

Volume 3, Issue 34  
Mar 2024



# THE DUKE



MARCH 2024

## Inside this issue:

January 2024 Events.....	2-25
February 2024 Events.....	25-76
March 2024 Events.....	76-112
The Barrett Bunker.....	113-114
Duke's Den.....	115-116
Museum Society.....	116-133
Association Kit Shop.....	133
Remembrance.....	134
Asleep.....	134



Published by The BC Regiment (DCO) Association  
#208 – 1899 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, B.C., V5C 5T1  
Email: [Association@dukeabear.com](mailto:Association@dukeabear.com)

**Articles,  
Announcements  
&  
News Releases**

**Note:** 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 events which you feel would interest our readers. Please note that the chapters from January to the end of March 2024 capture 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 starting on page 113 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 and BCR Regimental Secretary 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) James D Barrett, CD  
Editor: BCR Weekly News & The Duke

## JANUARY

### FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY BCR REGIMENTAL LEVEE 2024 1 JANUARY 2024



The BCR Levee, the first in many years, was hosted by the WOs' & Sgts' Mess and the Officers' Mess of the Regiment and was very well attended by serving members, members of the Regimental Family and guests. Many thanks to the PMC, Major Greg McCullough, for the great hospitality, snacks, and the festive atmosphere!







Many serving members of the Regiment dispersed in order to visit other units in the Lower Mainland while certain members of the Regimental Family, Regimental Association President Jim Barrett, Captain Capt Jiri Motak (former CIC Officer with 2290 & 3300 BCR) and the Regimental Secretary, Ted Hawthorne, visited the Wardroom of HMCS Discovery (Cdr Rebecca Hardie) and the WOs' & Sgts' Mess of 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, RCA (RSM, CWO H.L. Porritt).

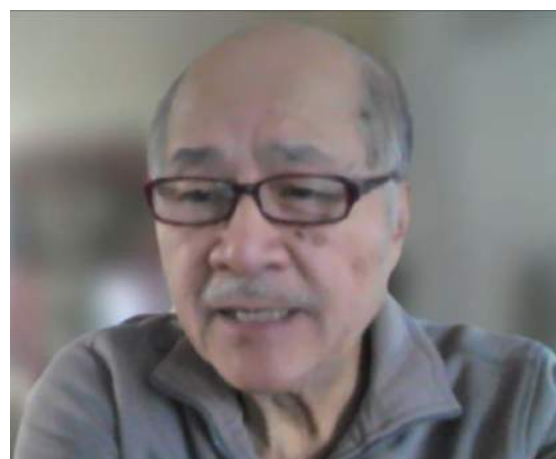
Again, many thanks for the wonderful hospitality! Levee and the Levee Tour were a complete success with Vancouver weather cooperating for a mild and, occasionally, a sunny day.

Happy New Year and Up the Dukes!

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
CHINESE CANADIAN MILITARY MUSEUM SOCIETY &  
ANAVETS, PACIFIC UNIT NO. 280  
6 JANUARY 2024**



The Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society (“CCMMS”) and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit # 280 (“ANAVETS”), held their respective regular monthly business meetings via ZOOM this morning. The meetings were very well attended and included many informative updates for the members with respect to the various projects and activities of each organization.



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 your continuing service and dedication to our veterans and the community! Well done indeed!

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Commencing in 2024, permanent free admissions for CAF & Veteran's and their families to all Parks Canada destinations.



**FREE daily admission for Canadian Armed Forces members, veterans & their families at Parks Canada administered places is now in effect.**

Take a breath of fresh air and tap into all the health benefits of being outdoors. Parks Canada destinations provide the perfect setting for a memorable experience. From lighthouses to battlefields, historic neighbourhoods to cultural landscapes, there is an amazing array of places and stories to discover.

Parks Canada administered places will waive daily admission fees when you present your CF One card with CF, CF-F, V or V-F designation at the entry gate, visitor centre, or reception desk upon arrival. Don't have your CF One Card? [Sign up today!](#)

The vast network of protected areas administered by Parks Canada is a gateway to nature, history, and 450 000 km<sup>2</sup> of stories from coast to coast to coast. To make the most of your Parks Canada experience, be sure to plan ahead and visit [parks.canada.ca](https://parks.canada.ca) where you can also sign up to our newsletter and follow us on social media.

Certain conditions apply at some locations. Additional fees for services such as camping, parking, guided tours, lockage and mooring still apply.

## **THANKYOU FROM SANCTA MARIA HOUSE FOR BCR REGIMENTAL FAMILY SUPPORT**

Dear Ted,

I regret that I was not able to greet you and to thank you and the other members of the Regiment last Thursday, Jan.11. I was touched and so grateful by the generosity and goodness of the members of the Regiment, Regimental Families and your Community Supporters. As well, we appreciate your financial gift and can assure you it will be used wisely.

We cannot thank you enough!! Your help is instrumental in providing for the women here at Sancta Maria House during this next year. We send our best wishes to you and to all the members of the Regiment and to the Regimental Families.

Many kind thanks,

Sharon Dobin

## NEW YEARS GREETINGS FROM OUR FRIENDS AT THE JUNO BEACH CENTRE





**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
2023 FOOD BANK PROGRAM  
DELIVERY DAY TO SANCTA MARIA HOUSE  
THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST  
11 JANUARY 2024**



An amazing collection of an outstanding variety of canned goods and non-perishable food donated by the members of the Regiment, the Regimental Family, and our community supporters during the Christmas Season, was delivered to a very grateful Sancta Maria House (Agape Street Ministry), a women's shelter in Kitsilano, on Thursday afternoon, 11 January 2024. Chairman of the Charitable Trust, Ted Hawthorne, and Trustee, Bill McCarthy, joined with Members of the Regiment in the delivery.



The BCR contingent was greeted by House Parent, Shelley Elder, who thanked the Regiment and the Regimental Family for their annual generous support. Ted conveyed greetings from the Regiment and Regimental Family, presented a donation cheque 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 W.P.J. McCarthy and Company Ltd., our Community Drop Centre, for their very generous support of this important community outreach program. Suffice it to say that this year's program was the most successful so far! Well done everyone!

Congratulations to Sancta Maria House for their great community service.  
Up the Dukes!

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
THE ANNUAL "DUKE'S CUP" SPONSORED BY THE OFFICERS'  
MESS OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DUKE OF  
CONNAUGHT'S OWN) AND THE VANCOUVER COLLEGE ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION AND THE "FIGHTING IRISH" WRESTLING TEAM  
THE DRILL HALL, VANCOUVER, B.C.  
13 JANUARY 2024**



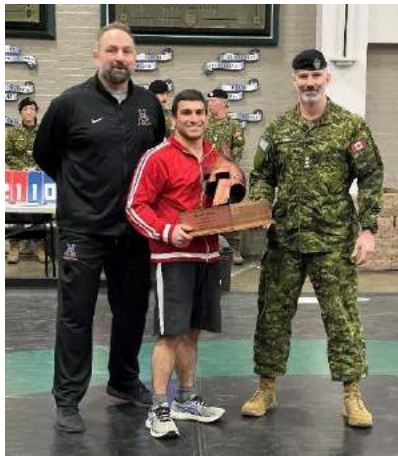
Galaxy A53 5G



The invitational competition, with 47 schools participating, was held at the Drill Hall from 10:00am to 5:00pm on Saturday, 13 January 2024, and consisted of 220 contestants and 440 matches, played on three wrestling mats.



This year's winner of the "Duke's Cup" was the Maple Ridge Team (presented by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk) and the winner of the MVP Award, The Allard Trophy, (presented by Lieutenant-Colonel Paul Lindsay) was Arad Ahangi, of Carson Graham Secondary School, in North Vancouver.



The event was very well attended and enjoyed by all! Congratulations to our good friend and colleague, the Tournament Director, Mike Roselli and his team, and the Officers' Mess and our Soldiers, for holding this very successful community event.

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
ST. JOHN AMBULANCE - CHANCELLOR'S PARADE  
THE DRILL HALL, VANCOUVER, B.C.  
15 JANUARY 2024**



The Chancellor's Parade, hosted by Burnaby Divisions 389c and 304, was held at the historic Drill Hall of The BC Regiment (DCO) in the early evening of Monday, 15 January 2024. The Guest of Honour, Dr. André M. Levesque, OMM, KStJ, OOnt, CD, Chancellor, the Priory of Canada of the Order of St. John, was in attendance as the Reviewing Officer.



(Photo by Steve Ko)



The programme for the evening featured a photo with the Chancellor, the formal arrival of the Guest of Honour and the introduction of the Inspecting Officer, the Parade March On, a Land Acknowledgment, a Moment of Silence and an Opening Prayer, Opening Remarks, an Inspection of the Cadets, a March Past, an Advance in Review Order, an Honours and Awards segment, Special Remarks were given by Chancellor Levesque, Closing Remarks, and a Prayer.



During his Opening Remarks, the Master of Ceremonies, Raymond Chow, Brigade Cadet Commissioner, B.C. and Yukon, acknowledged and thanked the Cadets, parents, volunteers and supporters of St John Ambulance.



(Photo by Steve Ko)







(photo by Steve Ko)



(photo by Steve Ko)

Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani and former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, Regimental Secretary, were also thanked for the support by the BC Regiment of the evening's event.

Congratulations and well done to our friends at St. John Ambulance.

28 January 2024



## Strathcona Enews

Dear Strathcona Family,

Happy New Year to all.

To kick off the 2024 Kingston Association Season we will be hosting the CO and his RSM at a beer call Monday, 5 February at the Merchant Tap House Pub at 6A Princess Street. We'll be kicking off at 1800 hours and have booked the side room which will allow us some privacy. In addition to the CO & RSM, the Colonel of the Regiment will also be present.



This is a mixed event so please bring your significant other half . You will be able to order food there and tables are set aside for us.

Hope to see you all there.

Perseverance

Kevin Mulhern



## Strathcona Enews

Strathconas,

The 2024 Moreuil Wood Parade will take place on Thursday, March 21st. As with past parades, it is an auspicious occasion to recognize deserving individuals for their ability, dedication and/or unique contributions to our Regiment. Two awards that will be presented are the Colonel of the Regiment's Commendation and the Hug Perseverance Award.

**Colonel of the Regiment's Commendation.** The Colonel of the Regiment's Commendation is awarded to Strathconas or friends of the Regiment who have made a significant, long-term contribution to the Regiment. Recipients may also have undertaken a specific act that has either made substantial impact on or brought great credit to the Regiment or Regimental Family.

**The Hug Perseverance Award.** While serving as Colonel of the Regiment, Colonel (Retired) Greg Hug suffered a catastrophic injury that resulted in him being a quadriplegic. The support and encouragement of the Regimental Family was an instrumental motivator as he sought to improve his quality of life. In many ways, his determination could be seen as the epitome of our Regimental motto, "*Perseverance*." This award recognizes individual members of the Regimental Family who have overcome adversity yet who continue to serve, participate and/or contribute to the Regimental Family as a whole. The adversity challenge can be related to a physical misfortune, a mental health issue, or an illness, either short-term or long-term. Supporting documentation for the nomination must indicate how this adversity has affected the nominee, the nominee's family, and work life. The documentation should also reflect how the nominee has:

- Been an example of perseverance to the Regimental Family;
- Continued to support the Regiment;
- Been an example of perseverance to the wider community; and
- If applicable, contributed to other appropriate areas of endeavour.

Nominations for both awards must be received no later than **Thursday, February 15th**. If you would like to nominate an individual(s) or would like additional information, please contact the Regimental Society Secretary, Major (Retired) Kelly Callens, at [societysecretary@strathconas.ca](mailto:societysecretary@strathconas.ca).

Perseverance,

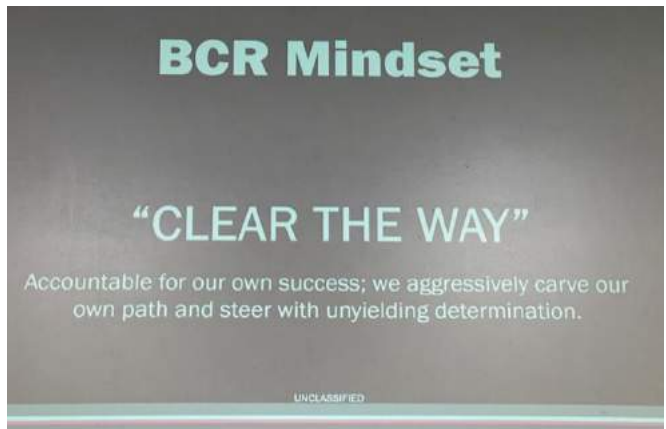
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Cade', written over a light blue circular stamp.

Col (Ret'd) Jamie Cade  
Colonel of the Regiment  
LdSH(RC)

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
COMMANDING OFFICER'S PARADE - THE DRILL HALL  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
31 JANUARY 2024**



The evening's busy program of training and joint exercise preparation, included a well attended CO's Parade featuring promotions, medal presentations and an award of the Commander's Commendation (39 CBG).



The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, gave a brief presentation on the state of the Regiment and then proceeded with the promotions and Honours & Awards segment to conclude the evening's program, as follows:

**1. Promotions:**

**a. Promoted to the Rank of Corporal**

Cpl Ho  
Cpl Athwal  
Cpl Leong  
Cpl Smith



**b. Promoted to the Rank of Master Corporal**

MCpl Medrano



**2. Awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration**

Cpl Regala  
Cpl Sutherland  
MCpl Lee  
MCpl Zherka



### 3. 39 Canadian Brigade Group Commander's Commendation

WO Gerri-Anne Davidson



The closing remarks were given by Colonel Virk who emphasized the very busy training year which lies ahead and acknowledged the service and commitment of our Soldiers and strong support of the Regimental Family.





After the completion of Squadron O Groups, the evening's program was concluded and our Soldiers were treated to Pizza Night and fruit juices, compliments of Honorary Padre, The Very Rev. Christopher A. Pappas, Rector & Dean, Diocese of New Westminster, Christ Church Cathedral. Thank you for the great support, Padre! Congratulations to all recipients and our very best wishes from the entire Regimental Family!

Up the Dukes!



## Strathcona Enews

Dear Strathcona Family,

It brings me great pleasure to bring to your attention the results from the 2023 joint Regimental Society and Canada Pacific and Kansas City Southern (CPKC) Railway scholarship and bursary program. This program was developed to provide educational assistance to family members of Strathconas (both serving and retired) as well as Strathconas taking part in training for railway technical trades.

