Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



PRINCESS PATRICIA'S CANADIAN LIGHT INFANTRY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

An annual Newsletter, devoted to the interest of all serving and retired members of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, is published as an official Regimental Publication by authority of the President of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association.

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Founded October 1947 Incorporated September 1, 1953

In this Issue:

	Page		Page
The National Executive	2	Branch News	
Regimental Headquarters	2	Atlantic	13
Branch Directory	3	Calgary	13
President's Report	5	Edmonton	15
A Message from Our Patron	5	Manitoba & Northwest Ontario	15
Our New Colonel-in-Chief	6	Southwest Ontario	15
A Note from Lady Patricia	7		
The Colonel of the Regiment	7	Editor's Scrap Book	
Volunteer Patricia Program (VPP)	8	One More River to Cross	16
Six Student Bursaries Awarded	9	A Living Part of Canadian History	17
2007 AGM Highlights	9	His Selfless Action Helped Save Seoul	18
Vancouver Island to Host 2008 AGM	9	"A" for Afghanistan	18
Regimental Centennial Update	9	Lost Trails	19
Lady Patricia Awarded MSC	10		
Vimy Memorial Rededication	11	Last Post	20
Degree for Fallen Soldier	12		
Bill Minnis Appointed Honorary Colonel	12		
Repatriation Ceremony Gets Overwhelming Support	12	Back Cover: Quiet Hero	

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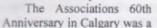
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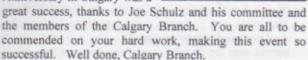
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bert Scott, CD

This being my first President's Report let me say that I look forward to serving you all during my first term. I encourage all members to be open and voice your thoughts and ideas on our Association at any time.





At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) a new Executive was elected, all of whom are Past Presidents of Branches so they are very familiar with the Association's terms of reference and operating procedures. They have some visions and ideas to move forward and make the Association stronger, serve the membership and listen to the members with their ideas and visions of the future of the Association.

The past Executive is to be congratulated for their dedication and hard work under Past President Rudy Raidt. You have left the Association in great shape. From all members – thank you. And now, as the Past President, Rudy has volunteered to stay on as are Chairman of the Finance Committee.

The Executive has some issues which can be overcome with a proper planning. One of the biggest challenges is to find ways to increase our membership by the Regiments 100th Anniversary in 2014. One of the best ways to promote the Association is by word of mouth. We also have a Membership Committee which is working hard, along with the Branch Presidents, to increase our membership.

At the AGM many points of interest were brought forward, some of which were positive and had merit, which the executive will look at in detail.

We are a strong organization and our financial state and investments are in good shape. The Casino fund is in the capable hands of Vice-President Joe Schulz and the Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund is being looked after by Past President Rudy Raidt. Our Volunteer Patricia Program (VPP) is well, with more training taking place in Shilo this November.

In closing: "Once a Patricia, Always a Patricia".

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON

The Rt. Hon. Adrienne Clarkson PC, CC, CMM, COM, CD

Please inform the regiment that I am absolutely delighted to have been selected as your new Colonel-in-Chief and sincerely honoured to be offered the opportunity to deepen my relationship with Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. I look forward to the change of appointment ceremony in Edmonton on 17 March 2007 and the chance to spend more time with Patricias, their families and their friends.

As Governor General of Canada, my greatest honour was to serve as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. It was extremely rewarding to visit with soldiers and publicly recognize the sacrifices they make to protect our way of life. I was especially pleased to visit with Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry because my husband's father, Colonel William John Saul, was a Patricia. Our family is extremely proud of this association and I feel very privileged to be able to build on this relationship. John's family knew and spent time with Andrew Hamilton Gault and they have vivid memories of this illustrious and original man.

My husband and I visited the First Battalion in Kosovo in November 1999, shortly after I took office. I wrote to encourage the Third Battalion as they prepared to fight in Afghanistan in January 2002 and later visited with wounded soldiers of the friendly fire incident and the families of the fallen in Germany and Edmonton. I was thrilled to present the Second Battalion Battle Group the Commander-in-Chief Unit Commendation for their actions in the Medak Pocket and later presented the same award to the Third Battalion for their outstanding work in Afghanistan on Operation APOLLO. I made my last visit to the Regiment in Edmonton in June 2005 as I prepared to leave office. I have always been impressed by the Regiment's quiet professionalism, remarkable hospitality and the frank and honest discussions I had with the soldiers, NCOs and officers 1 met during these visits.

I must acknowledge the extraordinary contributions of my predecessors, the first two Colonels-in-Chief. Lady Patricia Ramsay is intimately connected with the Regiment's identity. She gave her name to the PPCLI and served as Colonel-in-Chief for 60 years. She presented the Regiment with its first Colour at Lansdowne Park on 23 August 1914 as the Originals prepared to leave for Europe. Lady Patricia Ramsay also presented the Wreath of Laurel that is carried at the head of the pikes carrying the Regimental Colour to recognize the tremendous sacrifices made by the Regiment during World War I. Her personal cypher and Royal Coronet were added to the Regiment's cap badge in 1933, an emblem that is still worn proudly by Patricias today. Lady Patricia Ramsay's final contribution to the Regiment was the request that her cousin, Lady Patricia Brabourne, be appointed as her successor. I do not think she could have made a better choice. Lady Patricia Brabourne has served the Regiment with remarkable grace and devotion for almost 33 years. Having served as a signaller and later as a signals officer during the Second World War, she understood the conditions of service and used this insight to quickly establish a close, personal relationship with the Regiment's soldiers and their families. Lady Patricia Brabourne served as an important focal point, bringing together serving soldiers, the PPCLI Association, affiliated

groups such as the PPCLI Cadet Corps and Edmonton Police Service Pipes and Drums Band, families, and members of local communities to promote the Regiment's welfare and recognize its important achievements. Lady Patricia Brabourne has been a stalwart supporter of the Regiment, performing her duties even in the face of significant personal loss. Over the past 33 years, Lady Patricia Brabourne visited the Regiment on 45 separate occasions. She travelled extensively in Canada, visiting soldiers in garrison and in the field. She also supported soldiers serving on overseas operations, making numerous trips to see Patricias serving in Germany, Cyprus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Kosovo. I am greatly indebted to these women for their remarkable example and I will endeavour to build upon their many accomplishments.

We will get to know each other in the years to come. For me, to become a part of this noble Regiment is a privilege and a joy. I am happy to be able to serve our country with you. I am committed to, and believe in, our Regiment.

OUR NEW COLONEL-IN-CHIEF

(From the PPCLI Regimental Website)

Universally acknowledged to have transformed the post of Governor-General, Madame Adrienne Clarkson was born in Hong Kong in 1939 and came to Canada as a refugee with her parents, William and Ethel Poy, in 1942. They settled in Ottawa, where she attended public schools until graduating from Lisgar College Institute in 1956. She obtained an honours B.A. in English Literature from the University of Toronto's



Trinity College and later completed an M.A. Madame Clarkson has also had a life-long interest in the French language. She did post-graduate work at the Sorbonne in France and is fluently bilingual.

A leading figure in Canada's cultural life, Madame Clarkson has had a rich and distinguished career in broadcasting, journalism, the arts and public service. She worked as host, writer and producer of several influential programs on CBC Television, including Take Thirty, Adrienne at Large, and The Fifth Estate from 1965 to 1987. She is an eminent writer and has authored four books and contributed numerous articles to major newspapers and magazines across Canada. She served as the first Agent-General for Ontario in Paris from 1982 to 1987, promoting Ontario's business and cultural interests in France, Italy and Spain. She was President of McClelland and Stewart from 1987 to 1988. In 1988, she became the Executive Producer, Host and Writer for the programs Adrienne Clarkson's

Summer Festival and Adrienne Clarkson Presents. These duties kept her busy for the next 11 years. During this period, she also directed several films. She also served as Chairwoman to the Board of Trustees for the Museum of Civilization in Hull, Québec and as President of the Executive Board of the International Music Centre (IMZ), the international audio-visual association of music, dance, and cultural programmers based in Vienna, Austria. Her work has been recognized with dozens of awards in Canada and the United States, including 21 honorary doctorates. She was also appointed as a Senior Fellow at Massey College, University of Toronto, and as an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Trinity College, and the Royal Architecture Institute of Canada. She was also honoured abroad with the Grand Cross of the Order of Pleiades from France (2001) and the Order of Friendship of the Russian Federation (2006).

Madame Clarkson was sworn in as Canada's 26th Governor-General on 7 October 1999. Her tenure as Governor-General was remarkable for the considerable attention she brought to the courage and commitment of Canada's Armed Forces. She visited and inspired troops in Kosovo, the Persian Gulf and Afghanistan and moved and educated Canadians with her tributes to the Unknown Soldier and Canada's war veterans. Particularly memorable was her role in comforting the nation and the families of the four soldiers killed in the tragic "friendly fire" incident in April 2002. She demonstrated her commitment to the families of Canadian soldiers by traveling to Germany to visit with the wounded and attending memorial ceremonies for soldiers killed in action. In the process, she increased our vigilance to Canada's commitment to international peace and security.

