

# Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association



## SPRING BULLETIN

*March 2008*

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Canadian Publications Agreement: #40064431

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*The above information was the latest available to the Editor. Please notify the Newsletter Editor and the Association Secretary immediately of any errors or subsequent changes.*

## DUES ALERT!

Have you paid your Association Membership Dues for the year 2008?

Our Constitution states that Annual Dues become *due and payable on January 1st* of each year and *must be paid by March 31st* for a member to remain in good standing. Only Members in Good Standing are entitled to hold office, vote at Association meetings and receive Association Newsletters and Bulletins.

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association will take place in Prince Edward Branch #91, Royal Canadian Legion, Langford (Victoria) BC, on *Saturday, 30 August 2008*, at *1000 hrs*.

A *Proxy Form* is attached as Annex 'C' to this Bulletin for the use of Members in Good Standing who are unable to attend the meeting in person. Completed Proxies must be received at the National Secretariat *no later than August 15* or given to the National Secretary two hours before the meeting for validation.

## VANCOUVER ISLAND BRANCH WILL HOST 2008 AGM

The 2008 Annual General Meeting and associated events will take place in Langford (Victoria), BC *from 29 to 31 August*.

The complete program and recommended accommodation list are included as Annex 'A' to this Bulletin, and Registration Forms as Annex 'B'. Copies can also be downloaded from the Regimental Website, [www.ppcli.com](http://www.ppcli.com), or obtained from the National Secretariat. Completed Registration Forms with cheques for applicable fees must be received by the Vancouver Island Branch *no later than 15 July*.

## COLONEL-OF-THE REGIMENT'S REPORT

*BGen (Retd) J.E. L. Gollner*

The Regiment continues to focus on the Afghan campaign. The Second Battalion Battlegroup, which includes a rifle company from each of the First and Third Battalions is deploying in mid February. The Battlegroup is accompanied by a 200, all ranks, Operational Liaison and Mentoring Team (OLMT) mainly drawn from Third Battalion. In mid 2009, First Battalion will return to Afghanistan accompanied by another OLMT drawn from Third Battalion. Additionally, A Coy of Second Battalion will deploy in early 2009 with a Battlegroup based on 3RCR. These planned deployments are all contingent on Canada continuing its role in Afghanistan.

Our Battalions are constantly being reinforced with a steady stream of good soldiers from Army Reserve Infantry

Regiments in Western Canada. These soldiers usually serve with our battalions for the full work up period and the Afghan tour. In any of our rifle sections or platoons and in the OLMTs too, soldiers from, for example, the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, the Calgary Highlanders, the Seaforth Highlanders, the Canadian Scottish Regiment, and the Loyal Edmonton Regiment may well be found. Without these soldiers we would not be able to meet our current mission.

The training and preparation for the Afghan tours continue to improve in terms of quality,

Intensify, and most importantly realism. Moreover, as our base of Afghan veterans grows, the Army has been able to condense the length of training and preparation. The core unit and sub unit training for Afghan service is done in Wainwright. The ranges and battle runs of old have largely been replaced with purpose built realistic Afghan villages and strong points. Bunker complexes, minefields and booby traps challenge the leaders at every level and turn. The Army Manoeuvre Centre, based in Wainwright, conducts a series of exercises leading up to the final training for each Battlegroup preparing to deploy.

The Manoeuvre Centre has a special enemy platoon on strength. This platoon is made up of Afghan campaign veterans from all branches of our Army. The platoon is augmented for exercises by volunteer Afghan Canadian actors. For the exercises the enemy, our soldiers and the actors, all wear Afghan clothing and use former Soviet weapons. Real life Afghan situations and scenarios are played out. Thus, for example, when one of our platoon commanders thinks that he is going to have a simple battle run with his platoon his first task might well be behaving to deal with a village mayor and elders. A mayor who, over endless cups of tea, wants to talk about the need for a new well in his village. While the tea is taking place Improvised Explosives Devices (IEDs) or booby traps are being planted by exercise Taliban members or sympathizers in the village. Planted on the very route that the unwary platoon has to take to clear the village. These talc filled pneumatically fired devices training IEDs and booby traps provide a hard object lessons for those that fail to follow their battle drills.