On the 17th of November, the Commanding Officer **Lieutenant-Colonel Darryn Gray**, Regimental Sergeant-Major **Chief Warrant Officer Nathan Mills**, with the Vice-President Mechanical Car CPKC, **Brad Robertson** had the privilege of presenting \$5,000.00 scholarship awards to both **Ms. Tara Freeman**, and **Ms. Hailey Hollingdrake**. This year, both recipients were local to the Edmonton Areas, so the presentation was held in the Regimental Lines. Ms. Freeman is currently in her third year of the Doctor of Medicine Program at the University of Alberta, Edmonton. Ms. Hollingdrake is studying to be a Nurse at MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta.

On behalf of the CPKC, the Regiment and the wider Strathcona family, our warmest congratulations to Ms. Freeman and Ms. Hollingdrake. We wish you continued success in your education. Our very sincere thanks to [@canadianpacific](#) for their generous support to this program. For more information about other CPKC Rail Veteran initiatives, please visit <http://www.cpkcr.com/en/careers>.

Perseverance,

Maj Nathan Hevenor  
Regimental Second in Command  
Regimental Society Operations Advisor

*For more scholarship presentation photos visit our website:  
<https://strathconas.ca/cpkc-ldsh-rc-regtl-society-scholarship-presentations-2023>*



**Editor's Note:** Also from our friends in the LDSH we have a notice of retirement to share.  
Dear Strathcona Family,



We would like to announce the impending retirements of **MWO Kenneth Shiells, CD** and **MWO Lanny Hill, CD**, both of which have served their country in careers spanning over three decades.

**MWO Shiells** has deployed overseas on several occasions, including Kosovo, Bosnia, Afghanistan, and Lebanon. He has held several senior positions at the Regiment including Squadron Sergeant Major and as the Regimental Technical Quartermaster Sergeant.

**MWO Hill's** overseas deployments include Cypress, Bosnia and Afghanistan. In 2017 he began work with CANSOFCOM and has continued his career there since.

On behalf of all Strathconas, congratulations to both MWOs on their tremendous service. You will certainly be missed but it is with pride that we see you off.

Any well wishes for MWO Shiells may be passed along to [ldsh@strathconas.ca](mailto:ldsh@strathconas.ca) and will be forwarded along. For MWO Hill please forward messages to MWO Grapes at [Jason.Grapes@forces.gc.ca](mailto:Jason.Grapes@forces.gc.ca).

Perseverance,

LCol D.M. Gray, CD  
Commanding Officer

## February

### **FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY CHINESE CANADIAN MILITARY MUSEUM SOCIETY AND ANAVETS, PACIFIC UNIT NO. 280 3 FEBRUARY 2024**



The Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society (“CCMMS”) and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit # 280 (“ANAVETS”), program for the morning forum on ZOOM commenced with special guest speaker, Lieutenant-Colonel (Ret’d) John Nosotti, Past President of RUSI, Vancouver and President of the Greater Vancouver Branch of The Navy League of Canada, delivering an excellent presentation on the Veterans Affairs Canada Tour of Dieppe (“Operation Jubilee”) in August of 2022, complete with details and photos on PowerPoint.



LCol John Nosotti, CD

### Sit Rep 1942

- .Churchill sees Allied Shipping losses growing in Atlantic supply route (MORE SUNK THAN BEING BUILT)
- .German U boat Wolf Pack strategy is paying off
- .US agrees to assist as a neutral country through lend lease program
- .CD Howe starts program to build ships (Corvettes and Liberty) in Canada (east and west coast), then sold to US for lend lease program
- .Stalin wants relief

### The Key to Success

- .Timing was essential to the success of the landings. Each phase cleared the way for the next phase
- .Element of surprise
- .3 to 1 superiority
- .Secure supply lines

### Victoria Cross Recipients

- .Major Porteous – attached to 4 Commando – although wounded, led a bayonet charge to eliminate German pillbox
- .Lt Col Charles Merritt – C O of South Saskatchewan Regiment, led several platoons across a bridge under fire and attacked a pillbox killing all occupants
- .Capt John Weir Foote – regimental Chaplain for RHLI evacuated wounded off the beach and then stayed to care for his

### Ceremony at Square du Canada

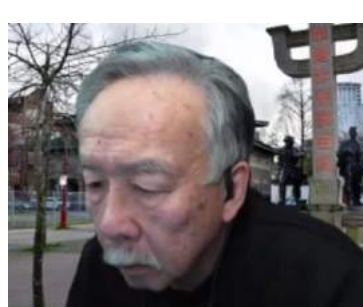
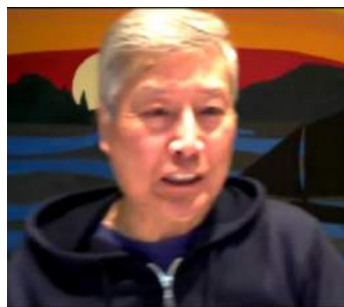


### Monuments along the Esplanade





King Wan thanked John for his detailed overview of the very successful VAC Tour. John thanked ANAVETS, Pacific Unit No. 280, for their VAC Tour sponsorship.





Following the guest speaker, the Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society (CCMMS”) and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit # 280 (“ANAVETS”), held their respective regular monthly business meetings via ZOOM this morning. The meetings were very well attended and included many informative updates for the members with respect to the various projects and activities of each organization. The meeting for ANAVETS was chaired by President King Wan, and the meeting of CCMMS was chaired by Vice President Teresa Mew. Thank you ANAVETS and CCMMS for your continuing service and dedication to our veterans and to the community!

Well done indeed!

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY**

## CO'S COMMITTEE AND REGIMENTAL TRUST MEETINGS THE DRILL HALL 7 FEBRUARY 2024



The February meeting of the BCR Commanding Officer's Committee was held in person and virtually via MS Teams in the late afternoon of Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani chaired the very comprehensive CO's Committee meeting which included detailed reports from the President of the Regimental Association and BCR Cadet Governor, LCol (Ret'd) Jim Barrett, the Chairman of the Regimental Association Charitable Trust and the Regimental Secretary, former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, the President of the BCR Museum, Bill Whalen, the Band Governor, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond, the Chairman of the BCR Trust, Bill McCarthy, and the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, who provided a thorough update on the training year.





All reports were very well received by the members. A brief meeting of The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) Trust, chaired by Bill McCarthy, was held to conclude the afternoon's proceedings.

Congratulations to all members for the very successful meetings.

Up the Dukes!

## **3300 BCR (BHAI KANIHAIYA) RCACC CO PARADE PROMOTION & PRESENTATIONS FEBRUARY 8, 2024**



Promotions and presentations were held at the 3300 BCR (BHAJ KANIHAIYA) RCACC in Surrey on Thursday Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. After their evening of regular lessons, the CO's Parade consisted of a promotion for MWO Arjun Kundan, who received his promotion to CWO.



CO's reviewing party, Capt. Nagra, CWO Shergill, CWO Kundan & BCR Association Graydon Young



Capt, Nagra presenting CWO Arjun Kundan with his CWO insignia



CWO Arjun Kundan



MWO Harprincevir Singh

A special aging out presentation was also given to CWO Arjun Kundan and MWO Harprincevir Singh who both received a shadow box made by Lt Palak containing their rank insignias received during their 6 years as an active cadet.



Shadow Boxes – Rank Insignias

A presentation was given to the Biathlon team, who each received the Biathlon pin. A few 3300 Cadets also previously participated in a day of badminton.



Biathlon Team and pin

Mann Fatehpartap, Dhaliwal Akashdeep, Mosugu Gideon, Cyril Aaron, Precioso Ice, Randhawa Gurtejveer, Kaur Harleen, Brar Yuvraj, Sarang Pahul & Grewal Ekam (no particular order)



Biathlon Team





3300 Cadets Badminton

The 3300 Cadet's in support of awareness of the upcoming Pink Shirt Day on Wed Feb 28, 2024, also did a presentation during a few drills and when ask to stand at ease held up a pink paper with inspiring & awareness sayings about anti-bullying, compassion, and kindness.



Cadets Pink Shirt Day presentation

We thank everyone for their efforts and dedication with the 3300 BCR (BHAI KANIHAIYA) RCACC.

Sandra Young  
BCR Association  
3300 BCR Support Committee

**Editor's Note:** From our friend Mr James Gibson we received an update on his lates display at the historic Roedde House in Downtown Vancouver on the contributions and life of indigenous poet Pauline Johnson and of the Colt Machinegun purchased by her estate for the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Vancouver) CEF as one of the two purchased by private funding to equip the Battalion with a machinegun section for service overseas. This gun saw service on the battlefields of Belgium and France until 1916 when the Colts were withdrawn from service and replaced with the standard Vickers. Both fired .303 ammunition.



## PRESS RELEASE:

### **E. Pauline Johnson - Tekahionwake: Six Nations of the Grand River Territory Ontario 1861 -Vancouver, B.C. 1913 A Retrospective By Jenna Mossop & James Gibson**

**February 1, 2024-June 1, 2024**

**The Roedde House Museum  
Vancouver B.C.**

The Roedde House Museum is pleased to introduce "**E. Pauline Johnson-Tekahionwake:A Retrospective**".

This four month exhibit will include: Pauline Johnson's family and career, affiliation with **Chief Joe and Mary Agnes Capilano**, a few Indigenous reactions to Pauline from **Six Nations of the Grand River and the Skw̓xwú7mesh Úxwumixw** (Squamish Nation) from BC, and Pauline's legacy in Vancouver from 1913- to the present.

Pauline defied the role of women at the time, by not marrying and having children and sustained herself and her mother financially after the death of her father through writing and performances. She travelled through Canada, northeastern United States, and London, England reciting her work on stages. Touring widely for 17 years, she started performances in her Indigenous dress, and ended them wearing her European gown; demonstrating the two worlds she moved between and subtly playing with the expectations and stereotypes held by her primarily Euro-Canadian and British audience members. Pauline's work continued to influence the Canadian literary field long after her death, she was commemorated on a Canadian stamp in 1961, and has been the subject of **66 academic studies from 1978-2018**.

In the last few display cases, this exhibit embodies an **exceptional Vancouver connection**. Her memorial stands in **Stanley Park** and a WW1 machine gun bearing Pauline's nameplate can be found in the **Beatty Street Drill Hall, home of the British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own)**. **Pauline Johnson School** in West Vancouver (now known as **Ecole Pauline Johnson**) was built in 1922.

A photographic image of a drum can be seen in the second display case. The original drum was made at the **MOV** during a drum-making workshop prior to Covid, and taken back to Ontario and given to **Raymond Skye**, artist, Six Nations of the Grand River Territory. Ray rendered an exceptional image of **Pauline Johnson** with the family home, **Chiefswood** in the background. **Ben Lim** a recent graduate of the **Vancouver School of Art**, was chosen to illustrate the reprinted 1961 version of *Legends of Vancouver*.\*\* In 2014, the CanLit icon of Canadian literature Margaret Atwood, co-produced the Opera, **Pauline** commissioned by City Opera Vancouver. And the **Firehall Arts Centre** on east Cordova in Vancouver 2021, presented the musical **Paddle Song** with Cheri Maracle portraying **Pauline Johnson**. This will be repeated in late May 2024. Furthermore, the **West Vancouver Memorial Library** as part of their programming, will introduce "Music Talks: Indigenous Music with Brian Wright-McLeod"( February 27- April 9th).On April 2nd,is the spoken word of **E. Pauline Johnson**, Chief Dan George, Willy Dunn, and John Trudell...**her Vancouver legacy never ends**.

\*\* The content pertaining to *Legends of Vancouver* was derived from tales of Chief Joe and Mary Agnes Capilano of the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw. **Pauline Johnson's intended title was *Legends of the Capilano***.

It was not until April 2023, that the title was published with the intended title, and edited by Alix Shield of SFU ( University of Manitoba Press).

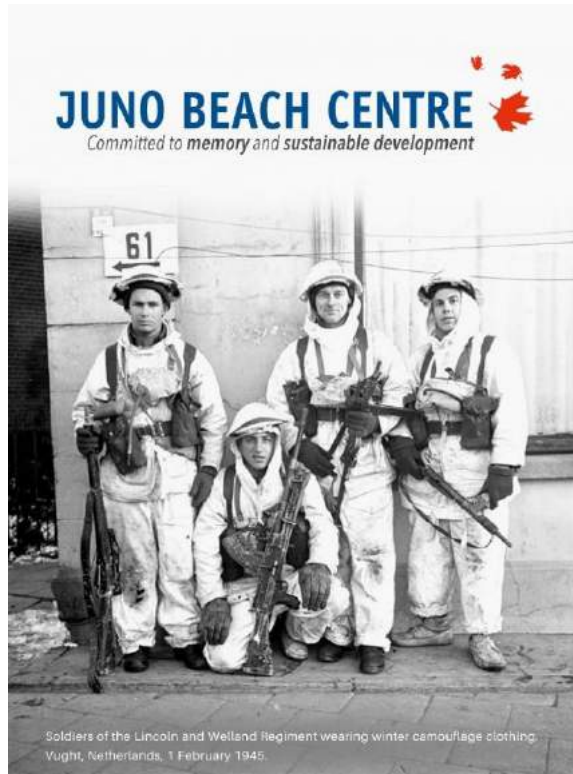
**James Gibson**

[jim.gibson@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:jim.gibson@mail.utoronto.ca)

647-629-9559

**E. Pauline Johnson-Tekahionwake  
Specialist/Collector**

**Editor's Note:** From our friends at Juno Beach, we have their latest update on their new programmes and items in their Kit Shop. Please note that the article printed here doesn't contain the buttons indicated to take you to the various Juno Beach web pages. We encourage you to go to the Juno Beach Website for more information and for the bilingual version.



**The Juno Beach Centre has reopened for the 2024 season!**



## It's been a busy start to the year...

The opening of the Centre in February marked the technical launch of **Faces of Canada Today**. This renewed gallery space explores decades of Canadian history, memory, and remembrance.



## But that's not all...

Our newest temporary exhibition, *Rising to the Challenge*, opens next month. This exhibition explores how the war-time RCAF evolved, emerging as an integral part of Canada's military strategy and identity.



## Our Canadian flag is 59 years old this month!

February marks Canada's Flag Day, recognized each year on the 15th. The Maple Leaf as we know it would not exist without the contributions of various Second World War Veterans.

**You can recognize the accomplishments of these Veterans, and all those who served during the Second World War, by owning a flag that has flown on Juno Beach.**

These flags also offer a unique opportunity to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy this June 6, 2024. By flying a Juno Beach Maple Leaf at D-Day 80 commemorative ceremonies, memorials and initiatives, you are bringing a piece of Juno Beach to Canada.



A national ceremony will be held at the Centre on June 6, 2024. Space will be limited. If you are interested in attending, click the button below, scroll down to "Events in France," and email Veterans Affairs Canada to be notified when registration is available.

## **The 80th anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy...**

The Juno Beach Centre is now preparing for the 80th anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy this June 6, 2024. Click the button below to learn more about how you can participate in these commemorative efforts.