Madame Clarkson actively promoted tolerance, acceptance, belonging and public responsibility in her work as Governor-General and as a broadcaster, writer, diplomat and cultural champion. National Post Columnist John Fraser remarked that Adrienne Clarkson has the ability, unique among public officials, of making Canadians feel good about themselves and their country. This talent was recognized by the Blood Tribe of Alberta who adopted her as an honorary chief. Madame Clarkson is proud to retain her new title "Grandmother of Many Nations." Her official titles include membership in the Queen's Privy Council for Canada (PC), Commander of the Order of Military Merit (CMM), Commander of the Order of Merit of the Police Forces (COM) and the Canadian Forces Decoration (CD).

Madame Clarkson is married to John Ralston Saul, the son of Colonel William John Saul, a veteran of World War Two who participated in the D-Day invasion and later served as an officer in Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Her bestselling memoir, *Heart Matters*, was received with acclaim when it was published in the fall of 2006.

A NOTE FROM LADY PATRICIA

Dear Bert Scott,

I am so very pleased to have been asked to become the Honorary Patron of the PPCLI Association and I thought I would just write you a short note in that capacity, because I know you are the President of the Association.

I really did think Rudi Raidt and his team had done the most marvellous job of organising the various events celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Association. I was so very pleased to be able to be in Calgary over that period and to see how greatly everybody was obviously enjoying themselves and appreciating all the arrangements that had been made. I know some people met friends who they had not seen for several decades and indeed I was able to meet people who I had met earlier in y thirty-three years as Colonel-in-Chief.

I have always thought that the Association is such a very important part of the Regiment and with all the problems it is facing these days overseas it has a very real role to fulfil both for the soldiers and for their wives and families at home. This does seem to be happening most effectively and I am sure contributes greatly to the morale of the whole Regiment.

I personally greatly enjoyed the opportunity of meeting so many old friends and making new ones and would like to send all of you my very warmest wishes in keeping up your very good work.

Yours sincerely Patricia Mountbatten of Burma

THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT

Brigadier-General (Retd) J.E.L. Gollner, OMM, CD

Since our last newsletter the members of our Regiment have been active on many fronts. C Company 3rd Bn served with distinction with the 2nd Bn RCR Battlegroup during that Battlegroup's recent tour in Afghanistan. As we know, C Company suffered the loss of seven members along with an artillery officer serving with them and an Afghan translator in two bombing incidents.



Our members continue to win well-deserved gallantry decorations for their actions in Afghanistan. Others are being decorated for outstanding service in Afghanistan and other areas of operations that are removed from the public eye, areas such as Lebanon, Sudan, and Jerusalem.

At home the Regiment is focused on preparing the 2nd Bn Battlegroup for deployment to Afghanistan early in 2008. The 2nd Bn Battlegroup will contain companies from both other battalions plus about 175 soldiers from the Army Reserve. The Reserve soldiers are from Regiments that have served with us before and that wear familiar badges. Badges such as The Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, The Canadian Scottish Regiment, The Calgary Highlanders, The Royal Winnipeg Rifles, The Royal Regina Rifles, The Lake Superior Scottish, and our own 4th Bn, The Loyal Edmonton Regiment is evident in every part of the 2nd Bn. These Regiments and others are providing capable soldiers to serve with us. The Reserve soldiers serve with us for up to eighteen months to ensure that they can complete the training work-up before deploying.

While we rightfully are focused on operations and preparing our members for overseas service we also remain active in other areas. After assuming her appointment as our Colonel-in-Chief, in March, Madam Clarkson visited both 1st and 3rd Battalions. She also took part in the ramp ceremonies at Trenton for the fallen members of 3rd Bn during the summer.

In late August our Association celebrated its 60th Anniversary. Calgary Branch did a great job hosting the event along with the Association's Annual General Meeting (AGM). More than 400 attended the anniversary dinner. The AGM saw Mr. Bert Scott elected as National President. Mr. Rudy Raidt, completed his successful four years as National President. Rudy has worked tirelessly for twenty years to ensure that our Association is both viable and that it actively supports the entire Regimental family.

Lady Patricia stopped in Ottawa on her way to Calgary for the Association's anniversary. In Ottawa at a small private ceremony at Rideau Hall she received from the Governor-General, our Commander-in-Chief, a Meritorious Service Cross. Her award marked her thirty-three years of dedicated service to our Regiment as our Colonel-in-Chief, and also for her active support of the Canadian Army and Forces. In Calgary, Lady Patricia assumed her role as Honorary Patron of our Association.

The Association's anniversary also afforded our Colonel-in-Chief an opportunity to attend her first AGM and to meet many members. Madam Clarkson was accompanied by her husband John Ralston Saul. John's father, Colonel Saul, was a member of the Regiment. John himself was made an Honorary Patricia by Lady Patricia in one of her last acts as our Colonel-in-Chief.

In late September I accompanied our Colonel-in-Chief to Wainwright for three days to visit 2nd Bn. The battalion was in the field preparing for deployment. We were also able to visit training at the Western Area Training Centre and Canadian Forces Manoeuvre Training Centre. We then went to Gagetown to join the Atlantic Branch for its AGM and to visit our French Grey Battalion. Both the French Grey Battalion and Atlantic Branch were excellent hosts and everyone enjoyed the events.

Atlantic Branch has taken an interesting initiative by inviting local Silver Cross family members of those of our soldiers that have been lost in Afghanistan to become life members in their Branch. Two families have done so and I felt that their attendance in Gagetown added greatly to the

AGM and related events. Needless to say Gagetown and in particular the School of Infantry was very supportive of the regimentally oriented activities over the weekend.

All in all an active six months and one that will be followed by an increased operational focus as 2nd Bn deploys. All the best to our members and thank you for being such good hosts whenever I visit.

VOLUNTEER PATRICIA AND REGIMENTAL VETERANS' CARE PROGRAMS

by John Hunter

Programs in Transition

2006 and 2007 found soldiers of all units of the Regiment engaged in operations in Afghanistan. We have suffered many casualties but in the process, the Department of National Defence and the Regiment have stepped up the care we provide to wounded veterans and their families to a degree almost beyond our wildest expectations when the Volunteer Patricia Program (VPP) began in late 2004.

In 2004, the Regiment had little or no special arrangements to care for wounded and other soldiers lost by one way or another to action. DND had a number of support programs in place but they were limited in scope and of inconsistent application. What was missing was the right approach. The pressures of operational losses have done a great deal to focus attention on the area over the past two years and much has changed; not so much in policies or programs but in how they are implemented in the interests of our soldiers and their families.

To get a foot in the door, the Association approved the VPP in 2004 to fill gaps in veterans' needs and position ourselves for the impact of casualties in Afghanistan. Initially, the VPP provided information and referral for Association veterans and families through the PPCLI.com website and volunteers in each branch. In 2006, the VPP readied itself to support increased casualties. VPP procedures were revised, liaison with CF and VAC organizers was established and in the fall of last year, training programs were held for Alberta Association members.

We have all learned a lot over the past months. Policies for casualty support are pretty good but cooperation between DND and VAC is not always the best. Within DND, we have seen some lack of coordination between the medical and administrative sides of the house. This could have been due to over-reliance on procedures and lack of follow-up, but it could also be a function of lack of knowledge or even personality conflicts. Our casualties too are often strong-willed soldiers anxious about their future and intent on a quick return to duty. Casualties who are unseen, such as those suffering from stress and those with physical wounds who are being treated far from their units, are particularly likely to lose contact with the system.

All of these situations create a tremendously complex environment. Over the years, we have all become accustomed to hearing about support programs through websites and news releases or brochures, and then left on our own to see if they apply to us. Many look at the process involved and decide it is not worth the effort. Similarly, soldiers have been treated the same way and expected to navigate an extremely complicated series of programs and polices.

By mid 2006, it was apparent that this laissez-faire approach was not working, and the CDS has taken a much more direct approach to ensure soldiers receive a high quality of support they need to get back to duty or adjust to civilian life. The responsibilities of Commanding Officers and the duties of Assisting Officers have been strengthened. A network of facilitators at larger bases has been established to make sure what should happen actually does happen. At

the Regimental level a Regimental Veterans' Care section has been established at RHQ consisting of WO Peter Palmer and two other NCOs. This section

DND procedures for supporting casualties have changed from 'let it happen' to 'make it happen'.

maintains a data base of Regimental casualties and provides advice and assistance to units in casualty management. It also acts as an information focal point for support questions for all regular and retired members. It directs questions to the right point and when the Association is in a position to help, negotiates to most appropriate plan of action with either VPP coordinator or the branch in a good position to assist. This process has worked well over the past months. Across Canada, the Regiment has established a network of senior members to monitor casualty care and ensure each casualty and family is being well supported. In short, the tremendous increase in the level of effort being shown by the Regular component of the Regiment is working hard and well. So well, that it will allow the VPP to refocus its efforts to what it can do best.

We have found that the VPP has had difficulty in gaining entry to DND and VAC client teams. Departments are protective of their mandates and are concerned about volunteers, and about liability and privacy issues. Similarly, we cannot help a casualty if he doesn't want to talk with us. To be effective, we need to be on top of a case more or less constantly. Even DND and VAC have had problems here. But there are things we have done well. For retirees, we have investigated and referred cases that appeared to be lost causes. We have helped individuals find documents and locate

witnesses to injuries. Through our Regimental connections we have provided useful feedback on casualty care. Through Operation Small Pack, we established a program of hospital support that is now

Our challenge remains to deliver the best quality care to our serving and retired veterans and their families by focusing on what we can do best.