The entire training atmosphere and approaches are based on experiences that our soldiers have had in the Afghan campaign. The soldiers that we and other Regiments are deploying are well trained and prepared. They also have the best kit and weapons ever used by our Army.

Colonel Craig King, MBE, CD, our Regimental Colonel, is the Commander of the Canadian Forces Manoeuvre Training Centre. He is also the Commander of a new OMLT that is based on 2CMBG personnel. Colonel King will deploy to Afghanistan late this summer.

While our focus is on the Afghan campaign planning for the 100th Anniversary also continues with the Regimental Executive Committee recently conducting an in depth review of the latest version of the plan. The plan has been simplified while maintaining the overall theme. Edmonton, Ottawa, and Frezenberg will all see Patricia 100th Anniversary events take place with the main event

being in Edmonton. The reason for adjusting and simplifying the 100th plan can be seen in the first paragraph of this article. The Army is at war and pursuing the war is demanding the full attention of our serving members. Notwithstanding, we are making progress with our planning. We hope to hire a fundraising firm shortly. The firm will help us raise funds for the 100th and to build the Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund. Mr. Bert Scott, our National President, is working closely with the Regimental Executive Committee, Regimental Headquarters and me to ensure that our Association is fully involved in the development of the 100th plan.

Our Colonel in Chief hopes to attend our Annual General Meeting in Victoria in late August. For those of you that have not had an opportunity to meet her, the AGM would be a great opportunity. Ed Widenmier and his team from Vancouver Island Branch are looking forward to seeing a good turnout. From past experience we know the Branch and its members will be great hosts.

Keep well and good soldiering.

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### STUDENT BURSARY APPLICATIONS

Applications for PPCLI Student Bursaries must be received at Regimental Headquarters *by 15 July*. Forms may be obtained on the Regimental Website ([www.ppcli.com](http://www.ppcli.com)) or by calling the RHQ Orderly Room, (780) 973-4011, Extension 5450.

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### PPCLI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

The next PPCLI Association Newsletter will be distributed in early November 2008. The deadline for submissions is *Friday, 10 October*.

The Newsletter will contain editorials, announcements of upcoming Association and Regimental activities, personal and historical notes and current affairs of interest to members. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting will be enclosed. We will also include Branch activity calendars for the coming year and any other information Branches may have for the benefit of their own and other members.

We encourage individual members to contribute personal anecdotes and photographs.

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### PPCLI ASSOCIATION RECRUITING

*Fred Goldring, Membership Chairman*

As we near the 95th and 100th Anniversaries and reunions, we find that our membership is slowly declining. All branches and members are urged to go on a recruiting campaign for Association members. Many of us belong to organizations such as the Legions; Army, Navy and Air Force Vets; Korea Veteran Assn; CAFA, ARAC, Airborne Social Club and the Retired PPCLI Snr NCOs Club. There are many members of these fine organizations who are former Patricia's but are not members of the PPCLI Association. Let's make an effort to recruit these former comrades into our Association. They do not have to join a

particular branch if they choose not to; they may just become a Member at Large which is also fine. The branches and contacts are listed in this Bulletin, as well as the address of RHQ if they just wish to become Members at Large.

Another resource to look at is the RCEME, RCOC, CProC, RCASC, RCAPC, etc, retired organizations. Anyone who was ever attached to a Patricia unit is also eligible to join the Association. So if you know of any of them, get in touch with them. Also, do not forget spouses and children of retired and serving Patricia's are also eligible to become members.

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### 100TH ANNIVERSARY UPDATE

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

There will be a full brief on the planning for the 100th at the Annual General Meeting on August 30. There is also the promise that many issues, such as the Association website, membership initiatives and other key responses to invigorate the Association before and past the 100th will be discussed in Victoria. See you there.