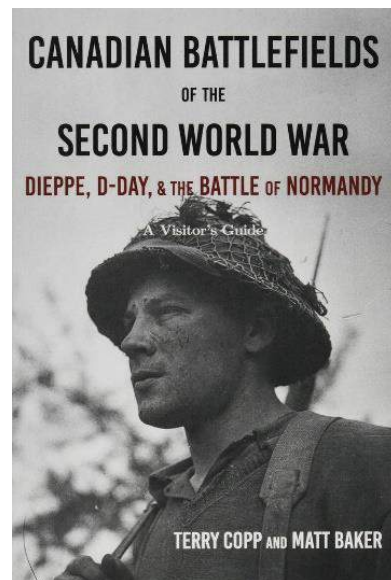


**A national ceremony will be held at the Centre on June 6, 2024. Space will be limited. If you are interested in attending, click the button below, scroll down to "Events in France," and email Veterans Affairs Canada to be notified when registration is available.**

## Planning to travel for D-Day 80?

The JBC is pleased to share Air Canada discount codes for travel to any destination in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Great Britain for the May 26-June 15 period.

**With 2024 comes new items to explore in our online boutique!**





**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
CHINESE NEW YEAR  
VANCOUVER CHINATOWN SPRING FESTIVAL PARADE  
YEAR OF THE DRAGON  
11 FEBRUARY 2024**



The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Vancouver Chinatown Spring Festival Lunar New Year Parade took place in Vancouver's historic Chinatown on Sunday morning at 11:00. It was a mild, showery Vancouver day (7 Celsius) with attendance along the parade route in the thousands (estimates of 100,000).





The signature event featured traditional lion dance teams, cultural dance troupes, marching bands, martial arts performances and a very strong showing of St. John Ambulance 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, Regimental Secretary, paraded with ANAVETS, Pacific Unit No. 28 (Sgt. Paul Lau leading the unit), the first entry in the parade along with nearly 100 other entries this year: a record. The veterans' contingent was joined by 39 CBG Commander, Colonel Scott Raesler, 39 Signal Regiment Honorary Colonel, Derral Moriyama, BCR Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel, Bill Diamond, 39 Service Battalion Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Anh Foort, Kelly White, National Aboriginal Veterans, a good showing of St. John Ambulance personnel, including Raymond Chow, Brigade Cadet Commissioner, B.C. and Yukon, and Richard Liu, Honorary Brigade Division President, Burnaby Division.

Vintage Army vehicles compliments of Western Command Military Vehicle Historical Society followed ANAVETS and transported some of the veterans. Colonel Raesler took the salute at the Reviewing Stand and Colonel Foort took the salute towards the end of the Parade at 2:00pm, as members of her Unit and heavy trucks passed in review.



Photo by HCol Darral Moriyama 39 SVC



The pre-event reception featured many VIPs, including, The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, The Honourable David Eby, Premier of the Province and The Honourable Harjit Sajjan, Minister of Emergency Preparedness, and the President of the Privy Council.





Photo by HCol Darral Moriyama 39 SVC

The customary Veterans Luncheon at Floata Seafood Restaurant on Keefer followed the parade and was hosted by King Wan and Kelly Kwong of ANAVETS, Pacific Unit No. 280. A wonderful time was had by all!

Happy New Year!

# MORE PHOTOS FROM CHINESE NEW YEAR VANCOUVER CHINATOWN SPRING FESTIVAL PARADE YEAR OF THE DRAGON 11 FEBRUARY 2024

**Editor's Note:** From Steve Ko we received more photos from the 11<sup>th</sup> of February Parade.









## BCR ASSOCIATION BRASS & REED BAND RETURN TO VERNON WINTER CARNIVAL 3 FEBRUARY 2024



The BC Regiment (DCO) Association Band had another strong showing in the annual Vernon Winter Carnival on Saturday, February 3, 2024. The theme this year was “games” and the Band put together a special set of music based around classic video game music, arranged by our own Max Bogard. The band’s first performance of the day was at the VIP breakfast, where the band started with a marching routine and played the national anthem. Local business leaders and dignitaries, including Premier David Eby, enjoyed hearing the band perform.

Next, the band marched in the downtown parade to an audience of hundreds lining the streets. In addition to the traditional set of marches, the band performed a marching version of the Tetris theme. Local news coverage filmed and photographed the band looking sharp while powering through the two-kilometre parade.

Later that afternoon, the band performed at Marten Brewing Company. The band played a half-hour set comprising a variety of traditional and pop tunes to a large audience.



The BC Regiment Band appreciates the warm hospitality shown by the Vernon Winter Carnival organizers and attendees and the band is looking forward to another great performance in 2025.

Michael Elder and Christopher Munroe

## **BELGIUM - CANADIAN LUNCHEON LECCA HALL – LEKE – BELGIUM 11 FEBRUARY 2024**



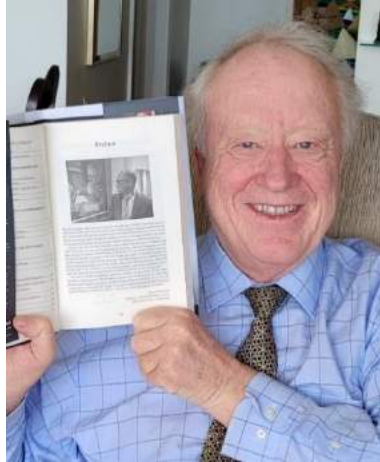






Photos by Luke Vandebussche

## **RODDY MACKENZIE SECOND PRINTING OF BOMBER COMMAND**



We have recently received notice from Roddy that the second printing of his Bomber Command has recently arrived. Roddy notes the enormous improvement to his book's already great preface.

Well done!

### **FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY NATIONAL FLAG OF CANADA DAY PORT MOODY RCL # 119 15 FEBRUARY 202**



The Regimental Secretary, former Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, attended at RCL #119 in Port Moody at noon on Thursday, 15 February 2024, to mark the 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the inauguration of the Canadian National Flag on 15 February 1965.



“At the stroke of noon on February 15, 1965, Canada’s red and white maple leaf flag was raised for the very first time on Parliament Hill. On the same day in 1996, National Flag of Canada Day was declared. Our national flag is a symbol that unites Canadians and reflects the common values we take pride in - democracy, inclusion, and equity.”  
Up the Dukes!

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
CONCERT FOR THE PADRE  
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
17 FEBRUARY 2024**

The “Concert for the Padre” featuring excellent performances by The BC Regiment Irish Pipes & Drums (“Pipes & Drums”) and the 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Band (“15<sup>th</sup> Field”), was a well attended and most enjoyable event held in the early evening of Saturday, 17 February 2024 at Christ Church Cathedral in Vancouver.





CO BCR (DCO) LCol Vince Virk



The programme for the evening included the following pieces played by the Pipes & Drums:

- 4/4 March In
- Irish Polkas
- Drum Salute into Hornpipe/Jig
- Irish Reels
- 6/8 Marches
- Man of the West





15 Field Regiment RCA Band



The sets of the Pipes & Drums were followed by the following pieces played by 15<sup>th</sup> Field:

- Strike Up the Band
- Candide Overture
- God of Our Fathers
- Amazing Grace
- Memories of Henry Mancini
- Selections from Riverdance



The program for the evening was concluded by a Joint Set featuring “Highland Cathedral”, “Sands of Kuwait” and “Killaloe”. The Postlude included “St Paddy” and “Garryowen”.



A reception was held in the Parish Hall where numerous members of the Regimental Family gathered with friends, family, and supporters.





Congratulations to the Padre, The Very Reverend Christopher Pappas, Rector and Dean, Diocese of New Westminster for a most enjoyable evening to remember and for his support of our Soldiers. The net proceeds of the Concert will go “to support the Dean’s pastoral work with the men and women of the military”.



Members of the Regimental Family were acknowledged by the Padre during the course of the evening, namely: Honorary Colonel Farid Rohani, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel and Band Governor Bill Diamond, President of the Regimental Association, Lieutenant-Colonel (Ret'd) Jim Barrett, President of the Regimental Museum, Bill Whalen, and the Regimental Secretary, former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne. The Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, thanked the Padre for his support of our “Citizen Soldiers” in a very eloquent address to the assembled group.



Also in attendance were our good friends and colleagues from 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, RCA, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Don Foster and former Honorary Colonel Retired Judge, Bill Rodgers.

Up the Dukes!

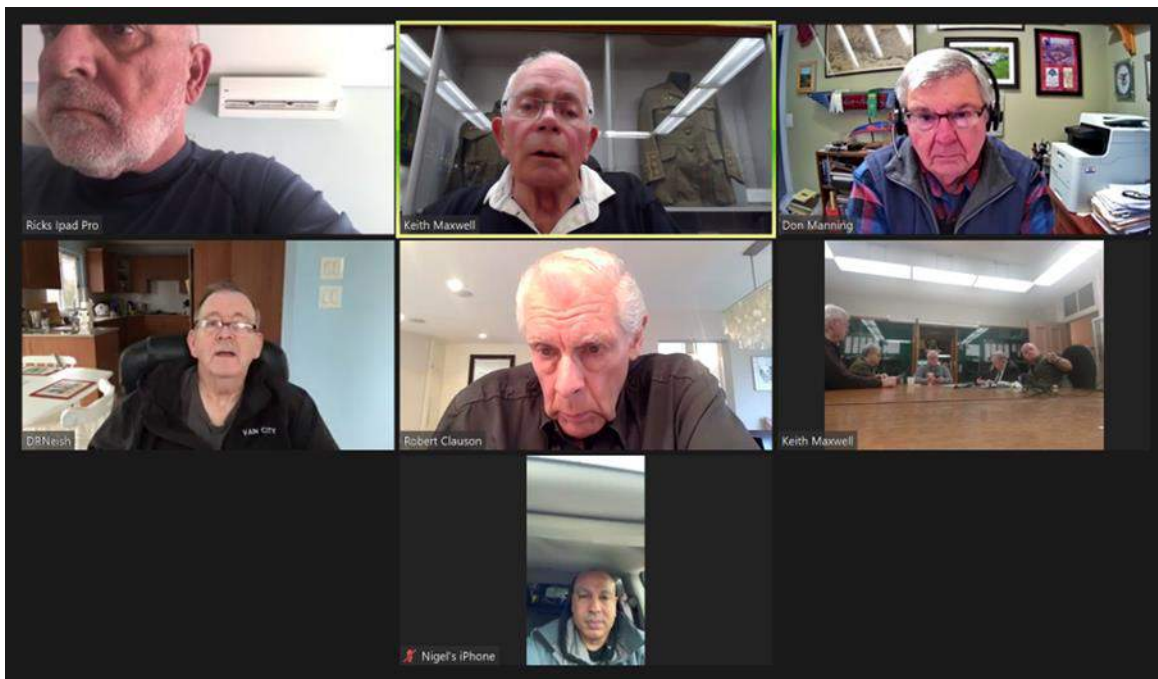
**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS  
APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION AS A CAF MUSEUM  
THE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGIMENT (DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S  
OWN) MUSEUM SOCIETY  
21 FEBRUARY 2024**



The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) Museum Society ("the Museum Society") is pleased to announce that the Members have unanimously confirmed their support of an "Application for Status as a Canadian Forces Museum" to be submitted by the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk, at an Extraordinary General Meeting held in the Brass Room (in person and virtually) at The Drill Hall this afternoon.



The Regimental Secretary, Ted Hawthorne, chaired the Meeting and the President, Bill Whalen, delivered an excellent presentation to the Members providing full details of the process and consequences of Accreditation.



The Museum Society continues to do an amazing job preserving, maintaining and displaying our Regimental History.

Thank you for your great support of the Regiment and the Regimental Family!

Up the Dukes!

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
WARRANT OFFICERS' & SERGEANTS' MESS  
PAARDEBERG MESS DINNER  
24 FEBRUARY 2024**



The annual Paardeberg Mess Dinner hosted by the Warrant Officers' & Sergeants' Mess, commemorating the 124<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Paardeberg in South Africa was held on the drill square on Saturday evening, February 24<sup>th</sup>.





The Head Table, consisting of the PMC, Sgt Bryan Copp, the RSM, CWO Arnold Matibag, the CO, LCol Vincent Virk, Ops WO, WO Gerri-Anne Davidson, A and B Squadron Sergeants Major, WOs Burnie Li and Kevin McKee, 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. As noted by the Band Governor, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond, "this evening the two

BCR Bands were able to perform together due to the generous donation in memory of former Honorary Colonel Bill Ireland by the BCR Trust Chair Bill McCarthy and the Regimental Secretary Ted Hawthorne.



Their donation was used to buy b flat chanters which is required for the bands to play together. The traditional chanter that the pipe band was using was an impediment to the bands to play together.”



The traditional toasts were given by Sgt. Zhou, The Loyal Toast, Sgt. Kim, The Royal Green Jackets (The Rifle Brigade), Sgt. Lam, HMCS Vancouver, Sgt. Aliakbar, The Fallen, and Sgt. Law, The Regiment.







Appointment of Sergeant Bugler BCR (DCO) Association Brass & Reed Band





Congratulations and thank you to the PMC and the Bands for such a special evening of camaraderie and commemoration.

Up the Dukes!

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE  
THE BATTLE OF PAARDEBERG  
SAINT JULIEN SQUARE, VANCOUVER  
27 FEBRUARY 2024**



The Regimental Family remembered the dedicated service and sacrifice of our Soldiers on the 124<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Battle of Paardeberg at Saint Julien Square in Vancouver at 11:00 am on Tuesday, 27 February 2024.



A wreath was placed at the foot of the Memorial by the Regimental Secretary, Ted Hawthorne, to remember our Fallen from the War in South Africa (Privates Whitley, MacKintosh, and Jackson). The Act of Remembrance was recited during the course of the brief ceremony.

We will remember them!

Up the Dukes!



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.

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
VISIT TO VANCOUVER BY GENERAL WAYNE EYRE, CMM, MSC, CD  
CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF  
28 FEBRUARY 2024**



The Chief of Defence Staff, General Wayne Eyre, took time out of his very busy schedule to attend a no host luncheon held at the "Tap & Barrel", Vancouver Convention Centre, with a select group of Honoraries from 39 CBG, the RCN and RCAF and Canadian Forces Liaison Council members (past and present) and former Honoraries.



General Eyre was most generous with his time and provided the attendees with a thorough and informal briefing on many areas of common concern in today's very complex world. At a unit level, topics such as recruiting, training, technology and a new vision for the Reserves were discussed.



At the conclusion of the luncheon, former Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, presented General Eyre with a copy of our Regimental History, **Swift & Strong**, on behalf of The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) Museum Society (duly autographed by President Bill Whalen, Vice President Jim Barrett, author Keith Maxwell, the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Vincent Virk and the Regimental Secretary, Ted Hawthorne). Ted thanked General Eyre for his 40 years of exemplary service and congratulated him on his upcoming retirement in the summer. In addition, Honorary Colonel Derral Moriyama, 39 Signal Regiment, presented a bottle of B.C. wine to General Eyre and thanked him on behalf of those present.