DND policy that has continued with the 'Small Pack' name. We have raised funds and supported individual casualties.

Given the advances in DND and RHQ support, the Association can now focus on what works well and avoid what is not working well, as long as others are doing it. We are now in transition from an Association-based program whose capabilities could be extended to serving members to a Regimental program focused primarily on serving members that provides help to all Regimental veterans through a combination of RHQ and Association resources.

We have a lot of work to do to really make this transition a success. Our work plan covers replacing the VPP handbook, upgrading the PPCLI.com web site, training RHQ staff and VPP volunteers and many other tasks. Each of these is now well under way. And by early 2008, the combined Regimental Veterans' Care framework will be well in place.

SIX STUDENT BURSARIES AWARDED

There were six applications for PPCLI Association Student Bursaries this year and six were awarded – four of \$600.00 each and two of \$800.00:

Mr. Mike Rogers, recently released Junior NCO who served with 3 PPCLI and Joint Task Force II for over 10 years and is now pursuing an education in Dentistry.

Miss Kristen Sanger, daughter of soon to retire Sergeant Tony Sanger. Miss Sanger is pursuing an education in the area of elementary teaching.

Miss Tara Vanderveer, daughter of currently serving Major Burry Vanderveer. Miss Vanderveer is pursuing an education in Biotechnology and plans to enrol at the Royal Military College next year.

Miss Elysse Knight, great-granddaughter of Harry Mullin, VC, MM. Miss Knight is pursuing an education in Public Relations and her bursary was awarded in the name of Jack Cathie.

Miss Emma-Leigh Knight, great-granddaughter of Harry Mullin, VC, MM. Miss Knight is pursuing an education in Geology and her bursary was awarded in the name of Jack Cathie.

Mr. Michael Braun, brother of Corporal David Braun who was killed in action in Afghanistan on August 22, 2006. Mr. Braun is pursuing an education in Finance and his bursary was awarded in the name of Lady Patricia.

AGM HIGHLIGHTS

The 2007 Annual General Meeting of the PPCLI Association was held in Calgary, Alberta on September 1st. Here are the highlights:

Student Bursaries. It was agreed that PPCLI Association Student Bursaries will include a bursary named for Lady Patricia.

VPP Program. The Association Council provided approval for the Volunteer Patricia Program to continue filling gaps in services provided and to work closely with RHQ Regimental Veterans Care personnel. 100th Anniversary Fundraising. Council approved in principle fundraising of \$250,000 in support of the Regiment's 100th Anniversary.

E-Branch Proposal. Council accepted Vince Kennedy's recommendation that an Electronic Branch of the Association be formed to serve members who cannot conveniently attend branch functions but would like to be kept informed of Regimental and Association activities via the Internet. A working group was tasked to prepare a proposal on how this is to be achieved.

100th Anniversary Association Project. Council approved a working group based on the Southwest Ontario Branch to identify a suitable project for the Association to commemorate the 100th Anniversary. This project is to be something that will support our soldiers, veterans and their families into the future.

Election of Officers. Bert Scott of the Wainwright Branch was elected President; Joe Schulz, Calgary Branch, Vice-President; Dave Pentney, Kingston Branch, Vice-President (East); and Bob Zubkowski, Calgary Branch, Vice-President (West).

Future AGMs. The 2008 AGM will be in Victoria 29-31 August, 2009 in Edmonton in conjunction with the 95th Anniversary activities, and 2010 (tentatively) in Winnipeg.

VANCOUVER ISLAND TO HOST 2008 AGM

The 2008 Annual General Meeting and associated events, hosted by the Vancouver Island Branch, will be take place in the Victoria area from 29 to 31 August 2008. No other details are available at this time. Further information should be provided in the 2008 Spring Bulletin.

REGIMENTAL CENTENNIAL UPDATE

By Vince Kennedy, Co-Chairman, 100th Anniversary Planning Committee

Planning for the Centennial celebrations in 2014-2015 for our Regiment has been continuing since the last update in this forum. It is a topic that is briefed at every national AGM, and the Planning Committee remains at work, with the Regimental Executive Committee and the Regimental Guard overseeing that effort in every one of their meetings. The Association is very well represented on the Planning Committee.

The National Instruction that was agreed by all and signed by the Association in 2005 remains the guiding document for the planners. The Planning Committee now is working on finishing the final draft of the National Plan – a much more detailed effort that identifies all of the costs – by 2008. At the same time work has started on getting ready to raise money and coordinate the plan with all of the other agencies involved, in the timeframe 2008-2010. Those other agencies are many – from the R22eR who share our anniversary year, to Veterans Affairs, Canada Post, the

CBC, NDHQ and the Army, as well as many individuals who will get caught up in delivering a great 100th Anniversary.

The celebrations will key on a triad of events – a National Reunion in Edmonton 6-10 August 2014, rolling up to an Ottawa Commemoration shortly after in the Nation's Capital, and then a return to Frezenberg in May 2015. At the same time the federal *Canada Remembers* program should be recognizing the 100th Anniversary of Canada going to war and the first major battles in France and Belgium.

The Regiment will be focussing on ways to recognize more fully the new generation of veterans that we have in our midst. Our veterans of the campaigns for peace in the Balkans (Bosnia, Croatia, and Kosovo) and the Middle East, and of the war in Afghanistan (we have been there six years now!) make us an Association that must ensure that we do embrace in meaningful ways these contributions to Canadian peace and security. Our Patricias are a generation of new soldiers who make us proud every day of their service. In the 100th planning we are trying to strike a balance between recognizing the longer-ago historical achievements with the more-modern ones. This means perhaps adding a new memorial piece to the Hamilton Gault Memorial Park, and also getting the modern stories down in print so that we can all read them. And there is more in store.

Much more information on the 100th planning will be available in 2008 on the renewed Regimental and Association websites, which are under refurbishment in the continuing effort to communicate more effectively with all Patricias, past and present. You can ask any questions or make suggestions to me (Vince Kennedy) at wenwayken@cogeco.ca.

LADY PATRICIA AWARDED MSC

Speech by Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaelle Jean on the Occasion of the Presentation of the Meritorious Service Cross to Lady Patricia, The Countess Mountbatten of Burma, on August 28, 2007:

Canada and Great Britain share a special bond that stretches back over the centuries.

We are connected by a shared language, by history, and by similar democratic institutions. And of course we are connected through our armed forces.

The esteemed individual we are honouring today is the personification of that link.

For over 30 years, Lady Patricia, the Right Honourable Countess Mountbatten of Burma, served as the Colonel-in-Chief of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry.

Through the years, she has earned the respect of all with her steadfast commitment to the soldiers of this storied regiment.

Since her appointment in 1974, Lady Patricia has endeavoured to meet the Patricias in their own element, wherever that might be.

Lady Patricia has visited Canadian Forces bases and detachments in every part of the country. She has gone to Gagetown, Petawawa, Winnipeg, Shilo, Edmonton, Calgary, Chilliwack, Victoria, Whitehorse, Yellowknife, and Ottawa.

Lady Patricia has also participated in field-training exercises held in Wainwright, Suffield and Gagetown, and she has travelled to the high arctic to see soldiers training in Resolute Bay and Cornwallis Island.

As well as meeting members of the regiment throughout Canada, Lady Patricia has also ventured into zones of conflict to encourage soldiers serving on overseas operations, and recognize their invaluable contribution.

Since 1976, she has endured long journeys and difficult conditions to meet with soldiers serving in remote and isolated areas. She has met with members of the regiment in Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia, as well as Cyprus and Germany.

It has been recognized that, as a result of these trips, Lady Patricia made a significant contribution to mission success, through her outstanding encouragement and support.

I believe her success as Colonel-in-Chief is due in part to the fact that Lady Patricia is a veteran of the Second World War. After joining the Wrens – the Women's Royal Naval Service – in 1943, she served as a Signal Rating, eventually being commissioned as Third Officer (Cipher).

In that capacity, Lady Patricia worked at Combined Operations bases in the United Kingdom and in the Supreme Allied Headquarters, South East Asia.

Her service in that conflict gave her an excellent understanding of life in the armed forces, and the challenges faced by soldiers. That is no doubt why Lady Patricia has been unstinting in her support of the Patricias and their families.

She has hosted them at her home and at other private functions, and has worked with groups affiliated with the regiment, like the PPCLI Association, the Loyal Edmonton Regiment, and the Canadian Army Cadet Corps associated with the PPCLI.

The Countess Mountbatten of Burma is a model we can all look up to – an example of such timeless values as duty, selflessness and honour. For more than 30 years, she performed the duties of Colonel-in-Chief with the greatest degree of commitment to the soldiers and a deep and abiding interest in their welfare, and that of their families.

She has helped unite serving soldiers, veterans, cadets, their families and the general public, raising awareness of the regiment and underscoring its ongoing contribution to the well-being of Canadians.

For all these reasons, I am very pleased, as commanderin-chief of the Canadian Forces, to present the Meritorious Service Cross to Lady Patricia, the Right Honourable Countess Mountbatten of Burma.

I offer the sincere thanks of the people of Canada for your many years of service.

VIMY MEMORIAL REDEDICATION 9 April 2007

By BGen (Retd) J.E.L. Gollner, Colonel of the Regiment

I attended the national Vimy Memorial Rededication Ceremonies over the Easter weekend as a member of the Minister of Veteran's Affairs party, representing the Regiment and the Canadian Peacekeeping Veterans Association. The ceremonies, from start to finish, were designed and executed with the dignity demanded of such an occasion.

