and Dan Thomas.

The following is an article written by our friend, Roddy MacKenzie, reprinted with his permission:



"Today's Memorial Service at the Vancouver Cenotaph was hosted by CANZBA [Canada, Australia & New Zealand Business Association] with the support of the Australian and New Zealand Consulates in Vancouver.

On my arrival, I spoke with BC Regiment Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne about his pilgrimage to Vimy Ridge two weeks ago for the Centenary. As well, I met New Zealand Consul General Nick Fleming and Australian Consul General Kevin Lamb.

They were delighted I'd cared enough while in Turkey in 2012 to visit Gallipoli and pay my respects at their battlesites, monuments and cemeteries.

As it happened, for this Service I was seated with Turkish Consulate staff. There I had the good fortune to sit beside Bulent Aksari. I learnt much from Bulent about Turkey in our conversation before the Service commenced.

The Commemorative Address was delivered by Australian Consul General Kevin Lamb. He graciously compared Gallipoli to Canada's Battle of Vimy Ridge, even though the scale of the tragedy of Gallipoli is so overwhelming it dwarfs Vimy. Then the Padre Father Keith Gilbert led us in prayers. Next, Turkish Consul General Anil Bora Inan said the Words of Remembrance and recited for us Ataturk's Immortal "Letter to ANZAC Mothers".

Wreaths were laid by Australia's and New Zealand's Consuls General and British Consul General Nicole Davison as well as our Royal Commonwealth Society President Shawn Wade and others. Then came The Ode to the Fallen, The Last Post, Two Minutes Silence and The Rouse.

A memorable event was the Singing of the National Anthems because this was facilited by printing the words of each Anthem in the Programmes which were given to everyone in attendance. First we sang ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR, then GOD DEFEND NEW ZEALAND [first in Maori, then in English] and finally O CANADA.

This moving meaningful Memorial Service of Remembrance of the worst nightmare Australia and New Zealand have ever endured militarily concluded with The HAKA and other traditional songs and dances of the Maori of New Zealand performed by "Te Tini a Maui". That was a heartwarming conclusion.

Also heartwarming was the number of people who reverently filled Victory Square in downtown Vancouver for this Service. In Australia and New Zealand, every April 25th countless Services of Remembrance are held throughout both nations to honour those who fought the Battle of Gallipoli."

THE BURMA STAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION – BC CHAPTER "FLAG LUNCHEON" – 26 April 2017

A most enjoyable luncheon of The Burma Star Veterans Association, BC Chapter, was held at the 15th Field Artillery Regiment, Sgts' & WOs' Mess, Bessborough Armoury, on Tuesday, 26 April 2017. Bob Chown, the host and master of ceremonies of the reception and luncheon, welcomed three Burma Star Veterans, other veterans, family, friends and supporters. The program included a brief commentary on Burma, The Forgotten War 1942 to 1945, an address by the President of the Association, Frank Kellins (RCAF Burma Star Veteran) and brief addresses by John Redmond (Artillery Museum), Susan



Moogk (RCA Museum), King Wan (Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society, "CCMMS"), Peter Moogk (RCA Museum) and Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne. It was a wonderful recognition of the service, sacrifice and commitment of our Burma Star Veterans. It was also a perfect opportunity to announce the fact that the CCMMS will become the new home for the Association's Flag which will be retired from service at a special ceremony to be held on November 4th.

All guests enjoyed the customary superb lunch prepared by Mrs. Lum and her staff.

MONTHLY LUNCHEON – 27 APRIL 2017

The April Luncheon hosted by the Officers' Mess and coordinated by the Regimental Association was held in the Officers' Mess on Thursday, 27 April 2017 after meetings of the CO's Committee and the Regimental Trust. Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne welcomed everyone, provided details of upcoming events and introduced the RSM, CWO Huf Mullick, who, as master of ceremonies, conducted the Departure with Dignity ("DWD") Ceremony for retired MCpl Andrew Siwy, CD. Presentations to MCpl (R) Siwy included a Certificate of Service by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans, a Service Pin by the Honorary Colonel, Ted Hawthorne, and a Certificate of Appreciation from the WOs' & Sgts' Mess by the RSM. Also, Colonel Hawthorne thanked Andrew for his service to the Regiment and for his support of the Regimental Association. CWO Mullick and Colonel Hawthorne also thanked Andrew's fiancée, Jessica, for her great support of Andrew and the Regiment.