Kudos to fellow BCR Dan Thomas, Manager of the Stakeholder Engagement Office Western Canada, for arranging the luncheon and acting as MC.

**Attendees:** HLCol Al De Genova (5 Field), Lyall Knott (CFLC), Richard Earthy (CFLC), HLCol Don Foster (15 Field), HLCol Bill Diamond (BCR), HCapt (N) Queenie Choo, HCol Derral Moriyama (39 Signal), former HCol Karen Baker- MacGrotty (Royal Westminster Regiment), HCapt (N) Anita Patil Huberman, CWO Bob McCann (CF CWO), General Eyre (CDS), Diane McCurdy (HCol 422 Sqn, RCAF), James Ming (HCol 418 Sqn, RCAF), Ted Hawthorne (former HCol BCR and CFLC) and Dan Thomas, (Manager, SEOWC).

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
LIEUTENANT LANCELOT JOSEPH BERTRAND, MC  
7<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION (1<sup>ST</sup> BRITISH COLUMBIA),  
CANADIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE**



During Black History Month, we are reminded of the dedicated service and sacrifice of our black soldiers during very difficult times. One “stand out” example is the story of our very own Lieutenant Bertrand, MC, who served in the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, CEF. Special thanks to Valour Canada and Mattias Joost, CD, for their report in “The Military History Library of Valour Canada”, which states the following:

“Lancelot Bertrand was likely the first Black officer in the Canadian Expeditionary Force, commissioned on 21 August 1916. Born in Grenada, he served two years in the Grenada Volunteers. In Canada he served as a clerk. Bertrand was one of a few Black men who were able to enlist at Valcartier in September 1914, serving in the 11th Battalion as part of the first contingent. He went to France with the 7th Battalion where he was badly wounded in the right shoulder on 25 May 1915. Sent to recover in England he served at the headquarters section of the Canadian Signal School at Shorncliffe in July. With his clerical abilities, a trade that was in short supply, he was appointed a sergeant in charge of the pay section. Here his leadership abilities were noticed. A year later on 21 August 1916, he was commissioned as a lieutenant. Lieutenant Bertrand returned to France on 21 September 1916 to rejoin the 7th Battalion. His first major battle was the Battle of Vimy Ridge on the morning of 9 April 1917. The battalion faced fierce opposition. When all the other officers in his company were killed or wounded, Lieutenant Bertrand led the soldiers onwards to take their objective. For these actions he was awarded the Military Cross. His next major battle was at Hill 70 on 15 August 1917. During the intense fighting Lieutenant Bertrand was killed; his body was never recovered.”

**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.**

<https://valourcanada.ca/military-history-library/lt-lancelot-bertrand-mc/>

## BCR 3300 (BHAI KANHAIYA) RCACC FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

**Editor's Note:** From Lt Harminster Palak we recently received a number of updates and photos from recent activities by our Surrey BCR Corps. I have combined them into a single article for our readers. Most will be self explanatory.

### PINK SHIRT DAY



### ZONE MARKSMANSHIP COMPETITION







Two teams participated in the zone marksmanship competition. Over 600 cadets participated from all the zones.

### 3300 BCR SENIOR NCO NIGHT



During Seniors night, the cadets learned about different leadership styles and the importance of Task Procedures.



At the end of the night, they played Angry Birds, which was a fun team building activity. They worked together to give and receive orders and problem solving.

**2827 BCR (DCO) RCACC PORT MOODY  
RCSU (PACIFIC REGION) REGIONAL WINTER EXPEDITION  
FEBRUARY 2024**



Capt Dean McLennan, Commanding Officer of our BCR Port Moody Corps provided these photos from Cadet WO Kratschmer who attended the winter training.







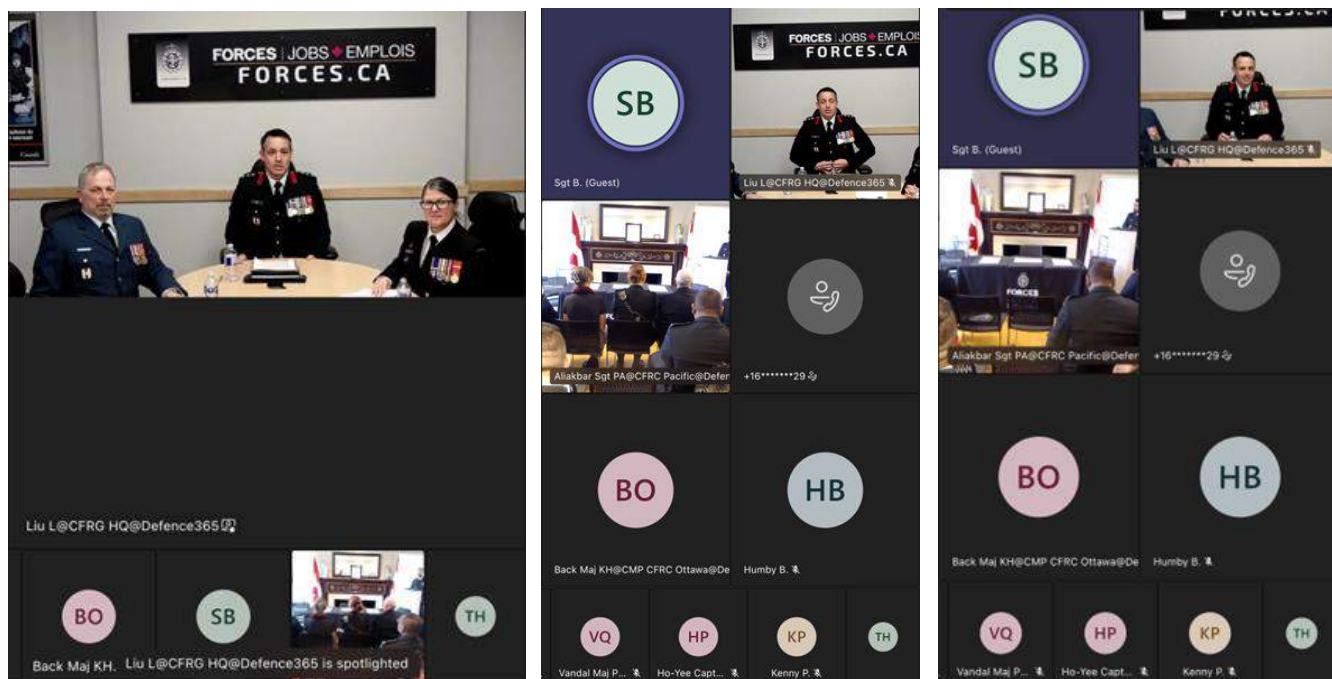
**MARCH**

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
CANADIAN FORCES RECRUITING CENTRE PACIFIC  
CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY  
HONOUR HOUSE, NEW WESTMINSTER  
1 MARCH 2024**



The Change of Command Ceremony for the Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre Pacific, from Major Michael Hughes, the outgoing Commanding Officer, to Major Jennifer Hillman, the incoming Commanding Officer, was held at Honour House in New Westminster at 11:00 am on Friday, 1 March 2024. The Reviewing

Officer, Colonel N.S. Roby, Commander of Canadian Forces Recruiting Group, presided and attended via MS Teams Platform.



On behalf of the Regimental Family, our very best wishes to Major Hughes and Major Hillman. Thank you for your dedicated service Major Hughes and congratulations to Major Hillman on her appointment as Commanding Officer.

Of special note, Major Hillman joined the Regiment in 1990.

Up the Dukes!

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
ANNUAL WHISKY TASTING FUNDRAISER  
78<sup>TH</sup> FRASER HIGHLANDERS, FORT FRASER GARRISON  
THE BARRETT BUNKER, COQUITLAM, B.C.  
1 MARCH 2024**



The Annual Whisky Tasting of the 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser Highlanders, Fort Fraser Garrison, was hosted by Jim and Patricia Barrett at “The Barrett Bunker”, a magnificent venue for such a popular event.



The early evening was enjoyed to the fullest with excellent snacks, an amazing selection of notable whiskies and the usual camaraderie.



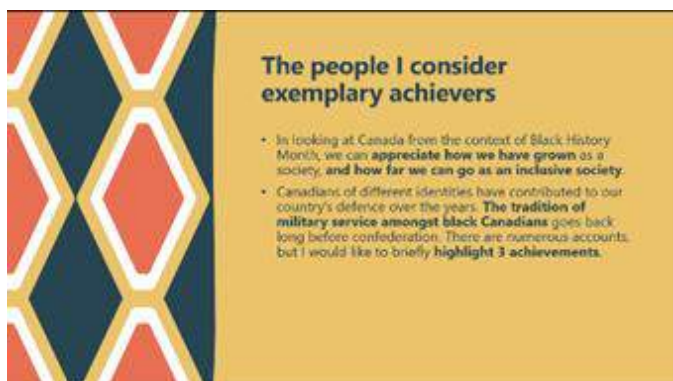
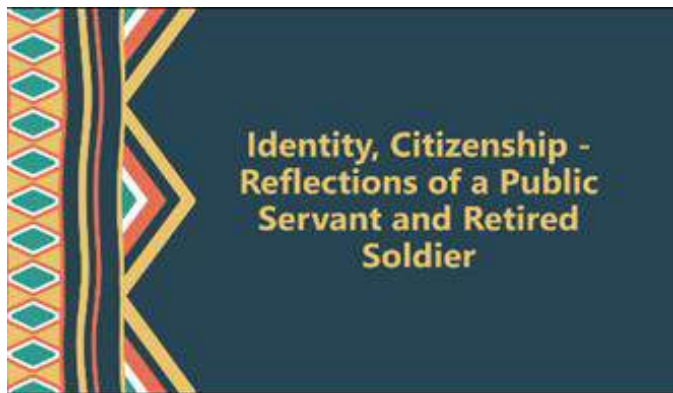
Congratulations and many thanks to the 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser Highlanders, Jim and Patricia Barrett, for such a wonderful evening!

# FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY CHINESE CANADIAN MILITARY MUSEUM SOCIETY & ANAVETS, PACIFIC UNIT NO. 280 2 MARCH 2024



Lt-Col (Ret'd) Bobby Alolega

The Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society (“CCMMS”) and ANAVETS, Pacific Unit # 280 (“ANAVETS”), program for the morning forum on ZOOM commenced with special guest speaker, Lieutenant-Colonel (Ret'd) Bobby Alolega, BA, MBA, CD, former Commanding Officer of 39 Service Battalion, and presently with Employment and Social Development Canada, delivering an excellent presentation on the topic of “Identity, Citizenship – Reflections of a Public Servant and Retired Soldier” in the context of **Black History Month**.





## History/Progress

Timeline of the important historical events/contributions made by people of African heritage.

1 <sup>st</sup> Event	2 <sup>nd</sup> Event	3 <sup>rd</sup> Event	4 <sup>th</sup> Event	5 <sup>th</sup> Event	6 <sup>th</sup> Event
1600s	1700s	1800s	1900s	2000s	Today
The first person of African heritage known to have come to Canada in 1604, Mathieu Da Costa arrived with the French explorers Pierre Du Gua De Montis and Samuel de Champlain.	During the War of American Independence (1775-1783), the British offered freedom to enslaved Africans in America who joined the British side, 50% of the Loyalists coming into the Maritimes were Black.	During the War of 1812, many Black Canadians sided with the British. The Coloured Corps was inaugurated in Upper Canada, comprised of free and enslaved Black men who fought in the Battle of Queenston Heights.	In the first half of the 20 <sup>th</sup> century, many Black Canadians resisted the practice of segregation. This led to laws imposing fair employment practices and created bills of rights and the first human rights commissions.	Michelle Jean, social activist, journalist and documentary filmmaker, served as the Governor General of Canada from 2005 to 2010. Her appointment was historic, as the first Black person to hold this position in Canada.	Over the course of the last four centuries, people of African descent have shaped their own identities in Canada while making important contributions to Canadian society.

### Exemplary people

Black leaders that exemplify commitment to serve.



**William Hall, VC** - son of freed African American slaves living in Nova Scotia, was one of the sailors from His Majesty's Ship (HMS) Shannon who were forced into a mass mutiny and sent as part of the long march to the relief of Lucknow, then captured by the British.



**No. 2 Construction Battalion** - Canada's first Black Battalion during the First World War — but they had to fight with shovels, not rifles. No. 2 Construction Battalion was authorized on 2 July 1916 in Pictou, Nova Scotia and was composed of Black men from across Canada.



**Mark Graham** An exceptional athlete, Mark Graham represented Canada on a world stage in the 1980 Summer Olympics. Over a decade later, Graham would end in the Canadian Armed Forces to represent Canada again in Afghanistan.

## Identity, Citizenship - Reflections of a Public Servant and Retired Soldier

King Wan thanked Bobby for his very informative presentation and reference to the exemplary achievements of those who paved the way for others in a more inclusive society today (Seaman William Hall, VC, No. 2 Construction Battalion and Private Mark Graham, Olympian and soldier). Bobby thanked ANAVETS and CCMMS for their support.



In conclusion, King also noted the service and sacrifice of Lt. Lancelot Joseph Bertrand, MC, 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion (1<sup>st</sup> British Columbia) CEF, now known as The British Columbia Regiment (DCO), likely the first Black Officer in the CEF.



Following the guest speaker, CCMMS and ANAVETS, held their respective regular monthly business meetings via ZOOM this morning. The meetings were very well attended and included many informative updates for the members with respect to the various projects and activities of each organization. The meeting for ANAVETS was chaired by President King Wan, and the meeting of CCMMS was chaired by President, Retired Judge Randall "Bud" Wong.



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

**Editor's Note:** From BCR Association Member, Dave Corrin we have an offer for ringtones recorded from the 17<sup>th</sup> of February Concert at Christ Church Cathedral in support of Padre Pappas's Ministry to our soldiers. Feel free to contact me if you're interested in receiving the ringtones.

Greetings BCR Association:

I recently took up a small little Artform of making Cell phone Ringtones which are 30 second long snippets of Sound which can be set as a Cell Phone Ringtone.

Last night at the Concert For The Padre, I recorded six 30 second long snippets of the Concert for The Padre which I am giving to the Association to be made available on your BCR Website as a Free Download to anyone who would like a BCR Concert Ringtone of the 15<sup>th</sup> Field Band, the BCR Pipe Band or the Killaloe BCR Regimental March to be on their Cell phones.

Cpl (Ret'd) David C. Corrin

## **3300 BCR (BHAI KANHAIYA RCACC PIZZA NIGHT 7 March 2024**



Our 3300 BCR Cadets enjoyed their annual ration of pizza on behalf of the BCR Association. In attendance and representing the BCR Association were Graydon and Sandra Young.