A number of events took place prior to the memorial service including the burial of Pte Peterson of the 49th Bn, Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF), now the Loyal Edmonton Regiment (LER). Pte Herbert Peterson was killed in action in April 1917 during the Canadian assault on Vimy Ridge. Like many of his comrades Pte Peterson's body was not found and he was declared missing in action presumed dead. Two years ago, however, his remains were found by a French road construction crew. Using forensic science his family was traced. His family decided that Pte Peterson should be buried with his comrades in the 7th Bde Cemetery at La Chaudiere near Vimy Ridge. 7th Bde comprised the RCR, the PPCLI, the 48th Toronto, and the 49th Edmonton Bns.



Pte Herbert Peterson, 49th Bn CEF, is laid to rest by members of the Loyal Edmonton Regiment (4PPCLI)

The LER was represented by their CO and RSM and a burial party. The full military funeral was well done with many allied dignitaries in attendance. The funeral served to focus everyone on the sacrifice made to secure the great victory that was Vimy Ridge on those bloody four days over Easter Weekend in 1917. More than thirty six hundred killed and over ten thousand wounded to secure the ridge. Later that day I laid a wreath to mark our gallant fallen forbearers at another of the Vimy Ridge's many cemeteries.

The Canadian Forces (CF) conducted a moving Sunset Service the evening following the funeral with a Guard represented by two current members of each of the fifty regiments that took part in the attack. The next day, Easter Sunday, the City of Arras awarded the Freedom of the City to the Canadian Forces. The Chief of Land Staff LGen Andrew Leslie, whose grandfather played a pivotal role in the attack on Vimy Ridge, signed on behalf of the CF.

The following day, Easter Monday, the Rededication Service of the Vimy Memorial took place. Prime Minister Stephen Harper hosted this event with Her Majesty the Queen and HRH Prince Phillip in attendance along with the Prime Minister of France and over five hundred distinguished guests from many nations in attendance. Every bit as important, I thought, was the over five thousand Canadian school children who paid their own way to Vimy to witness the rededication. The children's presence added a depth of emotion to the ceremonies that far surpassed the pomp and ceremony. The ceremony itself was simple, dignified, and very moving. It concluded with Her Majesty the Queen doing a walk about speaking with veterans.

The Vimy Memorial rededication was well done. Many a tear was shed by those taking part in or witnessing the various ceremonies which Veterans Affairs and the Canadian Forces did a superb job of organizing. The Regiment and CF were very well served by Master Warrant Officer (MWO) Power. MWO Power, besides handling the drill and detail of the various ceremonies, appeared to have his capable hands on virtually everything that happened in Vimy.

The Regiment was well represented at Vimy Ridge besides the contingent from the LER (4PPCLI) and MWO Power. Fortunately, our Colonel in Chief was in France, on holidays, and she and her husband were able to join us for the ceremonies. Both Claude Petit, a long time comrade of mine, President of the National Aboriginal Veterans and his wife Ardus were there as was Ed Borchert, President of the National Metis Veterans Association. Additionally, Major (Retd) Gerald Wharton, Colonel (Retd) David Brigden, and Colonel (Retd) Bill Minnis, all representing various veterans' associations, were on parade with me.



Debriefing: (L to R) the COR, David Brigden, Bill Minnis, Gerald Wharton.

The Vimy monument is now fully restored to its former glory. It is a magnificent site, well worth a visit for all members of our Regimental family and for Canadians in general should an opportunity avail itself. After our victory at Vimy Ridge Canadians collectively thought of themselves as an independent nation, a nation free to decide its own destiny, and we have proceeded accordingly.

DEGREE FOR FALLEN SOLDIER

U of M bestows first-ever posthumous recognition By Nick Martin, Winnipeg Free Press, 19 Oct 2007

Amanda Anderson barely held back her tears as she prepared to receive her husband Jordan's posthumous degree Thursday.

"It'll be an honour," she said in a brief interview moments before the University of Manitoba fall convocation began.

"I wish it wasn't me doing it, I wish it was him. I'll do it for him," Anderson said.

Cpl. Jordan Anderson died in a roadside bombing in Afghanistan in early July.

He'd been completing a distance education degree in political studies through U of M's military support office, and was very close to finishing when he died.

"It was elective credits that were left," Anderson said.

U of M awarded Jordan Anderson a posthumous degree, the first time the university has ever given a degree to an active soldier killed in wartime.

Several family members accompanied his widow from Alberta Thursday, and the audience at the convocation at the Church of the Rock was speckled with uniforms, from enlisted soldiers who'd served and buddied with Jordan Anderson, to senior officers.



MIKE APORIUS / WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

Amanda Anderson, widow of Cpl. Jordan Anderson, meets with Jordan's fellow soldiers, Cpl. Wayne Buechler, (left), Cpl. Adam Bowness

"The regiment made sure some of his closest friends could be here," Anderson said. "The interest has been amazing from the general public. "It was his friends -- they were the ones who contacted the university."

Prof. George MacLean, acting head of political studies, persuaded the university's senate to take the unprecedented step. Anderson had completed all his political science courses, and had hoped to go on to graduate school and become an intelligence officer.

"He loved learning," said Anderson. Her husband would read something in the newspaper, then go to other sources to learn as much about a subject as he could, she recalled.

"Everyone in the military support office has been terrific over the past five years," she said. "It's something he wanted to do — I'll finish it for him." Jordan Anderson's friends have raised \$10,000 to establish two bursaries in his memory.

"He was always doing some kind of homework," said Cpl. Jeff Black with a smile. "Once he got his mind on something, you couldn't shake him."

Editor's Note: Amanda Anderson was accompanied at the convocation by soldiers of 2nd and 3rd Battalions, Patricias from CFB Winnipeg, and members of the PPCLI Association.

BILL MINNIS APPOINTED HONORARY COLONEL OF THE PEI REGIMENT

Retired PPCLI Colonel William Minnis, MSM, CD has been appointed Honorary Colonel of the Prince Edward Island Regiment (RCAC) with effect 1 November 2007. A resident of Belfast, PEI, he has been until recently President of the Atlantic Branch of the PPCLI Association.

REPATRIATION CEREMONY GETS OVERWHELMING SUPPORT

By Lieutenant-Colonel J.A. (Jim) Legere, A3 Force Protection & Provost Marshall, 6 Sep 2007

I had the honour of attending the Repatriation Ceremony for our fallen heroes last night at 8 Wing Trenton, and, although words cannot possibly do justice to this heart-wrenching experience, I thought it important for you to be aware of the overwhelming – and I mean overwhelming – support provided by law enforcement, fire services, ambulance services and, indeed, the public at large, provided for this very solemn occasion. The procession included over twenty vehicles and had to be at least one km in length. Cpl Whelan, SLt Blackmore, and I were in the rear escort MP vehicle. I could not believe my eyes as we made the solemn journey from 8 Wing to the Coroner's Office in Toronto.

We were escorted by at least six or seven OPP cars and two motorcycles until we arrived in Toronto, and then Durham Regional Police, and then Toronto Police Services picked up the escort/traffic control duties. Every overpass along the almost 200 kms of Hwy 401 had emergency services vehicles with lights flashing, members saluting, and citizens waving Canadian flags. Every on ramp had a police vehicle blocking traffic, with members standing by the vehicles saluting. Entire police detachments stood along the route, saluting in front of their vehicles.

Fire halls had their trucks out, with their members in full dress uniform out front paying respects to our comrades. People stopped their cars along the side of the road, got out and saluted or held their hands over their hearts. As we neared downtown, the streets were lined with crowds waving Canadian flags and paying their respects. The outpouring of support for our fallen heroes and their families was beyond belief; never before have I been as proud to wear this uniform.

I'm sure you can imagine what traffic in Canada's largest city is like on a summer Sunday night, with people coming home from the cottage, or otherwise winding down their weekend. The procession made it from Trenton to downtown Toronto completely unimpeded in approximately one and half hours – a minor miracle when you think about it. When one of the hearses got a flat tire just outside of Pickering, we made a very quick and dignified exchange of the remains to the backup hearse and were back on the road in less than four minutes – quite seamless, thanks to the amazing support of our fellow law enforcement comrades.

When we finally arrived in Toronto; I had the opportunity to meet some of the members from the downtown core Division of Toronto Metro Police, shaking their hands and thanking them for their support. It was absolutely incredible!

CWO Day and 8 Wing MP team here, and WO Denison and his team from 2 MPU Toronto, did an outstanding job coordinating this event from a police/security perspective, thereby facilitating a very dignified ceremony for our fallen comrades and their families, and a very dignified journey to the Coroner's Office. Their professionalism and dedication cannot be overstated and they are worthy of special recognition. I also met briefly with the CFNIS members at the Coroner's officer and they, too, shone as dedicated professionals. We can be justifiably proud of our MP personnel.

Finally, this would not have been possible without the OUTSTANDING support of our fellow police officers from the OPP and Toronto Police Services. All of the police officers who supported this solemn occasion — and I would put a very conservative estimate at over 500 — did so on their own time. They were volunteers. The Ontario Provincial Police (in particular Quinte West Det and Whitby Detachments), Durham Regional Police, and Toronto Metro Police — they all deserve special mention for their outstanding efforts and their amazing show of support.