At the conclusion of the DWD, Colonel Evans provided a brief summary of the status of the Regiment and thanked everyone for their support.

This month's theme was a "Taste of Ukraine" which was very well received by our guests.

A most enjoyable time indeed!

The next scheduled luncheon will be held on 1 June 2017.

CADET GOVERNOR'S REPORT

By: Roger W. Prouse, BCR Cadet Governor

All our Corps are doing well, notwithstanding the usual trials and tribulations that are normal at the Corps level. The Army Cadet Programme is currently enjoying an increase in enrolment of Cadets eager to get involved in the training and activities being offered.

All the BCR Corps are busy wrapping up the year's training, processing camp applications and preparing for their Annual Ceremonial Reviews (ACR).

On Sunday April 9, four of our Corps from the Vancouver Lower Mainland gathered for the Annual Vimy Commemoration Parade at the Commonwealth Grave Site at Mountain View Cemetery.

Our Cadets were joined by other Army Cadets Corps for a very moving tribute to our Fallen and to the many who made the ultimate sacrifice at the Battle of Vimy Ridge in April 1917. Her Honour, The Lieutenant Governor of BC, Judith Guichon OBE, the Commander of 39 Bde Gp, Col David Awalt CD, the Honourable Susan Anton BC Attorney General and His Worship, Gregor Robertson, Mayor of the City of Vancouver were among the special guests in attendance.

The Vancouver Cadet Flag Party and the combined bands of the 2381 BCR (Irish Fusiliers), the 2947 12th Svc Bn, 655 RCACS, and the Pipes and Drums of the 2893 Seaforth, led the parade of over 320 Army Cadets down to the Commonwealth Grave site where a tribute to the fallen was conducted by HMaj Cam Cathcart. C/CWO Jalen Hall, RSM 2290 BCR was the Parade Commander. Upon conclusion of the Tribute, the Cadets and guests returned to Commemoration Hall where lunch was served. Congratulations to the Vimy Committee led by Cam Cathcart for arranging a very fitting Commemoration on the 100th Anniversary of the Battle for Vimy Ridge.

I am also pleased to report that C/MWO Sanford Lin from the 2381 BCR Irish Fusiliers RCACC is the recipient of The Young Citizens Foundation \$5,000 scholarship. There were over 60 Army Cadet applicants from across Canada and after a through review of the short list by the National Awards Committee of the Army Cadet League of Canada, C/MWO Sanford Lin was announced as the recipient of the Scholarship. An official presentation will take place at the 2381 BCR Irish Fusiliers RCACC Annual Ceremonial Review on Sunday 4 June. Congratulations Sanford.



On behalf of our five BCR Cadet Corps, we wish you a happy, fun and safe summer.

THE BCR FLAG FLIES PROUDLY AT THE BOTTOM OF THE EARTH

By: William McCarthy

Between January 5 - 6, 2017 our Regimental flag flew proudly alongside the Canadian flag at the geographic South Pole, literally at the bottom of the world.

My flags will travel with me to 0° latitude and 0°longitude and this April to 90° North – the North Pole. Once the flags have been to the four points, I will frame them and present copies to the Regiment.

I spent eight days in the Antarctic of which two days were spent at the Pole. It is currently summer on the 7th continent, where the sun is present 24/7 and the temperatures are not uncomfortable if one dresses appropriately. (-25° C at the Pole and -2 to -8° C at the base camp, which was 1,100 kilometers away.) Soon winter will come to the Antarctic and the entire continent, 1.5 times the size of the United States, will go "dark" for almost eight months.