Our congratulations to Capt Karm Nagra, his staff and the Supporting Committee of 3300 BCR for holding another successful event. Up the Dukes!



## THE KING'S MESSAGE ON COMMONWEALTH DAY

### THE KING:

The seventy-fifth anniversary of The Commonwealth is a moment to reflect on the remarkable journey that our unique family of free and independent nations has made since 1949.

Last year, The Bahamas celebrated its fiftieth anniversary of Independence, as Grenada has this year, and Papua New Guinea will next year. Each of these milestones – and many others like them – represent the fulfilment of countless aspirations and the achievement of such remarkable potential. And the Commonwealth's growth, with new members continuing to join our family of nations, demonstrates clearly that whilst we may not all have a shared history, we have common ambitions for a better future – working together to build resilience and respond to global challenges.

The Commonwealth family is strongest when we are connected, through friendship. As I have said before, the Commonwealth is like the wiring of a house, and its people, our energy and our ideas are the current that runs through those wires. Together and individually, we are strengthened by sharing perspectives and experiences, and by offering and borrowing the myriad ways we have each tackled the challenges of our time. This is true both at the level of nations and, indeed, at the local level.

We recognize today that our diversity is our greatest strength. The Commonwealth represents a third of humanity, from all regions of the world, with all the different experiences, knowledge, and aspirations that this brings. Wherever we live, we are united by the many challenges we face – whether it be climate change, the loss of Nature, or the social and economic changes that new technologies are bringing. Our diversity means that these challenges affect us all differently and that we experience their impacts in different ways. Their seriousness, however, is common to each one of us.

All of this means that we must work together to understand each other's perspectives, including the inequalities and injustices which still resonate to this day. We must find ways of healing, and to support each other to pursue solutions. I cannot say often enough that it is by coming together that we create the best chances to improve our world and the lives of people everywhere. Indeed, over the years countless people across the Commonwealth have been inspired to form their own Commonwealth Associations, from lawyers and accountants to business and trade networks, and many more besides. The work they do is absolutely vital, sharing professional knowledge, experience, and expertise across the Continents for the betterment of each one of us.

The Commonwealth, above all, retains a particular focus on our young people, who make up two-thirds of the entire Commonwealth population. Whether in Kenya or Malaysia, Vanuatu or Dominica, Malta, or Canada, I never cease to be impressed by their creativity, innovative skills, and hard work, often in the most challenging circumstances. Their energy is transforming approaches to development, technology and preserving and restoring Nature and will, I hope, help to shape, and safeguard our common future.

Having recently celebrated my own seventy-fifth birthday, it warms my heart to reflect on the way the Commonwealth has been a constant throughout my own life – a precious source of strength, inspiration, and pride. In recent weeks, I have been most deeply touched by your wonderfully kind and thoughtful good wishes for my health and, in return, can only continue to serve you, to the best of my ability, throughout the Commonwealth. My belief in our shared endeavours and in the potential of our people remains as sure and strong as it has ever been. I have no doubt that we will continue to support one another across the Commonwealth as, together, we continue this vital journey.

#### **THE GOVERNOR GENERAL:**

The Commonwealth represents a wealth of cultures, languages, experiences, and backgrounds. Today, we celebrate what ties us all together: a shared commitment to improving our communities, protecting our planet and climate, and addressing the challenges and opportunities presented by an interconnected world. In doing so, we are creating a bright future for generations to come, and ensuring the social, environmental, and economic well-being of all peoples.

Across continents and oceans, we have built bridges of understanding, friendship, and collaboration. Canada joins with its fellow Commonwealth members in facing the future—our common future— with open eyes and with resilience. We believe that we can best address global challenges and build stronger communities by using the power of dialogue, with respect, understanding, diversity and equality at the root of everything we do.

This Commonwealth Day, let us remember that we can work together to create a more inclusive world. May our shared values and collective efforts continue to strengthen the bonds of friendship and co-operation that unite us.

Mary Simon

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMENDATION  
PRESENTATION CEREMONY  
39 SERVICE BATTALION  
THE GENERAL SHERMAN ARMOURY  
RICHMOND, B.C.  
11 MARCH 2024**



The Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence, presented three Commendations at a very enjoyable ceremony held in the Officers' Mess of 39

Service Battalion in the late afternoon of Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.



The three recipients were Louise Bauder, MCpl (Ret'd) John Scott and Sgt (Ret'd) Robert "Bob" Remple (Deceased) presented posthumously to Bob's sister, Gayle Hawthorne. The Regimental Secretary and former Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Ted Hawthorne, was the Master of Ceremony.



Past President of the Regimental Association, "Recce Bob's" citation reads, in part that he: "...has made such exemplary contributions by generously giving of himself and so both benefiting Veterans and making manifest the principle that Canada's obligation to all who served in the cause of peace and freedom must not be forgotten."

Thank you for your dedication, service to and support of the Regiment and the entire Regimental Family, Bob!



After the formalities of the Ceremony were concluded, High Tea was served to all guests. A wonderful time was enjoyed by all with ample opportunity to chat with Minister Taylor, Randeep Sarai, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Veterans Affairs, and special guests Parm Bains, MP Steveston-Richmond, Wilson Miao, MP Richmond Centre and Capt (Ret'd) Craig Thompson, President of the Royal Canadian Legion, BC/Yukon Command. The reception featured the fine play of a string trio, Katrina Chitty, Viola, Luke Kim, Cello and Cassie Bequary, Violin.



Special guests and members of the Regimental Family in attendance included, Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond, Lieutenant-Colonel (Ret'd) Jim Barrett, President of the Regimental Association, and Staff Sgt (Ret'd) Bob Underhill, Vice President of the Royal Canadian Legion, BC/Yukon Command.





The High Tea Reception was followed by a special performance on the Drill Square by the Band of 655 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron. It is worthy of note that 2024 marks the 100th Anniversary of the establishment of the Royal Canadian Air Force.



Kudos to Donna Twemlow, VAC Program Advisor, Commemoration Division, and Lieutenant-Colonel Anh Foort, Commanding Officer of 39 Service Battalion, for the outstanding support.

PHOTOGRAPHS COMPLIMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA

Donna V. Twemlow  
Program Advisor (Western Canada)  
Commemoration Division, Veterans Affairs Canada





**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE, VANCOUVER  
OFFICERS' MESS, 15th FIELD REGIMENT, RCA  
BESSBOROUGH ARMOURY  
PROFESSOR ANDREA LANE  
HYBRID WARFARE AND INFORMATION OPERATIONS  
THE 2024 RUSI VANCOUVER SPEAKERS SERIES  
13 MARCH 2024**



Colonel (Ret'd) Keith Maxwell, President of RUSI, Vancouver, introduced and welcomed today's special guest speaker, Professor Andrea Lane of Defence Research and Development. As stated in the briefing notes:

"Professor Lane is a Defence Scientist with the Maritime Operational Research Team, providing operations research support to Maritime Forces Pacific in Esquimalt. She is part of a team of defence scientists who do deep dive research into defence topics of interest to commanders".

Professor Lane delivered an excellent presentation on "hybrid warfare and information operations", focusing on the media and in particular, social media, and its effects on society through the use of influence, disinformation, misinformation and malinformation, in our ever changing world.



Thanks to Captain Jamie Blois of the Regional Public Affairs Office for making this top-notch presentation possible.



The presentation was preceded by the very popular luncheon (chicken souvlaki, rice, Greek salad, pita bread, potatoes, and pastries for dessert, tea, and coffee). Once again, another sell-out!



Special thanks to the Commanding Officer of 15<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew William Grieve and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Don Foster, for the outstanding hospitality.



Congratulations to RUSI, Vancouver for another excellent presentation in their highly popular “Speakers Series”!

**3300 BCR (BHAİ KANIHAIYA) RCACC CO'S PARADE PROMOTIONS  
& PRESENTATIONS  
THURSDAY, 14 MARCH 2024**





For the 3300 BCR (BHAI KANIHAIYA) RCACC final parade before spring break stand down. Capt. Nagra presented several cadets with their promotion and various awards.



Martin Hilmer from the Cadet League of Canada presented 5 cadets with a 4 year cadet participation award and metal and three cadets with a 5 year cadet participation award & clap. Congratulations to all the cadets who received promotions and awards.

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
CELTICFEST VANCOUVER 2024  
THE VANCOUVER REGIMENT IRISH PIPES AND DRUMS  
VANCOUVER ART GALLERY  
16 MARCH 2024**



Billed as “Canada’s Largest Annual Celtic Festival”, the Celtic Fest Vancouver festivities featured live music, performances, food and drink, Irish dancing, a Celtic-themed market, a family friendly venue, sports demonstrations and more.





This year's 20<sup>th</sup> annual festival was held at the Vancouver Art Gallery on a beautiful sunny day with temperatures reaching 20C. A highlight of the Saturday afternoon affair was the excellent performance of The BCR Irish Pipes & Drums lead by Pipe Major Andrew Hayes.



The Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment and Band Governor, Bill Diamond, and his wife Audrey, were in attendance as well as the Regimental Secretary, former Honorary Colonel, Ted Hawthorne, and Regimental Association member Terry Haigh.



MCpl Duke A. Bear was also in attendance and assisted the Pipe Major in leading the Band! Congratulations to the BCR Pipes & Drums, thank you and very well done! Faugh a Ballaugh!

**Editor's Note:** Published in the 24 Mar 2024 Weekly News, from our contributor Captain (Ret'd) A.H. Mullick, M.M.M., C.D. we received this excellent information on **Suicide Prevention Resources available to our serving members and veterans** as follows:

I hope this email finds you well. I am reaching out today to let you know about a new series of suicide prevention resources, which were just released. These resources were developed by the Atlas Institute for Veterans and Families, in partnership with the Centre for Suicide Prevention and with the support of an advisory group of Canadian Armed Forces and Royal Canadian Mounted Police Veterans and Family members. Suicide and its prevalence in the Veteran community is a serious issue, and we heard from Veterans and Families that prevention efforts needed to be a priority. **These resources can also be helpful for those that are currently serving in the CAF and RCMP including their families.**

The new resources include toolkits for both Veterans and Family members, a conversation guide for talking to someone who might be experiencing suicidal thoughts and behaviours, and a quick-reference help card with key pointers and information about crisis supports.

Now that these resources are published, we want to ensure broad public reach and get them in the hands of the community. We are looking to partners like yourself to help us share these resources. Here is a link to our website where you can learn more and download each document: [atl-as.ca/suicide-prevention](http://atl-as.ca/suicide-prevention)

Please let me know if you have any questions and if you think your organization would be able to share the resources with your network. Please disseminate as widely as possible – it's better to have these helpful aids out in the various communities rather than sitting in your email inbox.

We appreciate your support.

English: [Suicide prevention for Veterans and Family members · Atlas Institute for Veterans and Families \(atlasveterans.ca\)](http://atlasveterans.ca)

French: [Prévention du suicide chez les vétérans et les membres de leur famille · Institut Atlas pour les vétérans et leur famille \(atlasveterans.ca\)](http://atlasveterans.ca)

**Abdul 'Huf' Mullick M.M.M.,C.D., M.A.** [He/Him/II]  
Lived Expertise Lead, Veterans  
Responsable de l'expertise vécue pour les vétérans  
**Atlas Institute for Veterans and Families**  
**Institut Atlas pour les vétérans et leur famille**

**CHURCHILL FELLOWS PRESENTATION**  
**RODDY MACKENZIE**  
**23 MARCH 2024**

**Editor's Note:** From our friend, Roddy MacKenzie, we received an update on his latest presentation at the Churchill Fellows Weekend in Fulton, Missouri, which we feel will be of interest to our readers.



My wife Ka Hyun MacKenzie Shin and I have now concluded our three nights in Fulton Missouri at the 2024 Annual *Churchill Fellows Weekend*. It was an amazing immersion in Churchillian history, philosophy, and comradery. My speech about Bomber Command being *Churchill's Greatest Triumph* (the sub-heading of my book) was well received. The Churchillian enthusiasm for what I was telling the Churchill Fellows and their guests in my speech was energizing.

**America's National Churchill Museum:** This Museum is impressive, informative, and fun. Attached is my photo of its layout. On Friday Westminster College student Remi Rushing gave me a superb tour of every nook and cranny of it, and then drove me back to our hotel. Attached is a photo of Remi with Ka Hyun and me at the Reception before Friday evening's dinner.



**The Church of St. Mary The Virgin, Aldermanbury:** The Museum is in the lower level of the Church of St. Mary The Virgin, Aldermanbury. Above the Museum is the Sanctuary. That's where I spoke while standing beside the Pulpit. Churchill Fellows and their guests sat in the pews to hear me. It's a glorious setting.



This Church was first built in 1181 in Central London. It was badly damaged by the Great Fire of London on 02 September 1666. Sir Christopher Wren lovingly resorted it. Then the German Luftwaffe destroyed it again in the Second World War. Postwar, the wreckage was transported stone by stone across the Atlantic and lovingly rebuilt on the campus of Westminster College in Fulton Missouri complete with its magnificent organ and pipes. The staircase up to the bells and clock of the spire are the original 1181 stairs. The Church is fully restored, and it is glorious. It's the only Sir Christopher Wren Church in America.



**The Church's Glorious Organ:** The sound of the Church's organ is magnificent. It was being played while Churchill Fellows and their guests were coming into the Sanctuary Saturday morning and greeting one

another before being seated. The music was full bodied. Being the first speaker, I was alone informally sitting on the stairs beside the Pulpit facing them. Ka Hyun was seated in the front row of the pews facing me.

One of the masterpieces of music being played was *Land of Hope and Glory*. It's always very moving. Then, when everyone was seated and settled at 9 am, to my surprise the organist played the brass fanfare the British play in Church as the prelude to playing *God Save The King*. Then I was astonished to hear the opening notes of the Royal Anthem itself. That reminded me I'd made a brief speech at dinner Friday evening about Charles III being the King of Canada. I was unsure whether the organist was playing our Royal Anthem or America's *My Country, 'Tis of Thee* because the music is identical. Regardless, out of respect for Canada's Monarch I stood, still facing everyone, and I motioned to Ka Hyun to stand too. She had her back to everyone. Then guess what? Everyone in the Church stood. The Royal Anthem *God Save The King* was played beautifully. It was immediately followed by *The Star Spangled Banner*. How's that for a memorable way to start the day?



Then I was introduced, I spoke, and I spent the rest of Saturday being showered with compliments by enthusiastic Americans.

**Baxter Brown Watson Roundtable:** This Annual Churchill Fellows Weekend had an interesting series of speeches and roundtable discussions. What I found most interesting was the Roundtable moderated by Tim Riley of Stephen Poss, Crosby Kemper III and Roger Porter on the relevance and importance of Museums. Attached is my photo of the four of them.