This experience will remain with me for the rest of my life. I truly hope I never get the opportunity again; however, should such a tragedy once again befall our brave soldiers, sailor and airmen/women, it is comforting to know that Canada's quiet patriotism is very much alive and well – the torch burns bright and strong.

BRANCH NEWS

Atlantic Branch

By Bill Minnis

Our Branch held our AGM in CFB Gagetown, hosted by the French Grey Battalion under CO Major Terry Wilson, RSM CWO Steve Bartlett and DSM MWO Tim Penney.

All events were jointly held with retired and serving members present, providing a great opportunity for more understanding between the two components of the Regiment. We believe that until this mutual understanding is achieved to a greater extent, the Regiment will continue to struggle with the problem of attracting serving and recently retired members to our ranks.

We were privileged to have both Madame Clarkson and General Gollner present for all activities. Events included an enjoyable meet and greet, a family day/equipment demonstration, a great dinner with a capacity crowd, and a moving Memorial Service at the Infantryman's Statue.

The Atlantic Branch has granted Honorary membership status to Lloyd and Angela Smith, Tatamagouche NS, parents of Private Nathan Smith KIA, 18 April 2002; and Tom and Angela Reid, Truro, NS, parents of Corporal Christopher Reid, KIA 3 August 2006. Both families attended our weekend as their wish, and began the process of forging links with the Regiment. We look forward to their continued involvement with the Regiment and our Branch.

MGen (Retd) Bill Hewson, and Nora, again attended our AGM. The Hewsons are dedicated supporters of our Branch and the Association.

To cement the relationship between the Branch and the French Grey Battalion, MWO Tim Penney presented the Branch with a beautiful painting of Sgt Tommy Prince

Brian Furlong has replaced Bill Minnis as Branch President. Errol Monkley will continue his dedicated service as Secretary Treasurer for another year but then will be replaced.

Next years meeting will be held in Nova Scotia, with location and dates to be advised.

Calgary Branch

By Bob Zubkowski

The first meeting of the planning committee for the 60th anniversary of the association was held on 26 February 2005 and with all the involvement of this committee and their commitment to the project, the celebration was such a huge success.

When the final day arrived we had 412 registrations from across Canada but I still say that the drawing cards were our Honorary Patron Lady Patricia and our Patron and Colonel-In-Chief of the Regiment, The Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson. But we need to thank all of you for coming from across Canada to make this so successful.

The 60th anniversary of the Association was held in Calgary from August 31 to September 2, 2007. The week started off with the arrival of our Honorary Patron, the Right Honourable Countess Mountbatten of Burma, on Wednesday the 29th. She was met at the airport by members of RHQ and Rudy Raidt, President of the Association. From there off to the Glenmore Inn where she was pleasantly surprised by a door man in scarlet and former members of the Regimental Band playing, "A Fanfare For A Dignified Occasion", thanks to Neil Gow and the boys. The good Lady had a brief chat with everyone before retiring. Several Patricias had already arrived on Wednesday for the weekend occasion. By Friday night most everyone was on the ground and the rumour was that a trooping would take place in the hallway of the hotel at midnight.

The Meet and Greet on Friday night saw the Odgen Legion packed with Patricias and their ladies. A great meal was provided by Mike Zacharki and his team, the Regimental Kitshop was in place as well as Veterans of Canada, and Lloyd Jones with a small display of Regimental artefacts. This was followed by a brief visit from Lady Brabourne and the new Colonel-In-Chief, Madame Clarkson; and the Colonel of the Regiment and lots of visiting with old friends.

The AGM took place on Saturday morning with election of Officers and a vote to make the Colonel-In-Chief the Patron of the Association and Lady Brabourne our Honorary Patron. Both Ladies were present during the meeting and each gave a short heart warming speech. The wives had a chance to take a bus tour during this time. They toured the three old PMQ areas as well as CFB Calgary, finishing off with a short shopping spree at the Farmers Market on Currie, thanks to Southland Buses. With everyone back by early afternoon this left lots of time to prepare for the dinner and dance. Most of the guys were preparing in the pub, always a good place to find a fellow Patricia.

Friday morning saw the registration office with Tom Reid his crew and Fred Blackmore with the Kitshop crew all very busy until Saturday noon. Each registrant who had a room in the hotel received a wine basket, compliments of the Calgary Branch.

The evening started off with cocktails, then dinner. The music provided by Neal Gow and the Five Knights throughout the evening was marvellous to say the least. Short speeches were followed by a presentation to Lady Brabourne. As a parting gift from the Calgary Branch she was presented with an Ostrich egg.

The time-honoured tradition of giving an egg to a dear friend goes back centuries. It is the symbol of true and lasting friendship. The ostrich egg that the Calgary Branch presented to our Honorary Patron was designed and carved by Bob Zubkowski of the Calgary Branch and denotes the service of all members of the Association. Carved in the style of World War One Trench Art, the egg depicts the image people from around the world have of Canada.

Three, half-snow flakes rise out of the ground to support the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association crest, while five maple leaves support the crest on all sides. Carved in the centre of a medium maple leaf on the upper left is the date, 15 June 1974, when our Patron became Colonel-in-Chief. Carved in the centre of a medium maple leaf on the upper right is the date, 17 March 2007, when our Honorary Patron relinquished the title of Colonel-in-Chief. A large maple leaf on the obverse has the following inscription: "For Faithful Service to Your Patricias".



Gift Presented to Our Honorary Patron

Following the presentation the drum line "Black Thunder" gave a short performance followed by pictures in the hall with the drummers. Neil Gow and the Five Knights had everyone on the dance floor with the first song and kept it rockin' all evening. Following the dance many headed for the pub and to rooms where small parties carried on most of the night.

Breakfast Sunday morning was prepared in a flying kitchen provided by the First Battalion and tentage by CFB Suffield thanks to CWO Dan Palmer and crew. Mike Zacharki and his team were also working the kitchen providing a wonderful stampede breakfast. After breakfast, the weather held while a short memorial service took place at the eternal flame in front of the museum. We then said our good byes and people headed off in all directions. We hope that all of you enjoyed yourself and had a safe journey home.

We have had lots of compliments since then but none of this would have been possible without the hard work of all the volunteers. Thank you very much to the following committees: Planning, Registration, Entertainment, Transportation by CJ, Kitshop, Photographer Ken Archer, Band, work parties provided by Earl Wicks and crew, Food and Beverage, and the great staff at the Glenmore Inn. The branch owes these people, and those who supported us with financial aid, a big thank you!

Again, thank you all for you involvement, but as I said, this was just the start of the race to our 100th Anniversary in 2014. We would like to see all there.

Joe Schulz, Vice-President, and Bob Zubkowski, Vice-President West, thank everyone who voted for them at the AGM.

Edmonton Branch

By Fred Goldring

It is almost hard to believe but 2007 has just about come and is almost gone. How time flies by when you are having fun! The branch has had another good year in a variety of aspects. We only lost one member to that Battalion in heaven so far this year but yet we have gained several new members.

We have been busy gallivanting around the country, both inside and outside Alberta, attending of the 60th AGM in Calgary, Wainwright for PPCLI Recruit graduation parades, various communities attending funerals for former serving Patricia's, etc.

All those who attended the 60th AGM in Calgary thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A very good time was had by all.

For Remembrance Day this year we are spreading ourselves out in the Edmonton area as the members are going out to several locations in and around the Edmonton area. December 15th is our annual Christmas Dinner to be held at the Kingsway Legion following our December meeting at 11:00. If any of you are around let us know and drop in for a visit. Cost of the dinner will be about \$15 a plate. Wine is free!

Our monthly meetings are still the 4th Saturday of each month except July and August when we stand down and December, so if you are in the neighbourhood, there is a standing invitation to drop in. Do not ask – just come on in!

The Branch is looking forward to another great year and wishes the same to all other branches and to all a great festive season and all the best in 2008.

Manitoba & Northwest Ontario Branch

By D'Arcy Best

On April 12, a group Branch Members attended Second Battalion's Change of Command in Shilo where Lieutenant-Colonel S.J. Sharpe handed the Battalion over to Lieutenant-Colonel G.D. Corbould. The weather was beautiful and the Battalion on parade, augmented with several hundred Reservists in preparation for their impending deployment in Afghanistan, was an impressive sight.

Our Barbecue at the Charleswood Legion on June 23rd was definitely a success, with 47 members and guest attending. Master Chef Len King and his Sous Chefs, Maureen Blake and Susan Holfeuer produced an outstanding meal at a very reasonable price. After the meal, some of the more ambitious tested their athletic prowess in a game of Lawn Darts and that ancient Italian game of Bocce, while the rest indulged in that even more ancient game – chewing the fat.

By contrast, our 21st Annual Golf Tournament on August 24th was disappointing. In spite of a gloomy forecast the rain held off but unfortunately, so did the players. This used to be one of our most popular events but in recent years participation has declined to the point that future tournaments are doubtful.

On October 18th members attended the University of Manitoba's Fall Convocation where Amanda Anderson, widow of Corporal Jordan Anderson, received her husbands posthumous Degree. It was an emotional moment for all of us when the announcement that Corporal Anderson had died on service in Afghanistan prompted a standing ovation lasting several minutes.