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### IMPORTANT NEWS FOR VETERANS WITH DISABILITY CLAIMS

*Lieutenant-Colonel (Retd) Ron Gladstone*

A recent ruling by Chief Justice Richard and concurred in by Justices J.A. Linden and J.A. Ryder of the Federal Court of Appeal in Winnipeg, is of significant interest to all Veterans who have been refused compensation for disabilities incurred while in service to Canada. In effect it finds that Veteran Affairs had instituted guidelines under the Minister's Table of Disabilities for granting claims that were not in accordance with legal provisions of the Pension Act.

This all arose when Larry W. Nelson, on having been turned down by the Board for a claim based on hearing loss, applied for a judicial review of a decision by the Veterans Review and Appeal Board (VRAB) that denied him disability benefits under subsection 21(2) of the Pensions Act. The Honourable Mr Justice O'Keefe, after considering all the evidence, directed that the VRAB decision be set aside and the matter referred to a different panel of VRAB for redetermination. This judgement was appealed by the Attorney General of Canada who wanted this judgement set aside.

The Federal Court of Appeal supported the judgement of Mr Justice O'Keefe because – "Section 2 requires that the provisions of the Act be liberally construed and interpreted to recognize Canada's obligation to provide compensation to those members of the forces who have been disabled or have died as a result of military service. Section 5 of the Act is also aimed at making the application process as informal and expeditious as possible, requiring the Minister to draw every reasonable inference in favour of the

applicant and to resolve any doubt in favour of the applicant when weighing the evidence". Accordingly the Government's Appeal was denied and, significantly, they were required to pay all the costs of Mr Nelson. Indeed, in this judgement the Justices went even further and did not restrict this finding to hearing loss but to ALL disabilities suffered as the result of Service in the Armed Forces of Canada.

What does this mean to us? It means that, if you have been turned down for disability compensation in the past on grounds based on the "Minister's Guidelines" which attempted to supersede the Act's provisions; you now have grounds for appeal (or additional appeals) to Veterans Affairs. In doing so you may wish to quote: Canadian (Attorney General) v. Nelson, 2007 FCE (CanLII) dated 2007-05-25

## REGIMENTAL VETERANS' CARE AND THE VOLUNTEER PATRICIA PROGRAM

### Background

The genesis of this article is two-fold. On the one hand we have a success story to relate to you; sadly, on the other hand we have a failure. The common thread between the two is that too few of you, serving and retired, are even remotely aware of how the Regiment can assist when you or someone you know needs help.

First, here is the success story. In late November 2007 we received information in an email from Koreavet News that an aging, decorated PPCLI Kapyong veteran was having difficulty with Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) over a number of issues. Attached to the email was a newspaper article quoting the veteran's daughter and primary caregiver. The day we received notification, the Colonel of the Regiment contacted the primary caregiver to offer the Regiment's assistance. At the same time the matter was brought to the attention of a Service Officer with the Dominion Services Bureau of the Royal Canadian Legion who contacted the family and forwarded the necessary paperwork to allow access to the veteran's VAC file. The Regiment didn't solve the veteran's problem. What it did do was to provide a competent point of contact to address the issues. The primary caregiver was overwhelmed with the timely response after months of getting nowhere on her own. We continue to monitor this case.

Here is a brief synopsis of the failure. Many of you will have read the story of Cpl (Retd) Roy Bell who was fatally shot by police in Winnipeg on 17 December 2007. Cpl Bell apparently had psychiatric problems that he was unable to get the help he needed to address them. Regrettably, this situation ended in the confrontation with police. We do know that he did not approach the Regiment for assistance.

While these two cases are distinct, the common thread is that the Regiment was not aware of either case before they became a crisis. We hope to correct that by ensuring that you are aware of the Regimental Veteran's Care (RVC) and the Volunteer Patricia Programme (VPP). We're

available to provide assistance to you, your family or any other veteran and their families.