I asked each of them for their opinions of the uniquely American Presidential Libraries, most of which I've seen and been impressed by. Crosby said the Truman Library in Independence Missouri is particularly impressive because it keeps growing and creating experiences, especially for young people. I agree. I first saw it in 1972 and I was dazzled when I saw it again about five years ago. Stephen Poss, Churchill

International Vice-President, made an impressive statement on the damage what I call politically correct woke is doing to Museums.

My one disappointment was my friend Senior Churchill Fellow and Fulton local boy Philip Boeckman was unable to attend this year. Philip is Managing Partner in London of the 200-year-old Manhattan law firm Cravath. Attached is an inspirational photograph of us in London.

Also attached is a photo of me with sections of the Berlin Wall brought from Berlin to Fulton so Edwina Sandys could convert them into art. Edwina is a granddaughter of Sir Winston Churchill.



**Churchill's 1946 Iron Curtain Speech:** Lunch Saturday was served in the Westminster College hall in which, in the presence of President Harry Truman, on 05 March 1946, Sir Winston Churchill delivered his immortal Iron Curtain speech.



Attached is my photo of America's National Churchill Museum CEO Tim Riley at yesterday's lunch standing at the Podium where Sir Winston stood to deliver his speech.

Yours faithfully, Roddy

# 3300 BCR (BHAII KANHAIYA) RCACC SELF DEFENCE TRAINING 23 MARCH 2024



The female cadets at 3300 RCACC participated in a self-defence training session.



They learned different techniques to defend themselves from being attacked. Thanks to Wenlido WEST for teaching us these life-saving skills.

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
HONORARY COLONEL DERRAL MORIYAMA  
39 SIGNAL REGIMENT  
28 MARCH 2024**



Our congratulations to our good friend and colleague, Honorary Colonel of 39 Signal Regiment, Derral Moriyama, on his appointment as an Honorary Aide-de-Camp to the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, the Honourable Janet Austin, OBC.

As stated by Colonel Moriyama, "I am truly humbled and honoured...This is a fairly unique appointment for Honorary military officers in Canada. In this role, I will represent the Office of the Lieutenant-Governor at events where Her Honour is unable to attend the event but wishes to have the Office represented."

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
ROYAL VANCOUVER YACHT CLUB  
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL L.A.R. "WILL" WATKINS, CD (RET'D)  
27 MARCH 2024**





Congratulations to The Naval Association of B.C. for hosting the highly successful reception, luncheon and excellent presentation by Lieutenant-Colonel Will Watkins, CD (Ret'd), Regimental Secretary of 39 Service Battalion and Secretary of the Guild of Waggoners and Artificers, held at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club on Wednesday, 27 March 2024. As billed, Will spoke on "...the topic...of 'Operation Faust', a humanitarian mission, along with Operations Manna and Chowhound, to get food to starving Dutch civilians at the end of World War II."



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 Will for his most informative and thorough presentation, which included slides and an Op Faust video.



The Regimental Secretary, former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne, was in attendance, and joined with our many friends in NABC to welcome and thank Will for his outstanding presentation.



Kudos to NABC and King Wan!

Will's biography follows:

### **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 38 years.

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
THE BC REGIMENT (DCO) ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST  
SGT NATHAN PALMER  
28 MARCH 2024**



It is a very great pleasure to report that we have received the following note from Sgt Nathan Palmer, a bursary recipient for the years 2022 and 2023, as follows:

"I would like to thank the Charitable Trust of the Regimental Association for selecting me as one of their bursary recipients for the last two years and for supporting me financially to be able to achieve my personal career goals. This has helped ease the burden while I have completed my aviation licenses and ratings. I will be looking for a job this summer in order to build my flying hours up before I can eventually fly for a major airline company. I truly appreciate all the Regimental Family and the Charitable Trust for their contributions in helping fellow Dukes in achieving their post-secondary education.

I have included some photos of the financial benefit the BCR Association Charitable Trust Scholarship has enabled me to achieve (my career goals):



1. First photo is of me passing my Multi- Engine Flight Test on 24 March 2024 at Pitt Meadows Airport. The plane is a Piper Seneca II;



2. Second photo is of me passing my Commercial Pilot License flight test on 16 September 2023 at Pitt Meadows Airport. The plane is a Cesena 172;



3. Third photo is of me flying solo to Tofino, BC and enjoying the freedom flying gives one; and



4. Fourth photo is me taking Sgt Kim up and flying locally around Vancouver.

P.S. As sunny weather approaches, if anyone would like to go flying with me please follow my Instagram, flywith.naynay and I will gladly take anyone up locally day and night.

Kind Regards,

Sgt. Palmer, N, 3 Troop, A Squadron”

On behalf of the Regimental Family, congratulations Sgt Palmer in successfully completing your course of study and passing your Multi-Engine flight test and your Commercial Pilot Licence flight test and thank you for your dedicated service to the Regiment.

Up the Dukes!

**FROM THE DESK OF THE REGIMENTAL SECRETARY  
AIR FORCE OFFICERS’ ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL RCAF ANNIVERSARY DINNER  
THE POINT GREY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB  
30 MARCH 2024**



**AIR FORCE OFFICERS’ ASSOCIATION**  
VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA  
Since 1920

Annual Mess Dinner  
March 30, 2024

Commemorating the  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force

<b>President</b>	Bob Reid
<b>Chaplain</b>	Wes Bowers
<b>PMC</b>	Dr. John Higenbottam
<b>Vice PMC</b>	Jerry Vernon
<b>Guest Speaker</b>	Chris Weicht

The Annual RCAF Anniversary Dinner was celebrated in grand style at The Point Grey Golf & Country Club on Saturday, 30 March 2024.



The “sold out” event featured a pre dinner reception, the piping in of the Head Table, a delicious dinner, the Loyal Toast, and an informative presentation by the Guest of Honour, AFOA Member Chris Weicht on his latest book The Defenders, the RCAF Defence of Canada’s West Coast and Alaska – 1939 – 1945.



The Dinner also marked the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the RCAF (1 April 2024) and remembered the 84<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Battle of Britain.





BCRs in attendance were Colonel Keith D. Maxwell, OMM, CD (Ret'd) and the Regimental Secretary, former Honorary Colonel Ted Hawthorne.

Congratulations to the Air Force Officers' Association....well done!!

## HAPPY EASTER 31 MARCH 2024



We wish one and all in the Regimental Family, our friends and supporters, a season filled with peace, joy, and happy memories.

Happy Easter from MCpl Duke A. Bear and his Crew!

Up the Dukes!



## THE BARRET BUNKER MARCH 2024



Training Jan 1987 Forbidden Plateau Vancouver Island Lt Jim Barrett 2<sup>nd</sup> from left

For this edition's effort, I have decided to tell the tale of the 'three amigos' who joined the BCR in the Winter of 1988 and were duly charged by your author within their first twenty-four hours as new recruits in the Canadian Armed forces and their resulting punishment. This must be close to being a record in the annals of the BC Regiment. For those readers who may be old enough to remember the old TV show 'Dragnet' the names of the offenders have been changed slightly, just in case they are still on this side of the grass and would be offended if their true identity were revealed.

To set the scene though, the Regiment in the 1980s had control of recruitment for both NCMs and Officers, and we ran a fall and spring course of General Military Training (Basic & Recruit) which in today might be close to the current BMQ. Training was held on Tuesday and Thursday nights and usually an additional weekend or two each month. The most important qualification was their weapons handling on a range where FN C-1 rifle, SMG 9mm, and where available hand grenades were thrown. Missing your range weekend in Chilliwack, meant failing your course.



Shooting with FN C-1

For the Spring 1988 GMT course we had 22 BCRs and 8 recruits from 12th Medical Company whose unit did not have the staff to train their own soldiers that year. Lt Bill Whalen was tasked to be the Course Officer, and when he left to join the RCMP, I was shifted over from the RECCE Crewman's Course TQ 1(DP 1 today) to take his place.

Our 'three amigos' were Pte Nickelby, Pte Greekly, and Pte Martino. We should add that Pte Nickleby had been a cadet in the Drill Hall's BCR 2290 Cadet Corps and had been a Cadet Sergeant prior to joining the Regiment. He thought he knew more than he did.

After all thirty candidates had given their oath to HM the Queen, were now soldiers in the Canadian Armed Forces, and their first Friday evening of training was booked into CFS Jerhico, located near Jerhico Beach in the Kitsilano area of Vancouver. This was an ideal location to start them all off in the army as we had both quarters, rations, and classrooms. The candidates had been told in my presence by WO Mark Arden that they would be together that weekend on base for training with no exceptions.

Unfortunately, not only did the 'three amigos' slip away to meet up with their girlfriends that evening, but as expected when you challenge 'Murphy's Law', all three were discovered AWOL and caught. I was informed the next morning and between lessons wrote up their charge reports for 'Conduct unbecoming members of Her Majesty's Canadian Armed Forces' and read them their charges when brought before me by WO Arden.

The following Tuesday, LCol Ernie Wesson found the recommended charges on his desk awaiting his review. As expected, the CO delegated the charges down to the offender's Squadron Commander, Major Mal Goodman. Sergeant-Major of B Squadron BCR at that time was MWO Harry Nagel, who looked the very part of a fit SSM complete with a waxed handlebar moustache. Major Goodman had a good sense of humour and told the 'three amigos' when marched into his office that they had a choice, he could hear the charge and assess punishment, or they could accept the Sergeant-Major's punishment for three months. He gave them a few minutes to think long and hard about it. Pte Nickleby convinced the other two that they should accept the SSM Nagel's punishment, and that is what they advised Major Goodman, who duly handed them over to the SSM Nagel for defaulter's parade.

For three months Tuesday, Thursday and following every day in which the Regiment trained, the 'three amigos' cleaned and polished brass throughout the old drill hall until every piece of exposed metal gleamed in the sun, including greenish brass pipes in the washrooms.

My GMT Course Warrant was WO Mark Arden, who went on to be my SQN SSM when I was OC of A Sqn BCR in the mid 90's and who was RSM BCR twice, 39 CBG Sergeant-Major, and finished as RSM of the 39 Field Ambulance. Other staff included Cpl Pat Taylor, who went on to be RSM BCR and is currently a Captain with 39 SVC Bn, Cpl James Perry, a promising soldier and an excellent former cadet from 2290 BCR, who tragically died in a truck accident in Ontario in the early 90s, and MCpl Raffelsieper, who went on to join the Regular Force in the Comms trade. I recall his first posting was up to Alert.

As for the 'three amigos', Pte Nickleby failed the course and disappeared from the army shortly afterwards, Pte Greekly and Pte Martino did pass the course to become troopers and served for the next two or three years.

Having been a qualified and heard my share of charges as a qualified Presiding Officer, both as a Major and LCol, I have often wondered if they ever realised that the worst punishment which they may have received from Major Goodman, had he heard the charges, might have been the loss of a day's pay or about \$40 at that time. We shall never know.

## DUKE'S DEN

**14 FEBRUARY 2024  
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY  
FROM "DUKE" AND COLLEEN!  
UP THE DUKES!**



**HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY  
17 MARCH 2024**



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

Faugh a Ballaugh, from MCpl Duke A. Bear!  
Up the Dukes!

# HAPPY EASTER 31 MARCH 2024



We wish one and all in the Regimental Family, our friends and supporters, a season filled with peace, joy, and happy memories.

Happy Easter from MCpl Duke A. Bear and his Crew!

Up the Dukes!

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

### PRIVATE HOWARD CLIFFORD "HAPPY" ODLUM, DCM 7<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION (1<sup>ST</sup> BC) CEF



Credit: Vancouver Province, 21 September 1917

This article summarizes the military career of Howard "Happy" Odlum. He was the son of Dr. Robert William Odlum, and his wife Margaret nee Leather Odlum. For reference, Dr. Odlum was a brother of Major General Victor W. Odlum, CB, CMG, DSO, VD, a well-known figure in the history of the Regiment, e.g. Irish Fusiliers of Canada, and of course The Canadian Expeditionary Force as well as many other endeavours during his lifetime. This suggests that the above clipping is incorrect, meaning Howard was most likely his nephew. Major General Odlum is referenced on page 134 of Swift & Strong.

As several of the Odlum family served and fought in The Great War, I will use Christian names to differentiate family members as they appear. No disrespect is intended by doing so. Private Howard Odlum never married and likely has no offspring, however during research it came to my attention that he had two sisters, one of whom lived until 1970 and today has living descendants.

#### **From Attestation Document:**

Regimental Number: 16679

Enlisted: 5 September 1914, Valcartier, Quebec

7<sup>th</sup> Battalion CEF, (previously Irish Fusiliers of Canada)

Father: Robert William Odlum, Esq. Serial number 775950

Mother: Mrs. Margaret Odlum, 1656 Parker St. Vancouver, B.C.

Previous Address: 1239 Woodland Drive, Vancouver B.C.

Birthdate: 14 March 1895, Rochester, New York, United States

Reported occupation: Bookkeeper

His Attestation document indicates that Howard was an early enlistee in the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

#### **Military Record Excerpts**

I have not documented his medical treatments for this article.

He does not appear in the 1915 Nominal Roll for the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

Arrived in France: January 1915

Taken on Strength: 11 June 1915

Joined unit: 26 June 1915

Awarded Distinguished Conduct Medal: 22 January 1916

Joined Unit: 17 March 1916

To be Corporal: 21 March 1916

Severely Reprimanded/not completing an order/absent: 5 October 1916

Severely Reprimanded when in command of a Battalion Guard: 23 November 1916

Apprehended in London by Military Police – attached to 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion: 21 December 1916

Ceases to be attached to 1<sup>st</sup> Reserve Battalion/sent overseas to rejoin his service unit: 4 April 1917

Arrives at base (Prisoner): 4 May 1917

Left for Base: 5 May 1917

Rejoined Unit: 11 May 1917

Tried and convicted by Court Martial when absent without leave – reduced to the ranks: 6 June 1917

Wounded (?) reported from base: 7 September 1917

Wounded Missing after action: 28 September 1917

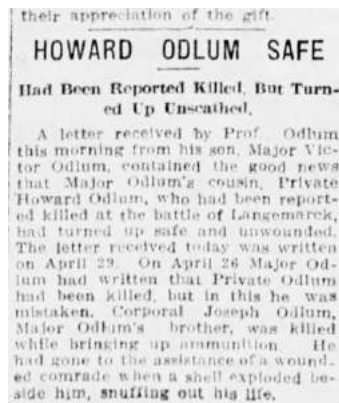
Reported Killed in Action: 15 August 1917

**Note:** Prior to reviewing Howard's Military record, I wondered whether he might have fought at Vimy Ridge, my concluding is that he did not.