New members this year include George Goguen who served with the Regiment from 1972 to 1988 and is now living in Winnipeg; Gordon Loewen of Thunder Bay, Ontario who served with 3 PPCLI from 1952 to 1955, including a tour in Korea; and Joseph Pottie who served in 1st and 2nd Battalions from 1977 to 2005 and is now with 17 Wing in Winnipeg.

On the downside, George Illsley, Raymond (Sam) Sanregret and Mel Weeks have passed away and Jon Haines has transferred to the Edmonton Branch. This leaves us with 103 active members.

Southwest Ontario Branch

By Mark Fisher

Again, as in the past few years, our annual general meeting was held in the Howard Johnson's Hotel in St Catharine's during the weekend of 04-05 May 2007. Changing from the past, we held the meeting commencing at 1330 hours on Saturday, followed by our meet and greet. Clearly the President was concerned over excessive drinking prior to the meeting (not that the branch isn't well behaved, especially with wives in the vicinity, but we are Patricia's after all). The principal item of new business discussed was the 100th Anniversary Project and the membership was presented with a new idea by Bruce Paxton and John Hunter that will, in the branches opinion, go a long way towards renewal and continuance of our Association.

The dinner way s held on Saturday night with some forty two in attendance. Our Guest of Honour for this occasion was Master Corporal Glenn Hall and his wife. Glenn served in Kosovo with Second Battalion and was presented his Governor-General's Commendation by Jack Palmer who, as many of you know, served in the regimental Signals Platoon during the Italian Campaign. Glenn was delighted when he also received a PPCLI lapel pin to remind him of his time with the colours. We don't make enough of a fuss over our tradesmen sometimes, but boy are we sure glad to see them when they show up in the freezing cold to fix our broken down vehicle or tow us out of where we shouldn't have been in the first place!

We received a few well chosen words from Doug Armstrong on his trip to the Rededication Ceremony at Vimy Ridge. He was impressed with the ceremony itself and the obvious concern displayed by our Governor-General. Doug also laid the Association Wreath at this year's Armistice Day Ceremony at the cenotaph in Saint Catharines. The final event of the evening was a presentation to Bruce and Leda Paxton for their efforts over the years in support of our Branch. Enough cannot be said

to both of them for their caring concern and dedication. We wish them the best on the way ahead.



It was a pleasure to welcome new members Paul Hale, Bill Johnson and an old friend from the Second Battalion, Dean Moore. Also this year we had joining our Branch Don Shafel and Ian White, both old comrades from Germany in the 80's.

This year, thankfully, our last post has been short. Still we mourn the passing of John Gibson on 13 July 2007. John was a member of our branch for 22 years. We also mourn the loss of Floyd McLaughlin who passed away on 07 August 2007. Gone but ne'er forgotten!

I am pleased to report that some six members of the Branch were able to attend the National AGM in Calgary this past Labour Day weekend. Calgary Branch put on an excellent show and is to be congratulated on running an outstanding dinner. Away too much red wine was consumed and I for one was glad to get safely home again. The best to all as we look forward to a new year.

EDITOR'S SCRAP BOOK

One More River to Cross April 11, 1945: PPCLI First Regiment to Cross the Ijssel River into Holland

(By Olga Rains, wife of WWII Patricia Lloyd Rains)

This crossing was the beginning of the liberation of the western part of the Netherlands. For five long years the Dutch people living in that part of Holland had waited for this.

In September 1944 the southern part of Holland was liberated, and then the Allies were forced to stay behind the rivers until the spring. The winter of 1944-45 was the coldest and hardest the Dutch people had seen for years. Thousands died of starvation or froze to death. The German Army behaved viciously and hundreds of young Dutch men were taken away to work camps in Germany or shot to death. Life became a Hell and every day was too late for many of us.

Diseases broke out. People died in the streets. We prayed every day to keep alive. We had no idea what was happening behind the rivers. We ate tulip bulbs; we became emaciated.

Near the Ijssel River plans were made for the crossing – "Operation Cannonshot".

April 11, 1000 hours: Cannonshot is on! All companies to their Buffaloes at 1430 hours. Smoke will begin at 1600 hours for 20 minutes.

April 11, 1430 hours: D Company quickly loads the Buffaloes. Each craft could take 30 men and their equipment. Four Buffaloes were sufficient to take the whole of D Company. Captain Sydney Frost leads the company into action.

The great beasts snort and lurch forward to the river, filling the woods with heavy fumes. It is 1530 and in 30 minutes the smoke screens will start. The Buffaloes emerge from the woods. Shells whine over the heads of the soldiers and land on the far bank of the river.

April 11, 1630 hours: In minutes they crossed the river. Captain Frost reported the situation as 'snug', although his men were under heavy fire. After reaching the other side of the river nearing a farm, one of the men was killed.

Driving through the village of Wilp where the marks of heavy fighting were still visible, the Patricias set a trap and attacked the Germans from the rear close by the little old church.

One of the fighting Patricias was my husband, Lloyd Rains. He remembers but has difficulty talking about it. He will never forget what happened in those last weeks of WWII. Eight of his comrades were killed and are buried in Holton cemetery in Holland.



Lloyd Rains at the Ijssel River monument

In 1945 Lloyd had entered a house near the Appense Veld under a hail of bullets. The Germans kept firing right through the door. In 1995 he was back at the farmhouse. He met the farmer's 83 year old wife. She remembered the soldiers covered with mud and being exhausted. They had given her a cake of Sunlight soap which she took out of the cupboard and showed to Lloyd – she had saved it all those years.

On the 16th of April, 1945 the PPCLI liberated the village of Oosterhizen. In 1995 a monument was unveiled in honour of the Regiment. Colonel Sydney Frost was not able to attend to do the honours so Lloyd took his place.

In Achterveld, another village, two Patricias lost their lives only 13 days before the War's end.

The ones who gave their young lives for Freedom will always be remembered by the Dutch people. They are buried at Holton Cemetery. Each Christmas Eve schoolchildren place a lit candle on each grave and many people come to bring flowers and visit the graves.

Patricias buried in Holton:

Brown, Pte Edward Hector Gosselin, Pte Romeo Graham, Pte John James Hudson, Pte Mitchell Ilasevich, Cpl Harry Purvis, Pte Jack William Slyzuk, Pte John Wright, Sgt James Duncan

Colonel Sydney Frost has always been extremely proud of D Company, a splendid record in crossing the Ijssel River and helping to repel the German counter-attacks. Two members of D Company received the Military Medal – one of the few times that two such awards were granted in one company in the same action.

The Dutch people are forever looking forward to having the Canadian veterans come over to participate in the celebrations marking the end of WWII and to remember the ones who lost their lives for our Freedom.

Editor's Note: Lloyd and Olga Rains are currently living in The Netherlands.

A Living Part of Canadian History Veteran of Two Wars and Peacekeeping Missions Wins Award for Sharing His Story with Youth

(Peninsula News Review, Sidney BC, May 30, 2007)

When Charles Goodman speaks to high school students he starts by asking a simple question: "Is there anybody here who is 16 years old?" As the hands fly up he continues: "That's how old I was in the army in World War II."

A veteran of two wars and two peacekeeping missions, Goodman shares his experiences with students as a part of the Memory Project, an educational initiative designed to connect students and veterans. "I feel that I'm part of the living history of Canada," Goodman said. His efforts were recently recognized when he received one of the National Memory Project Awards, which were presented to a veteran in each province who has made an exceptional impact on young Canadians, over the course of the year.

"I hope I give them an interest in history," Goodman "That they read further and realize the part that Canada played - in wars and peacekeeping." One of the Memory Project initiatives is seminars hosted for educators and veterans to discuss how best to present their memories "We discuss how to answer awkward and stories. questions," Goodman explained. "The usual one is, did you ever kill anybody? It's not something that I would brag about and so that is sometimes difficult." He said that one of the other goals of the talks he gives is to expand the students' understanding of the work that went into the war effort. "Not everybody who served was in a post of combat," he said. "We didn't just have 100,000 people pulling triggers; it takes three, four, five men behind the lines, too." He said he likes to share information about the war that he thinks is little known, like the fact that Canadian forces liberated a concentration camp in Holland.

Goodman's army career began at 16, when he was deployed to England for World War II. He served in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. While he was wounded in Holland in 1944, he had other close calls during the European campaign. "I was once close to being killed by our own bombs," he said. "At Falaise, the air force was bombing to soften up the Germans before we attacked. The aircraft were very low; I could see the gunner and the rear turrets of bombers. I was a very dry summer, so that dust started to build and they couldn't see the target. My buddy and I got on the bottom of our trench, a big bang went off, and I looked over to the other slit trench where my company commander and his batman had been and it was just big bomb hole."

Wednesday, May 30, 2007 - PENINSULA NEWS REVIEW



Veteran Charles Goodman shows off the latest addition to his awards, a National Memory Project Achievement Awards plaque that honours Goodman's work speaking to students about his role as a soldier and peacekeeper. In the background are the medals that Goodman collected throughout his career in the army.

His experiences in the Second World War, however, instilled a desire in Goodman to pursue a career in the army,

and so by the time he went to fight in Korea, he was a commissioned officer. While he spent some time serving staff positions at home in Canada, he also spent time serving a number of posts overseas. In 1959 he served in the Middle East as a staff official with the UN in the Gaza Strip; that was followed by a stint in Ghana as a liaison from Canada to their military academy. After a promotion to Major, he went to Cyprus as the UN liaison officer for the Greek Cypriot government.