The logistics of travelling to the bottom of the world reflect the distance and the remoteness of Antarctica. From Vancouver you fly to Toronto where you connect on a 10.5 hour direct flight to Santiago, Chile. From here you travel a further four hours south to the city of Punta Arenas, the capital of one of the world's great eco-tourism destinations, Patagonia. Flights to the Antarctic are weather dependent and when the call came we boarded a massive Russian Ilyushin cargo plane outfitted to carry sixty passengers and cargo and equipment the 3,300 kilometers deep onto the continent. This plane and its Russian crew landed at the Union Glacier base camp. This was a wheeled landing on a blue ice glacier which highlighted the crew's skill and expertise. Once on the continent, all other flying, including taking the small group of us the 1,100 kilometers to the South Pole was done by Canadians contracted out of Calgary who fly Otters and converted DC8-Baslers. All told I spent 65 hours in planes on my round trip to and from the South Pole.

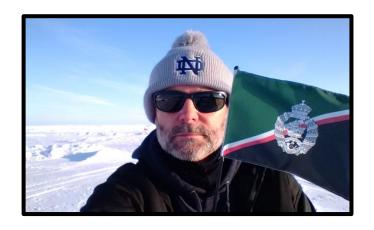
So, why the South Pole and Antarctica? First, I have always been fascinated by maps and globes and geography. Second, and perhaps most important, I have thought of the South Pole ever since reading in the early 1980s Roland Huntford's epic tale "The Last Place on Earth", about the 1911-1912 race to the South Pole between Norwegian Roald Amundsen and the British Naval Officer Robert Scott. (This book was also made into a BBC mini-series.) Amundsen's trip was meticulously planned and he and his four carefully selected "Vikings" made the return trip safely in 99 days. They skied and used Greenland sledge dogs. Scott's planning, leadership and legacy required the scrutiny of Huntford's book. Scott relied on "man-hauling" his sledges, ensuring they could not outpace the Norwegians. He and his four member team all perished on the return leg. Yet leading into the First World War, Scott was made into a hero to inspire a nation. Was this necessary or warranted?



Finally, about the book that so influenced my life, The Last Place on Earth. It is a fascinating and fact based chronicle of why one man, Amundsen, so effectively and precisely "captured" the Pole, why the other, Scott, died on the ice through exhaustion and starvation. This story is important for all leaders, because it is a frank and fact based expose on what constitutes planning, logistics and leadership. Even if you read (as I have) dozens of books on this subject, including those favorable to Scott, you cannot but help be struck by the contrast in thinking and execution. The following quote by Amundsen sums up the experiences, opinion and indeed cynicism of the history's greatest polar explorer. These words are always relevant.

"Victory awaits him, who has everything in order – luck we call it.

Defeat is definitely due him, who has neglected to take the
necessary precautions – bad luck we call it."



Our Regimental Flag flew at the North Pole on April 5, 2017 at 5 pm local time. Temperature was -39 Celsius. Our flag has now flown at both poles.

DEPLOYMENT UPDATE 2

Eastern Europe, 26 April 2017 By: Captain P.G. Ellis

Hello all, hope that things are going smoothly back at the Regiment as you enter the summer training season.

Since last check-in I have had some great opportunities for field training, and also in keeping with my role in the Task Force HQ have had many more opportunities to develop staff capabilities.

Being attached to a Light Infantry group has put a lot of issues of time and space into perspective, compared to what I have been used to with our unit where situations seem to develop over seconds and kilometers, vs. minutes and metres. Regardless, on our first major exercise located at the US JMRC in Hohenfels, Germany the TF participated successfully in a muli-national force on force exercise with a free-playing enemy and was quite successful. Highlights from this included; seeing all the different countries participating, being employed under a different nation's command (Latvia), and personally, the main highlight had to be being employed as an Observer Coach Trainer with the Snipers and Recce dets, and being issued my own Humvee, which was truly a unique experience. Lots of experience was gained on that ex, and we were treated to a stop-over on the trip back to Poland in Leipzig, which was an amazing city.

Tempo has not slowed down since getting back into Poland, and we have been busy running ranges, and coordinating future exercises. Highlights from ranges include being able to attend a sniper range with the sniper det learning about all the different sniper equipment, shooting rockets at T-72 hulls, which are strewn across the ranges, and practicing pairs shooting on dynamic ranges.