#### **Relevant Newspaper Articles:**

CEF military records do not readily document participation in battles, but in this case, I found that newspaper reports referring to Howard disclose the following, including the fact that Howard lost his life at Hill 70 on 15 August 1917:

This article appeared in The Vancouver Province on 20 May 1915



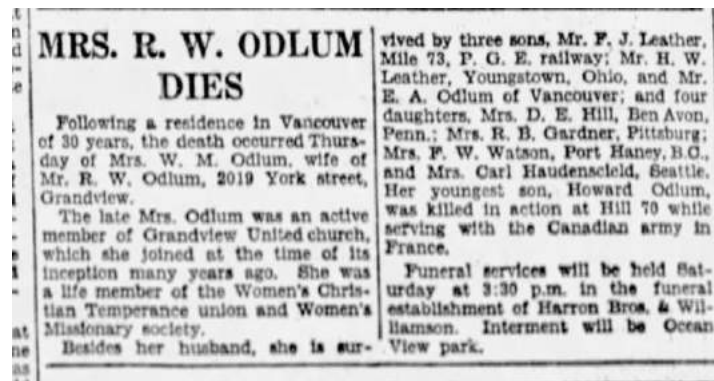
It describes Howard's survival during the Battle of Langemarck, a part of the Ypres Salient, in April 1915. Despite the death as reported by Victor Odlum in a letter to his brother Dr. Robert William Odlum, it turned out that it was another brother, Joseph Odlum who had lost his life. As an aside, during the recent Battlefield tour in May 2023, we visited the Langemarck area outside Ypres and paid our respects at the German Cemetery, which contains the remains of thousands of German soldiers who are buried there in a mass burial.

The following article also appeared in May 1915 in The Vancouver Sun, it reports the award of the Distinguished Conduct Medal and notes Howard's rank as Corporal, his military record indicates he subsequently was returned to the rank of Private.

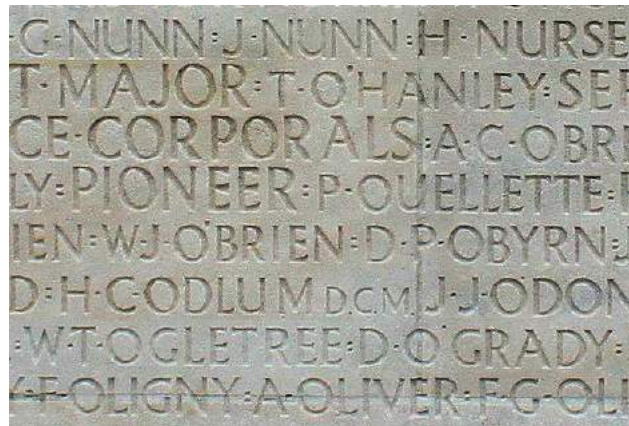


Credit: Veterans Canada webpage

The next article appeared on 28 February 1930 in The Vancouver Sun reporting the death of Howard's mother Margaret, it references Howard's death at Hill 70:



It should be noted that Howard's remains were not recovered from the Hill 70 Battlefield in August 1917, For that reason, he is memorialized at The Vimy National Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. This image shows Howard's inscription on the Vimy Memorial, Source: Veterans Canada:



### Medals

Eligible for 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, British War Medal noted as awarded a D.C.M. 27 January 1916

Killed: 15 August 1917 (Hill 70)

### References for this article:

Swift & Strong, Leblanc, Maxwell, Snow, Deschenes

CEF Record: <http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.item/?op=pdf&app=CEF&id=B7420-S051>

Attestation Document: <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/item.aspx?IdNumber=546183>

Veterans Canada: <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/1572610>

First World War Book of Remembrance, p. 307:

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/books/page?page=303&book=1&sort=pageAsc>

I noted when preparing this article that Library & Archives Canada are soon to be transitioning to a new system of archives. Future readers should note that the CEF Record link will change in the short term.

Article prepared 17 December 2023

Prepared by Don Manning

Member of The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Museum Society

## **TROOPER ALFRED “AUDIE” SCOTT PETERSON 28<sup>th</sup> ARMoured REGIMENT (BC) RCAC**

Trooper Alfred “Audie” Scott Peterson

28<sup>th</sup> Armoured Regiment (BC) R.C.A.C.

Regimental Number: B.19632

Reference: RG24. Volume 26799

Buried: Bretteville-sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery, Plot Reference: I.X.E5

This article was written to honour a young man of 27 who was lost at Hill 140, he is buried at Bretteville -sur - Laize Canadian War Cemetery in Normandy, not far from the graves of Lt-Col D.R. Worthington and his brother Major John Worthington.

### Personal:

Birth: 20 October 1917, Devil's Lake. Saskatchewan (per Ancestry.ca)

Death: 9 August 1944 (during Operation Totalize – Hill 140)

Father: Oliver Rudolph Peterson (1880-1935), he of Norwegian roots.

Mother: Sarah Jane Smith: (1886-1952)

Siblings: Bertha, Gordon, Lillian, Mary, Edward, Robert, Rudolph, Harvey, Ellen, Betty

Occupation at enlistment: Miner (Falconbridge Mines)

### Military Record excerpts:

Previous Military Service (Reserves): Yorkton Regiment – 1935-1938 (Saskatchewan Horse)

Attestation Date: 24 June 1941

Assigned to Army Trade School, Borden: 6 July 1942

Qualified for RAM II Tank: 22 August 1942

Qualified to Group C Tank: 25 November 1942

Qualified MM Group Camp Borden: 12 May 1943

Embarked: 16 June 1943, Disembarked/TOS : 24 June 1943

Transfer to 28<sup>th</sup> CAR: 11 August 1943 (Motor Mechanic “B”)

Awarded Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and clasp

Embarked (for France): 22 July 1944, Disembarked France: 24 July 1944

Killed in Action: 9 July 1944

Note: His military record suggests he was born in 1918.

### Burial:

Bretteville-sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery, taken 29 May 2023





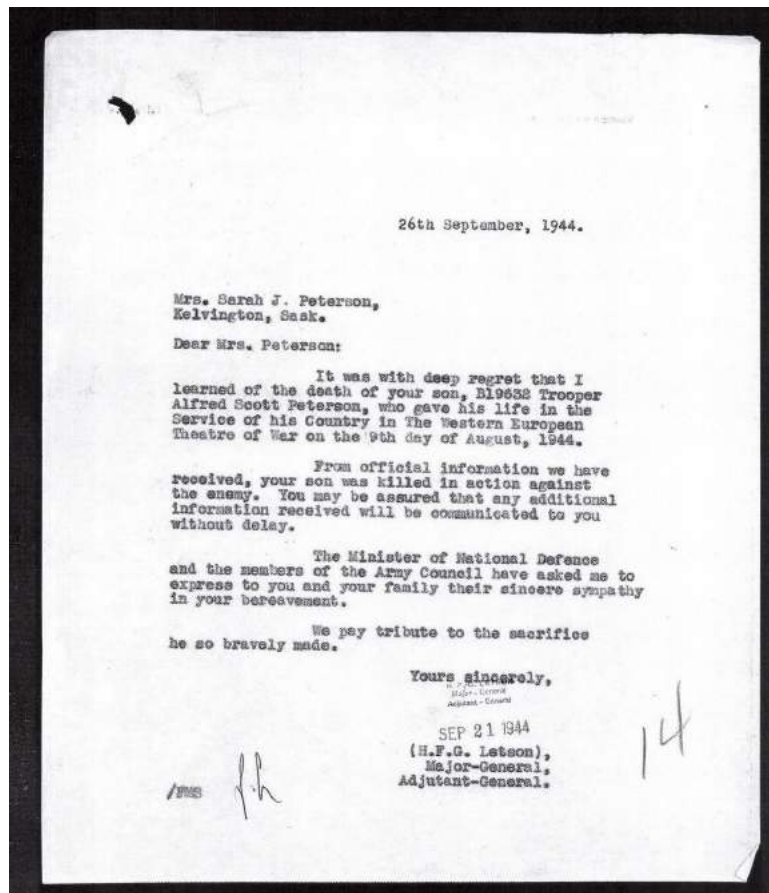
Credit Find a Grave

Headstone, Bretteville Canadian War Cemetery, Plot IX.E.5

Inscription: "How Can Man Die Better Than Facing Fearful Odds"

Cemetery Location: Cintheaux, Department du Calvados, Basse – Normandie, France

Letter of Condolence: Trooper Peterson's mother received the below letter from Major-General Letson dated 26 September 1944



Source: Military Record

### **Medals Awarded while in Military Service:**

1939 – 1945 Star

France and Germany Star (1949)

Defence Medal

War Medal

C.V.S.M. & clasp

Note: Medals were forwarded to his Mother, as was a Memorial Cross

A war service gratuity was forwarded to Trooper Peterson's Mother.

From bl.uk:

For the Fallen

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.

### **References relied upon for this article:**

Find a Grave: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56157504/alfred-s-peterson>

Library Canada: [https://recherche-collection-search.bac-](https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/Home/Search?DataSource=Genealogy%7cMilitary%7cKia&q=Petersen&DateBucket=1940-1949%7c1944&FirstName=Alfred&Regiment=British+Columbia+Regiment&num=25&start=0&enviro=prod)

[lac.gc.ca/eng/Home/Search?DataSource=Genealogy%7cMilitary%7cKia&q=Petersen&DateBucket=1940-1949%7c1944&FirstName=Alfred&Regiment=British+Columbia+Regiment&num=25&start=0&enviro=prod](https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/Home/Search?DataSource=Genealogy%7cMilitary%7cKia&q=Petersen&DateBucket=1940-1949%7c1944&FirstName=Alfred&Regiment=British+Columbia+Regiment&num=25&start=0&enviro=prod).

Note: This record includes his service book, which records all of the training he received while in the Canadian Army.

The Few Good Men.com: <https://www.thefewgoodmen.com/thefgmforum/threads/normandy-tour-day-6-falaise-pocket-end-of-the-battle-for-normandy.21737/>

Commonwealth War Graves: <https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/search-results/?Surname=Peterson+&Forename=Alfred&Initials=&ServiceNum=B.19632&Regiment=&CountryCommemoratedIn=null&Cemetery=&Unit=&Rank=&SecondaryRegiment=&SecondaryUnit=&AgeOfDeath=0&DateDeathFromDay=1&DateDeathFromMonth=January&DateDeathFromYear=&DateDeathToDay=1&DateDeathToMonth=January&DateDeathToYear=&DateOfDeath=&Honours=null&AdditionalInfo=>

For the Fallen: bl.uk

Article prepared from information available, December 12, 2023

Prepared by:

Don Manning

Member, The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Museum Society

## LIEUTENANT RALPH BRUDENELL ST. GEORGE SMYTH 28<sup>TH</sup> ARMoured REGIMENT RCAC (BC)



Belgian Croix de Guerre Credit: Wikipedia

**Article Background:** During the May 2023 Battlefield Tour, we met with Ms. Iris Van Landschoot and her class at Adagem Canadian War Cemetery in Belgium. Iris encourages her students to understand the sacrifices that were made by Canadian soldiers in the liberation of Belgium in 1944 and 1945 and welcomes visits from Canadian visitors. Our April 24, 2023, visit at Adagem Canadian War Cemetery was one of the most moving of the trip in this writer's opinion, and I thank Iris for letting me know of the location of Lt. Smyth's final resting place. Iris shared with me the name of one of the 28<sup>th</sup> RCAC BC Regiment casualties who is not buried at Adagem, and I have been able to piece together his story, sadly without locating his image.

Lt. Smyth appears to be one of the men who survived the 28<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment (BC) RCAC events at Hill 140 during Operation Totalize following his own recovery from wounds incurred there, he was later killed in action during the Battle of the Scheldt from wounds he sustained during that engagement.

**Birth:** 27 February 1912, Trail, B.C.

**Parents:** Revd. Edward Adderley St. George Smyth and Catherine Winifred nee Besley.

**Marriage:** 20 May 1944, Leatherhead, Surrey, United Kingdom to Sibaltern Penelope Erlstoun

**Spouse:** Penelope Erlstoun St. George Smyth, of Leatherhead, Surrey, England

**Enlistment:** The British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles), 20 June 1940, Rank Rifleman. He was stationed and trained in the Army Camp at New Westminster, B.C.

**Reported occupation at enlistment:** Clerk

**Regimental Number:** K37832 (prior to becoming an officer)

### **Excerpts from Military Record**

Taken on Strength, BC Regiment (DCOR) CASF, New Westminster, B.C.: 20 May 1940

Appointed Acting Lance Corporal, Nanaimo, B.C.: 1 October 1940

Qualified Tradesman Clerk Group "C": 13 February 1941

Appointed Corporal with pay, Nanaimo, B.C.: 17 February 1941

Appointed Acting Sergeant, with pay, Nanaimo, B.C., confirmed as Sergeant Niagara: 17 February 1941

Change of District from MD XI to MD II: 5 May 1941  
Proceed to Longbranch, Ontario for Course #310: 19 September 1941  
Change of District to M.D. 6 Niagara: 22 November 1941.  
Transferred to C.A.C. (28<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division, R.C.A.C.): 11 March 1942  
Qualified Driver (I.C. W Class III): 5 May 1942  
Qualified Safe Carrier Driver R.D. 571: 16 May 1942  
Passed Wireless Section Regimental Leader Operating Schedule: 3 June 1942  
Proceeded on Special Leave: 12 July 1942  
Qualified Driver Operator Class 3: 29 June 1942  
Qualified Driver IC Class III: 13 August 1942  
Struck off Strength Canada: 21 August 1942  
Taken on Strength Overseas: 22 August 1942  
Disembarked: 1 September 1942  
On PT Course: 24 September to 13 October 1942  
Qualified "B" PT Course 28 CAR: 13 October 1942  
Struck off Strength to 3 CACRU: 20 February 1943  
Taken on Strength from 28<sup>th</sup> CAR while attending course to 3 CACRU: 21 February 1943  
Attended TAP to Canadian Pre OCTU School 3 CACRU: 21 February 1943  
CT.B attended TAB to 3 Rgt. R.C.A. 3 CACRU: 16 April 1943  
Proceed on Pre O.C.T.U.: 17 April 1943  
Return from Pre O.C.T.U., attached to C.T.D?: 28 May 1943  
Attended F.A.P. ? to 102 Pre – OCTU R.A.C.: 3 June 1943  
Returned from Pre OCTU Course C / Alt fa Plot Pre OCTU RAC 3 CAC RU: 28 August 1943  
Proceed on OCTU Course Att. Fap Sandhurst OCTU RAC: 29 August 1943  
Off OCTU Course / Attend FAP to 100 (Sandhurst) Rank Lieutenant: 26 February 1944  
Awarded Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp  
Taken off Strength from Y5 list on return to OCTU Course 3 CACRU: 27 February 1944  
To be Lieutenant C.A.C: 26 February 1944  
SOS to 28 CAR from 3 CAC RU: 28/29 March 1944  
**Marriage:** 28 May 1944  
SOS to X4 list CAC (C): 12 June 1944  
TOS from X4 List CAC (C): 7 August 1944  
Wounded: 20 August 1944  
SOS X3 to 28 CAR: 6 September 1944  
TOS from X3 list to 28 CAR: 6/7 September 1944  
**Died of Wounds:** 11 October 1944  
Struck off Strength/Died of Wounds: 11 October 1944

### **Comments:**

The date of Lt. Smyth's wounding on 20 August 1944 suggests that Lt. Smyth was wounded at Hill 140 during the ill-fated engagement with the 12th SS Panzer Division. His medical record is attached to his service file, it indicates that Lt. Smyth was seriously wounded by way of a bullet wound to the skull on 11 October 1944, and that he died on the same date. The 28<sup>th</sup> C.A.R. is known to have been engaged at the Battle of the Scheldt (2 October – 8 November 1944), so it would seem logical that he was killed during this Battle.