When the army approached him to ask where he would like to be posted before retirement, it was an easy decision: "I said Victoria, he (the personnel official) just laughed and said everyone wanted to retire there." Brief previous postings had convinced Goodman that the Island was where he wanted to end up, and happily, his final posting did take him to the west Coast. He retired from the army in 1975, but not from the globe-trotting life-style; he met his wife, Nancy, in Mexico, then invited her on a week-long sailing trip that ballooned into a five-year odyssey down to the Panama Canal and back up to Florida.

Goodman said that while his experiences make him a good choice for speaking to students, he's valuable for another reason. "Veterans are dying off at 5,000 a week," he said. "I was one of the youngest ones. I plan on staying around for a while."

Goodman is available to speak to local classes about his experiences and can be reached by interested teachers at chicgood@shaw.ca.

His Selfless Action Helped Save Seoul

(From an article by Jim Farrell, CanWest News Service, June 19, 2007)

EDMONTON – Pinned down under enemy fire just outside Seoul, the situation looked bleak for Michael Levy and his platoon of Canadian soldiers.

It was April 24, 1951 -- the middle of the Korean War - and the troops were dug into their trenches, as Communist Chinese forces surged toward them.

The Battle of Kapyong, as it would come to be called, would help the Allies save Seoul and turn Levy, who died this month, into one of Canada's unsung war heroes.

With the Chinese surging, and with no other option, Levy called down an Allied artillery strike.

Levy used his hand-held radio to call out distances, bringing shells and mortar rounds raining down ever-closer until they exploded only 15 to 20 metres from his platoon's trenches.

Throughout the barrage, Levy crawled between those trenches, keeping up his men's spirits and urging them to fight.

The Canadian line held, and Seoul was saved.

Maj. Michael Levy lived a life richer than most Hollywood screenplays. He was laid to rest last week.

Flags outside the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry headquarters in Edmonton flew at half-mast to commemorate the burial one of its own.

"Maj. Michael Levy was an exceptional man who had a

long and distinguished career that began with his escape from a Japanese internment camp in 1943," said Maj. Eric Liebert, Regimental Major.

Hub Gray is the author of Beyond the Danger Close: The Korean Experience Revealed. He was a young officer in the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry's 2nd Battalion and a friend of Levy's.

He said Levy's barrage of 4,500 artillery rounds stopped the Chinese advance a mere 16 to 18 kilometres from Seoul.

But it wasn't until 2004 that his exploit was recognized when then Governor-General Adrienne Clarkson bestowed on Levy his own Coat of Arms.

Levy was born in India in 1925, the son of a British geologist. His family moved to Shanghai the following year.

When the Japanese captured Shanghai in December 1941, the 16-year-old was imprisoned in Lungwha, the internment camp made famous by the movie Empire of the Sun.

After two and a half years imprisonment, Levy and four friends escaped and made their way by foot and by junk 3,200 kilometres across occupied China to an Allied airbase.

Levy would later join the British army and learn the art of guerrilla warfare.

"The British taught him how to blow up things and slit throats, then parachuted him behind the Japanese lines into Malaya along with seven Chinese, most of them Chinese Canadians," Gray said.

Because of the friendships he made, Levy and his family would choose Canada as their new home after the war.

When the Canadian government put out a call in 1950 for a special volunteer force to help push back the Chinese forces in South Korea, Levy sold the restaurant he'd opened in Vancouver and signed up.

Levy died June 4 after a lengthy illness and was buried in a small private service in Vancouver.

"A" for Afghanistan

(From an article by Marie-Chantale Bergeron in the Maple Leaf, November 22, 2006)

This year, Remembrance Day had a different face. The tears of world war veterans were joined by those of new veterans and their families. In what has almost become a tradition, the Ottawa ceremony was accompanied by rain. It was as if the skies were waiting for the exact moment the Armistice was signed. At 11 a.m. rain poured down over the thousands of spectators and dignitaries.

Corporal Steve Blanchette, Lieutenant-Colonel Hercule Gosselin and Chief Warrant Officer Jules Moreau, members of the 2nd Battalion, Royal 22e Regiment (2 R22eR), made the trip from Quebec for a specific reason – to remember fellow members from the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI). The three CF members laid a wreath in the shape of an "A", in the regimental colours of the PPCLI, at the foot of the cenotaph. "The "A" is for Afghanistan," explained Cpl Blanchette, who came up with the idea.

He had served three years with the PPCLI. "I knew

people over there. Some of the people I saw on television were friends, others were co-workers," he said.

After clearing the project with LCol Gosselin, Cpl Blanchette began collecting funds. "I'm here to lay this wreath on behalf of the 2nd Battalion for the members of the PPCLI who were killed and wounded," he said.

The members of 2 R22eR were quick to offer donations for the project. "It took about two weeks to collect the money," said Cpl Blanchette. He stressed that his gesture was one of regimental solidarity. "I wanted to show that we're in the same Army, on the same team." He sees the wreath as representing a link between two different regiments, one English, one French. "The people back at the base supported me. They were very happy I did this."

LCol Gosselin had nothing but praise for the Corporal. "I thought Cpl Blanchette's initiative was excellent. When I was asked if I could call on the Battalion to support his efforts, I was thrilled that we could do our part." He believes that Cpl Blanchette admirably expressed what everyone is thinking: "We are one Army, one team, we have one vision."

For CWO Moreau, Cpl Blanchette renewed the significance of *je me souviens* (I remember), the R22eR's motto. He sees the corporal's initiative as a fine example for future soldiers who will be joining the units. "It was greatly appreciated," he says.

Recalling the reason for their visit to Ottawa, LCol Gosselin pointed out that "we are following in the footsteps of our elders in terms of Canada's commitments to foreign missions." As for Cpl Blanchette, he believes it is important to remember what happened in the past "because it can happen in the future."

LOST TRAILS

Elvin Wayne Graham. My granddaughter's husband's father Elvin Wayne Graham was a Patricia. He served in possibly 1963 to 1966 and may have been on the boxing team. After leaving the military he bought into a trucking business and died in a truck accident at 27 years of age. Elvin's son Rick was young at the time and would like to get any information he could of his dad. Please contact Chuck Wilson at sh61472@shaw.ca.

Harold Fleet. My father applied for pension benefits and was turned down. He is appealing the decision. Dad did a jump in Calgary but instead of landing in the meadow he hit the asphalt, hurting his knee. This would be grounds for him to receive the pension. However, the DVA did a search and could not find a reference in the file to the incident (medical report). He was advised that if he could contact a colleague that observed the incident this would be grounds for the process.

Harold Fleet was a paratrooper in the PPCLI from 1953 to 1956 and spent 2 years in Germany. His service number is SN1948, 2nd Battalion. Unfortunately, he doesn't have his jump book. The drop zone was Calgary Airport, 1956 (hit the

asphalt rather than the meadow). Names he remembers that he served with or even names of members of that jump are: Tom Ash (St Johns), CO Colonel Waters, Major Ken Avril, Jack Gatherall, Sergeant-Major Jack Rudd, Don McLeod, Joe Doucette, and John "Buddy" Serroul (Cape Breton).

I offered to help my parents by contacting the PPCLI in the hopes that either his CO logged the incident or you could provide contact information with surviving members of his regiment. Any direction or assistance you can provide would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Joe Schulz at (403) 246-4132 or jmwschulz@shaw.ca.

Thank you in advance, Elaine (Fleet) Hamlyn.

Dennis Deguerre. I am looking for information, newspaper articles, and pictures of a soldier by the name of Dennis Deguerre who served with the Princess Patricia Light Infantry in Korea.

I am not sure of the year he returned home – it was either 1951 or 1952.

At the time he made the newspapers. There was a story and pictures because he smuggled a dog home from Korea. He was from Alberta or Saskatchewan and his grandmother was Indian.

I would greatly appreciate any suggestions as to how to go about looking for him. He is also my biological father with whom my mother lost contact because she moved when I was 2 years old and forgot to send him a change of address and then lost his. My son, now 25, would like to see some pictures/articles about the grandfather he never knew. Kind of at a loss as to where to look as I do not have his birth date and etc...... Mom was not great about keeping that sort of paperwork.

I live in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Debbie (organizeandprioritize@hotmail.com)

Butch Carlson. Anyone with info on "Butch" Carlson, formerly of Winnipeg, who graduated with Bellewaerde Recruit Platoon in 1959 and served with 1st and 3rd Battalions until 1972, is asked to contact Michael May at mcsea.may@verizon.net.



Leonforte Platoon 1960/61. We are searching for former Patricia's and other soldiers who received their basic training with and have knowledge of Leonforte Platoon from September 1960 to January 1961. A reunion is in the preliminary stages. Please contact Errol Monkley, 9 Cambridge Dr, Charlottetown PE, C1C 1P1; or ecm@pei.sympatico.ca.

Lieutenant Ryan H. Scott. My father was Lieutenant Ryan H. Scott of the PPCLI who was killed in an auto accident in October 1963 when I was three and just days prior to a tour in Germany. He was in Edmonton and Winnipeg. He graduated Junior NCO School in November 1958 at Camp Wainwright. I would like to hear from anyone who knew him as I know very little about him. Thank you.