We were able to take advantage of our location in Europe and attend the 100th anniversary of Vimy ceremony as spectators, which proved to be a relaxing time, and an event that was truly special to be a part of. We were also able to spend our stopover nights in Ghent, Belgium, which was a beautiful city.

The Infantry group is currently training in South Eastern Europe, where they are focussing on live-fire training with NATO allies. I'm sure there will be interesting stories that return with them in the next few weeks.

With the deployment one third complete at this point, there is still a lot of time to go, but it has all been positive so far, and should continue to be a great experience.

Up the Dukes!

CAREER UPDATE

By: 2Lt Anton Humeniuk, B Sqn RCACS

I first put on a black beret in September of 2007, when I joined the 2290 BCR Army Cadet Corps. Growing up I had always had a fascination with the Canadian Army, and I thought that Army Cadets would be a great opportunity to learn more about it and have some military experiences as a teenager. What I did not know at the time was that I would continue to wear that black beret long after I had left the Cadet program. It was at 2290 that I first learnt about the Armour Corps. Hearing stories and anecdotes from many members of the Regimental family only served to increase my interest in the Corps, and I learnt many important lessons from them all that have helped me along in my own short career thus far. Parading in the historic Beatty Street Armoury every week made me proud to wear the black beret, so when I went to see the recruiters in 2011, there was no doubt in my mind that I wanted to serve in the Corps.

After being sworn-in in July, 2012, I started my military career at the Royal Military College of Canada (RMCC) in Kingston, Ontario. I would spend the next four years there, earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Military and Strategic Studies while also working on my bilingualism, athleticism, and leadership. The focus at RMCC was on academics, and most military training occurred only during the summers when we would ship off to various training bases to conduct military courses. I completed my Basic Military Officer Qualification during my first summer, followed by Second Language training the next, both in St Jean-sur-Richelieu, QC. During my last summer at the College, I went to CFB Gagetown to take my Basic Military Officer Qualification – Land. This was my first introduction to true Army training. We spent the summer honing our leadership skills, as well as navigation, first aid, weapons handling, and section level tactics. However, my mind was set on the next course, which would be my first experience on armoured vehicles. I still had one more year to complete at RMCC, so it would have to wait. I graduated in May 2016, and received my commission as a Second Lieutenant. Following graduation, I found myself posted to CFB Gagetown, and the Royal Canadian Armour Corps School.



2Lt Anton Humeniuk in front of a Leopard 2A6M at Worthington Tank Park

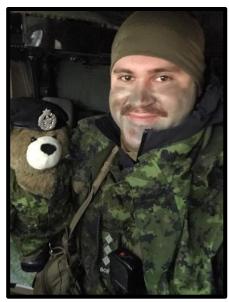
Not three days after graduation from RMCC, I was in Gagetown and starting my Armoured Crew Commander course. We began with a course in 120mm Gunnery, learning all the in and outs of the turret on a Leopard 2A4 main battle tank. Every day we were learning something new, and it was all fascinating. At first we only had theory classes, with plenty of power point slides in stuffy classrooms. It was not long before we moved out onto the turret simulators and actual tanks, and the fun really began. following weeks were spent on turret mock-ups, practicing gunnery drills in all three position; gunner, loader, and crew commander. Repetition was key, and we continued to practice until the drills became second nature. Once we had mastered the drills, we moved into turret simulators where we could practice engaging various targets, both stationary and moving. simulators look like big steel boxes on the outside, but inside they look almost identical to the inside of a Leopard 2 turret. Everything is electronic, and it is like playing a hyper-realistic video game. We spent several weeks in the simulators, further honing our drills and ability to engage targets. Gunnery culminated

with a test in the simulators where we had to engage and destroy some 25 different targets, issuing the correct orders and supervising a crew of our peers. With the conclusion of Gunnery, we moved onto the tactics portion of the course. We spent one week in garrison, learning about the theory behind tank tactics, and troop level movement. The following week we deployed to the field to learn the bread and butter of the Armour trade: crew commanding. There is nothing more impressive than watching a 60 ton tank moving 40 km/h cross-country. Over the next five weeks, we learnt how to command our tanks, navigate, engage targets on the move, and most importantly; work together as a troop. We also became very familiar with the

tanks, learning how to perform basic maintenance and what it is like to be an armour crewman. This was the most challenging course that I have ever taken. We had to learn an entirely new skill set in five weeks, and become proficient enough to satisfy our instructors. Of the sixteen students that began the course, only six passed. And I am proud to say that I was one of them.