The newspaper clipping below appeared on the Vancouver Sun on 7 October 1944, prior to the date he was fatally shot, according to the medical records shown in Lt. Smyth's Service Record

### Find a Grave entry:

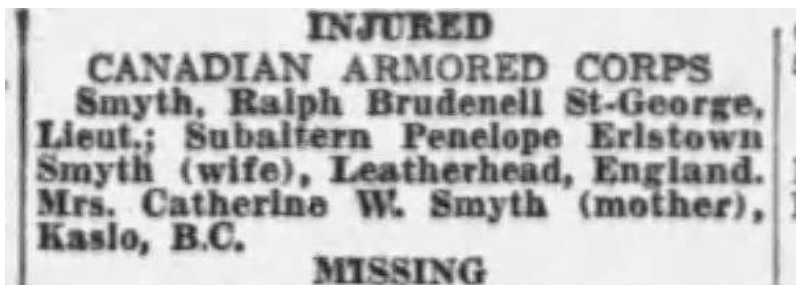
Death: 11 October 1944 (In the Field) – believed during the Battle of the Scheldt  
Burial: Antwerpen Schoonselhof Communal Cemetery, Antwerpen, Belgium



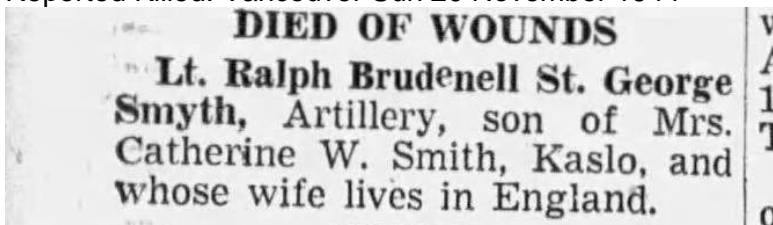
Credit: Find a Grave: "Danielle"  
Plot: III.L.15

### **Newspaper Clippings**

Reported Wounded: Vancouver Sun 7 October 1944



Reported Killed: Vancouver Sun 20 November 1944



**From Commonwealth War Graves Commission:**

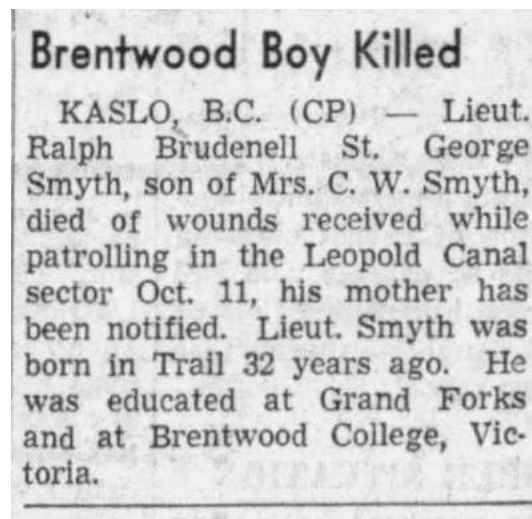
Headstone, Antwerpen Schoonselhof Communal Cemetery, Antwerpen, Belgium



Inscription chosen by the family: " O Valiant Heart"

### **Where Lt. Smyth lost his Life**

This article, from the Victoria Times Colonist dated 5 December 1944 confirms his death as well as the location, namely the Leopold Canal sector I in Belgium. This article notes that Lt. Smyth attended Brentwood College at Mill Bay, B.C., prior to enlistment.



### **Trail Cenotaph**

Lieutenant Smyth is memorialized on the Cenotaph at Trail, B.C.



## Memorial Cross

A Memorial Cross was forwarded to his mother and to his surviving spouse on 28 October 1949 I would like to thank all those who provided me with assistance in researching this article, starting with Ms. Iris Landschoot.

## From: For the Fallen, Laurence Binyon

“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.”

## Sources and References relied upon for this article

Veterans Canada: <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/2255907>

Battle of The Scheldt (Veterans Canada): <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/wars-and-conflicts/second-world-war/battle-of-the-scheldt>

Canada Fallen, R.C.A.C: <https://canadianfallen.ca/results>

Find a Grave: [https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/12900092/smyth-st\\_george](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/12900092/smyth-st_george)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission: <https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/2255907/ralph-brudenell-st-george-smyth/>

Ancestry.ca: <https://www.ancestry.ca/discoveryui-content/view/32787:2706?tid=&pid=&queryId=c591d722-8b12-49e9-b1e4-73f9a4bda1c0&phsrc=axG1&phstart=successSource>. Note: a subscription may be required to view.

Ancestry.ca: <https://www.ancestry.ca/family-tree/person/tree/120503210/person/122285073713/facts>. Note: a subscription may be required to view.

Ancestry.ca: Military Record:

[https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/9145/images/44486\\_83024005549\\_0984-00493?pld=114730](https://www.ancestry.ca/imageviewer/collections/9145/images/44486_83024005549_0984-00493?pld=114730). Ref: p. 488 – 518

Leatherhead War Memorials: <https://www.leatherheadweb.org.uk/warmemorials/smyth-rbqtg-111044.htm>

Trail, B.C. Cenotaph: [https://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMN9QE\\_Trail\\_Cenotaph\\_Trail\\_BC](https://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMN9QE_Trail_Cenotaph_Trail_BC)

Article Prepared by:  
Don Manning  
Member, The British Columbia Regiment Museum Society  
Prepared: 15 January 2024

## PRIVATE ERNEST A. ROGERS – PRIVATE RICHARD C. ROGERS 29<sup>TH</sup> (VANCOUVER) BATTALION CEF



From post by Brent Lawrence in “Remember the Fallen” 7 January 2024 Facebook

**Note:** Brothers, Ernest Arthur & Richard Charles Rogers (R) both 29th Bn. Canadian Infantry, Ernest was killed 4 April 1917 and Richard 7th May 1917. This photo recently appeared in: “Remembering the Fallen-WWI Cemeteries.com” Facebook page post by Brent Lawrence. It pictures a clear image of Ernest Arthur and Richard Charles Rogers, brothers who both enlisted into The 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion C.E.F. one of the C.E.F. Battalions who are commemorated in the history of The British Columbia Regiment (DCO).

Knowing that our esteemed editor prefers images of the subjects of these articles, I decided on the spot to put together an article about these two men, each of whom died in turn while members of the fabled “Tobin’s Tigers”.

The brothers are each now buried at Aubigny CC Ext and Orchard Dump Cemetery respectively. Each of these brothers are the sons of George W. Rogers (1849-1913) and Annie Rogers (1859-1928) of Welland, Ontario, Canada.

The reader will note that both men died within a month of one another..





**Private Ernest Arthur Rogers, 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion, C.E.F**

**Credit:** Find a Grave

**Birth:** 24 July 1894. Welland, Ontario

**Enlistment:** 13 August 1915, 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion, C.E.F., at Welland, Ontario, Regimental Number: 175266

**Occupation on enlistment:** Bank Clerk

Newspapers of the day describe him as an excellent athlete, in particular baseball prior to enlisting, following his older brother Richard's enlistment.

Embarkation, from Halifax, Nova Scotia: 19 May 1916, S.S. Adriatic, disembarkation at Liverpool 29 May 1916

**Excerpts from his Military Record - Ernest Charles Rogers:**

- Ernest was transferred from the 86<sup>th</sup> Battalion CEF to the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion, CEF, on 21 December 1916, Shorncliffe, UK.
- Ernest's Military Record does not include much detail of the training he received, and does not indicate medal entitlement, if any.
- His Military Record indicates the date of his death as 4 April 1917 (page 17).
- Death, in Action: 7 May 1917, at 22 years of age, Note: [canadiangreatwarproject.com](http://canadiangreatwarproject.com) indicates that Ernest was in action east of Neuville St. Vaast. Pas de Calais, France. The War Diary for the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion for 7 May 1917 confirms the location, it appears the battalion was being relieved by the 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion that day and indicates there were 8 killed, presumably including Ernest, in action during active combat.

At the time of his death, he was serving in the 36<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Battalion per Veterans Affairs Canada documents, his military records suggest he was attached to the 86<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Battalion (on Page 15).

**Burial:** Aubigny Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais, France, Plot: I.K.13



Credit: Find a Grave  
Regimental Number: 175266

**Private Richard Charles Rogers, 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion, C.E.F.**



Credit: Veterans Canada: "Group Photo – Photo from France, 1917. Dick is bottom left (with moustache) sitting directly below his younger brother Ernie Rogers. Dick regularly wrote letters home, sometimes asking for chewing tobacco, and little else. He seemed content as long as his young brother Ernie was OK.

Shortly after this photo, both Rogers brothers were killed in battle."

**Birth:** 20 September 1892, Lockport, New York, United States

**Enlistment:** 13 August, 1915, Welland, Ontario,

**Occupation on Enlistment:** Dredgeman

**Previous Military Service:** 44<sup>th</sup> Regiment (Lincoln & Welland)

**Service Number:** 175256

From Find a Grave: "A dredgeman by trade, residing in, he enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force on 13 Aug 1915 in Welland, Ontario, Canada. On 19 May 1916, he embarked from Halifax, Nova Scotia, sailing for England on the S. S. 'Adriatic', disembarking at Liverpool on 29 May. His brother, Private Ernest Arthur Rogers, was also a passenger on that voyage."

Son of Annie Rogers of Welland, Ontario. His brother, Ernest Arthur Rogers, was killed in action on April 7 1917 while serving with the Canadian Infantry, 29th Battalion.

**Excerpts from Military Record:** Richard's Military record indicates that he was a member of the 86<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Battalion. Note: The Military File for both brothers show little in the form of training or activity other than as below.

**Embarked:** 19 May 1916, Halifax, Disembarked 29 May 1916, Liverpool  
Transferred to 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Shorncliffe. 21 October 1916  
Arrived in France, 6 October 1916  
Joined Unit 27 October 1916  
Killed in Action: 10 May 1917

### **Decorations**

Richard was not eligible for the 1914-1915 Star  
His mother received a plaque, scroll and Memorial Cross on 28 September 1920

**Death:** 4 May 1917, Killed in Action: Commemorated on Page 318 of the *First World War Book of Remembrance*. On this date the 29<sup>th</sup> were preparing artillery as well as receiving artillery from their opponents at St. Vaast, according to the 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion War Diary, and were in the process of being relieved by the 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion the following day.

**Burial:** Orchard Dump Cemetery, Pas de Calais France. Plot: V. F. 36



Credit: Find a Grave

The image below appears on the Veterans Canada Memorial Page for Ernest Rogers, excerpted a newspaper article that appeared in a Welland publication on 15 June 1917, in honour of two sets of brothers, including the Rogers Brothers, three who were killed from the Welland area.

WELLAND, ONT., FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 1917

## FOUR NATIVE SONS OF WELLAND THREE OF WHOM PAID THE SUPREME PRICE

**THE BEST BROTHERS**                      **THE ROGERS BROTHERS**



**FRANK BEST**  
second son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Best of Welland. Severely wounded in October last, losing one eye and having one arm partly incapacitated. Since release from hospital he has been working on the staff of the Army Record Pay Office in London.



**SERGT. HARRY BEST**  
elder son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Best of Welland. Killed in action on May 22nd while on his last trip up the line before leaving for England to undertake training for lieutenant, he having been recommended for promotion by Brig.-Gen. Hill for service on the field.



**RICHARD ROGERS**  
son of Mrs. George Rogers, Welland, and brother of Ernest Rogers, killed in action on May 7. Rev. James Thompson said of them: "They were lovely and pleasant in their lives and in their death they were not divided."



**ERNEST ROGERS**  
son of Mrs. George Rogers of Welland. Died of wounds on April 4. He was probably the best all around athlete Welland county ever produced, excelling in boxing, basketball, baseball and hockey. He was, moreover, a gentleman, in all that term implies.

### Sources Referenced, Private Ernest Arthur Rogers

Veterans Canada: <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/996327?Ernest%20Arthur%20Rogers>

CEF Record: <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/item.aspx?IdNumber=286428>

War Diary for 7 May 1917 [canadiangreatwarproject.com](http://canadiangreatwarproject.com)

Nominal Roll, 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion, CEF, 20 May 1915: <chrome-extension://efaidnbnmnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://data2.archives.ca/e/e444/e011089521.pdf>

Find a Grave: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56154629/ernest-arthur-rogers>

Book of Remembrance: Page 318, WWI:

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/996327>

Image Link, Welland Newspaper: [https://cvwm.images.cloud.veterans.gc.ca/996327\\_4.jpg](https://cvwm.images.cloud.veterans.gc.ca/996327_4.jpg). Posted 15 June 1917, reproduced by VeteransCanada.gc.ca

29<sup>th</sup> Battalion, CEF War Diaries:

[https://canadiangreatwarproject.com/diaries/viewer.php?u=29th canadian infantry battalion&m=05&y=1917](https://canadiangreatwarproject.com/diaries/viewer.php?u=29th%20canadian%20infantry%20battalion&m=05&y=1917)

### Sources Referenced, Private Richard Charles Rogers

Veterans Canada: <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/269731>

C.E.F. Record: <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/item.aspx?IdNumber=286775>

Canadian War Diaries: <https://canadiangreatwarproject.com/diaries/viewer.php>

Find a Grave: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56047328/richard-charles-rogers>

Ancestry.ca: <https://www.ancestry.ca/family-tree/person/tree/100488381/person/310004459670/facts>

From: For the Fallen by Laurence Binyon:  
"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. (13–16)"

Article prepared by:

Don Manning  
Member, The British Columbia Regiment (DCO) Museum Society  
24 January 2024

## 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 flag (36" x 72") - \$150.00

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

Mini - \$130.00



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 2024.  
May they Rest in Peace knowing they are not forgotten



## ASLEEP

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

### **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 end of March 2024. 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 on a regular basis.