Timothy Ryan Scott, miles.olsen@telus.net

WANTED: PICTURES OF EDWARD IFTODY

Nicole (Nikki) Withers, daughter of recently deceased Edward Iftody, is looking for pictures of him. She would especially like to have a picture of him in uniform. He joined PPCLI in August 1957 and took his basic training in Edmonton and Wainwright, para training in Rivers and Shilo, and served with 1st Battalion in Victoria and Germany until released in August 1966. If you can help, please contact Nikki at grantroc@telus.net.

The Members of the Association Council and the Staff of the Association Secretariat wish all Patricias and their Families "A Happy Holiday Season"

LAST POST				
Name	Service	Date	Place	
George W. Illsley	Korea, Regular Force (RCASC, 1 PPCLI)	11 Jan 2007	St Laurent MB	
Harvey E. Beardmore, MD	WWII (Tfr fm RCA)	10 Feb 2007	Montreal PQ	
Carl Alexander Sutyla	WWII	13 Feb 2007	Winnipeg MB	
William E.J. Hutchinson, CD	Regular Force	21 Feb 2007	Victoria BC	
Lionel William Swift, CD	WWII, Regular Force	21 Feb 2007	Vancouver BC	
Jame Milo Stoley, CD	WWII (Tor Scot), Reg (1 PPCLI & QORC)	2 Mar 2007	Calgary AB	
Joseph Mandziuk	WWII (RCASC with PPCLI)	3 Mar 2007	Winnipeg MB	
William Arnold O'Brien	WWII, Korea (2 PPCLI)	5 March 2007	Wasaga Beach ON	
Donald George Denslow, CD	Regular Force (QORC & 3 PPCLI)	8 Mar 2007	Victoria BC	
James Alan Heywood	Regular Force (2 PPCLI)	10 Mar 2007	Winnipeg MB	
Frederick Robert Litster	WWII	12 Mar 2007	Saanich BC	
George Edgar Gerhart, CD	Regular Force (1, 2, 3 PPCLI; 3 Mech Cdo)	12 Mar 2007	Irma AB	
Owen Sinclair Lauder Moore, CD	WWII (PPCLI), Regular (Navy)	13 Mar 2007	Victoria BC	
George Harvey MacHan	Regular Force (2 PPCLI, 1971-75)	15 Mar 2007	Lacombe AB	
Clifford P. McPherson	Pre WWII PF, WWII (PPCLI & CBH),	25 Mar 2007	Halifax NS	
Cimord F. McFilerson	Regular (1 Cdn Rif Bn, 1 QORC)			
Kurt Konrad Schwaiger	Regular	27 Mar 2007	Calgary AB	
Roderick Morrison Middleton, MSM, CDV		28 Mar 2007	Calgary AB	
Thomas W. Edwards	WWII	2 Apr 2007	Winnipeg MB	
Brian E. Westrup	Regular Force	5 Apr 2007	Campobello NB	
Donald Bain (Sam) Urquhart, CD	WWII, Korea, Regular Force	6 Apr 2007	Richmond BC	
Arthur Bryan Joseph Brown	Regular Force	13 Apr 2007	Winnipeg MB	
Norman Curtis, CD	Korea, Regular Force (PPCLI & RCEME)	19 Apr 2007	Sydenham ON	
Walter Dawydiuk	Korea	22 Apr 2007	Winnipeg MB	
Charles Harvey Stewart	Regular (1 PPCLI, mid 1950's)	27 Apr 2007	Regina SK	
Doris Barbara Adamek	Wife of Rudy Adamek	29 Apr 2007	Victoria BC	
James William Humphrey	Korea	1 May 2007	Saint John NB	
Arthur Admiral Miller	Regular Force	2 May 2007	London ON	
Borys Dmitri Boyko	WWII	11 May 2007	Winnipeg MB	
Robert John Huggard	PPCLI, dates unknown	16 May 2007	Selkirk MB	
Carl William (Tiny) Beacon, CD	WWII (1 SSF), Korea (1 PPCLI), Regular	17 May 2007	Langley BC	
Cari William (Tiny) Beacon, CD	Force (PPCLI & RHC)	the state of		
John (Jook) Edward Toylor CD	Korea, Regular (RCR, QORC, PPCLI)	26 May 2007	Calgary AB	
John (Jack) Edward Taylor, CD	Korea (PPCLI 1950-51), Regular (RCR	29 May 2007	Brandon MB	
Joseph Wolfgang Maier, CD	1954-74)	27 1.111/ 2007		
Michael George Levy, CD	WWII (Brit Army), Korea (2 PPCLI),	4 Jun 2007	Vancouver BC	
midital Solige Berry, CD	Regular Force			
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	LASTIOSI		
Name	Service	Date	Place
Ken J.C. Stewart, CD	WWII, Regular Force	6 Jun 2007	Richmond BC
Georgine Marie-Ange Ferguson	Wife of Leon Ferguson	16 Jun 2007	Saskatoon SK
Richard J. Reynolds, CD	WWII (South Sask Regt & Regina	19 Jun 2007	Surrey BC
BTERE	Rifles), Regular Force (PPCLI & RCOC)		
Sgt Christos Karigiannis	Regular Force (3 PPCLI)	20 Jun 2007	Afghanistan
Cpl Stephen Frederick Bouzane	Regular Force (3 PPCLI)	20 Jun 2007	Afghanistan
Pte Joel Vincent Wiebe	Regular Force (3 PPCLI)	20 Jun 2007	Afghanistan
MCpl Colin Stuart Francis Bason	Royal Westminster Regt, KIA w/3 PPCLI	4 Jul 2007	Afghanistan
Capt Matthew Johnathan Dawe	Regular Force (3 PPCLI)	4 Jul 2007	Afghanistan
Capt Jefferson Clifford Francis	Regular Force (1 RCHA), KIA w/3 PPCLI	4 Jul 2007	Afghanistan
Pte Lane William Thomas Watkins	Regular Force (3 PPCLI)	4 Jul 2007	Afghanistan
Edmund Nightingale	WWII	4 Jul 2007	Steinbach MB
Joe Thir	Regular Force (1 PPCLI, 1955-?)	9 Jul 2007	Elk Point AB
Kenneth M. Francis	Regular Force (PPCLI & QORC, 1961-75)	12 Jul 2007	Victoria BC
Louis H. Holten	Pre WWII PF, WWII, Regular (1935-60)	12 Jul 2007	Calgary AB
John A. Gibson	WWII, Korea, Regular Force (1950-65)	13 Jul 2007	Bowmanville ON
Marie (Mel) Weeks	Associate Member (Widow of SCE Weeks)	14 Jul 2007	Chilliwack BC
Henry Alvin Roderick Wiseman	Regular Force, 1978-94	22 Jul 2007	Courtenay BC
William Joseph Campbell	WWII, Korea, Regular Force	31 Jul 2007	Calgary AB
James Chalmers Allan, DSO, MBE, CDV	WWII, Korea, Regular Force (1939-65)	5 Aug 2007	Chemainus BC
Floyd McLaughlin	WWII, Korea	9 Aug 2007	Fort Erie ON
Lawrence E. Todd	WWII	12 Aug 2007	Calgary AB
John Brian (Boots) McDonald, CD	Regular Force (PPCLI & CAR)	14 Aug 2007	Ft Saskatchewan AB
Norman Lloyd Topham, CD	WWII (Westminster Regt), Korea, Regular	6 Sep 2007	Kamloops BC
Charles Rodd Young	Korea	14 Sep 2007	Charlottetown PE
John Charles Bunker	WWII	11 Sep 2007	Victoria BC
John William Poucher, CD	Korea (1 PPCLI), Regular Force	20 Sep 2007	Victoria BC
Hubert Ernst Kux, CD	Regular Force (1960-88)	21 Sep 2007	Victoria BC
James Allan Mutlow	Regular Force	21 Sep 2007	St Albert AB
Henry Peter Lauzon, CD	Korea (2 PPCLI), Regular (1 & 2 QORC,	24 Sep 2007	Victoria BC
	3 PPCLI)		Edine's Miles
Louis Harper	Regular Force (QORC & PPCLI)	30 Sep 2007	Winnipeg MB
Annette Sylvia Loykowski	Associate Member (Wife of Charles	12 Oct 2007	Calgary AB
	Loykowski), Calgary Branch Secretary		
Lorne Hilton Pearce	Pre WWII PF, WWII	15 Oct 2007	Winnipeg MB
John (Jack) Lawrence Campbell	Korea	25 Oct 2007	Winnipeg MB

"We will remember them"

QUIET HERO

By Kathleen Mills

She wakes very early, he's leaving today, She will stand tall and proud as he's walking away. He glances back warmly at his children and wife, Knowing they will bravely carry on with their life. Her strength and her courage only one understands, He is walking away with her heart in his hands. For he knows that without it he would be lost, But they both know freedom comes at a cost. She walks away holding her children so close, Swallowing tears for the one she loves most. This quiet hero does not walk into war, She soldiers on behind her front door. She will move through her life the wind at her back, Determined to keep her family on track. Her tears fall in silence while she lies in her bed. Her fear is right there but nothing is said. She will ask that no medals be pinned to her chest, Her husband's safe return her only request. Few understand her commitment, her life, She is the quiet hero, the brave Soldier's wife.

Editor's Note: Kathleen Mills is the wife of PPCLI Lieutenant-Colonel Darryl Mills, who is currently serving in Iraq on exchange with US 3rd Infantry Division.