Since completing my Crew Commander course in August last year, I have been at the Armour School in Gagetown, awaiting my final course before becoming a fully qualified Armour Officer; my Troop Leaders' Course. This course is set to be conducted on Coyotes and will involve recce tactics. This will be a completely new challenge for me, but I feel that I will be up to the task. In the meantime, the Armour School keeps me and my fellow 2Lts gainfully employed, assisting in other courses as the need arises. In the fall I was employed as a tank gunner on an Armoured Troop WO's course. This was a very interesting experience for me as I got to spend a lot of time with the drivers, and became much more familiar with the tanks. Most recently, I have been a Command Post Operator for another Crew Commander course. I'm eagerly awaiting my next course, and am hoping to be posted to a line regiment by January of next year. I am very excited to be an Armour Officer, and look forward to the next 20 years of my career in the Corps.

DUKE'S DEN





MCpl Duke A. Bear with Capt. Paul Ellis (Op Reassurance – Ukraine)

ASSOCIATION KIT SHOP

The BCR KitShop 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 \$115.00. Once we have 10 confirmed requests, the order will be placed.
- 2. Custom designed BCR Knife \$140.00 almost sold out and once gone, they will not be replaced
- 3. Crests \$35; Lapel Pins \$10.00; BCR Ties \$45.00; and Flags \$12.00.
- 4. **NEW:** BCR cap badge on cuff links, pens and pocket watch.

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

Mini Guidons - \$115.00



BCR Knife - \$140.00









Cuff Links - \$35.00

Pen - \$25.00

Pocket Watch - \$105.00

ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

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ASSOCIATION SPECIAL PROJECTS

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

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

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

March 2, 2017. Mr. E. a. (Ted) Hawthorne Honorary Colonel The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) 620 Beatty Street Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2L9 Dear Ted, I would like to thank the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Evans, CD, the Commanding Officers' Committees and the entire Regimental Family for their condolences. I would also like to thank the Charitable Truest of the Regimental association for making its annual donation to the regiment in memory of Jack, as well as year Spraule and audrey Toogood. Jack would have felt honoured by all the praise and attention he has received from so many members of the regimental family.



ASLEEP

TK98588 Lieutenant Colonel George Irvine (Irv) Mathieson, CD served with the Canadian Armed Forces for almost 30 years, commencing with the University of British Columbia Canadian Officers Training Corps. In 1961 he joined the British Columbia Regiment (DCO) RCAC, serving and commanding 1973-1974. Irv's civilian career in the insurance industry took him to Toronto, Ontario. He continued his military service with the Queen's York Rangers and commanded the Regiment. He also commanded Toronto's Militia Officers Training School, was president of Royal Canadian Military Institute, Royal Canadian Armoured Corps Association and Chairman of the Conference of Defence Associations. Irv and Gwen met and married while serving with the British Columbia Regiment. In July 1974 Irv, Gwen and children, Leslie, Tom and Kim moved to Toronto, Ontario to continue his employment as VP Group Insurance, The Travelers Group (Canada). Col Irv passed away on 15 January 2017. He willingly gave superb military service to Canada.

TK99759 Captain Keith C. Irvine served with the British Columbia Regiment (DCO) (13th Armoured Regiment) RCAC during the 1950s. Keith passed away on 13 April 2017. His civilian career was spent with BC Tel. Keith, Jacqueline and children, Leona and Stephen, resided in Vancouver and Victoria, B.C.

Master Corporal Randy W. Ogarian served in the British Columbia Regiment (DCO) RCAC in the mid 1970s an early 1980s. He passed away on 28 April 2017. Randy and Penny resided in Maple Ridge, B.C.

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