The planned restructuring of the RVC and VPP is now well underway and you should see the information, including the new handbook, on [ppcli.com](http://ppcli.com) shortly. In the interim, the following is an extract of the programme that we hope that you read so you are better informed to seek our assistance to help you or others you think might need some help.

### Veterans' Care in the Regiment

We are our brother's keeper. Whether a wounded serving soldier, a long-retired veteran, a widow or family member, the Regiment owes each and every one an offer of assistance and care. This care bonds the Regiment together. It keeps the faith with those who have served in its ranks and who have contributed to the peace and security Canadians enjoy. Governments provide programs and benefits, but only comrades and effective caregivers can deliver assistance that really works. This in turn gives soldiers, retired veterans and their families the assurance that as they face challenges in their lives the Regiment will be there to help. This assurance is particularly meaningful to young soldiers who face a determined enemy.

### Who is Involved?

Veterans' Care is the responsibility of all members of the Regimental family. Since 2004, the Regiment has developed a framework of support to meet both the demands of our current operational tempo and the aging of our retired members. This framework reflects the rapid developments in veterans' support within the Canadian Forces and Veterans' Affairs Canada and the Regimental response to these changes. The Regimental framework has three components:

**Units.** Recent changes in CF policies have placed the responsibility for support to serving soldiers squarely on the lap of unit commanding officers. This responsibility extends beyond posting to a holding list and even medical release. Given their heavy responsibilities to train for and conduct operations, part of this burden is being taken on by Regimental Headquarters.

**Regimental Headquarters (RHQ).** In the autumn of 2006, the Regiment established a veterans' care cell within RHQ to provide support to units and individual casualties and members in need of assistance. The Regimental Veterans' Care (RVC) cell performs these functions:

- Provides information on veterans' support programs on the [ppcli.com](http://ppcli.com) website;
- Maintains a library of information and brochures for individual soldiers and units;
- Assists units by training and advising assisting officers and other casualty support personnel;
- Acts as a contact point for any veteran or family member seeking assistance from the Regiment and refers them to the most appropriate program or agency;
- Maintains a data base of casualties.
- Ensures the Colonel of the Regiment and the Colonel in Chief are informed of the welfare of members of the Regimental family;

- Organizes events related to Regimental veterans and casualties;
- Receives, disperses, secures and accounts for funds collected to support Regimental veterans;
- Provides feedback and information to CF and other care-giving agencies on the effectiveness of their programs; and
- Provides assistance to any veteran searching for personal or operational documents or finding witnesses to past events.

**PPCLI Regimental Association.** The Association through the Volunteer Patricia Program (VPP) supports retired and retiring members of the Regiment and their families who need assistance adjusting to changes in their lives and in obtaining support from professional caregivers. The VPP may also assist in the support of units and serving personnel at the request of a unit or RHQ or as a local initiative. The program has been established under Article III of the Association's Constitution *'to foster and maintain the spirit of the Regiment, circulate information regarding the Regiment amongst its members, perpetuate the close bonds of comradeship, mutual regard and esprit de corps amongst all ranks formed whilst serving in the regiment by assisting members, including serving members of the Regiment, widows and children of deceased members, when and where social assistance is not available'*. The VPP is branch-based and acts as the Association's action arm in this work. The VPP:

- Provides information and referral services to veterans and to their families and survivors and referring them to the most appropriate program or agency;
- Investigates requests for support, gathers information, and finds witnesses and documents to support a request for support from a third party;
- In the absence of other caregivers, provides direct assistance to veterans and their families who are in need;
- Sponsors and supports Regimental fundraising activities;
- Stands ready to provide morale and material support to units in operations, assistance to rear parties and families, and assistance to units in delivering humanitarian support to local populations; and
- Assists serving soldiers at the request of a unit or RHQ.

#### Eligibility

All members of the Regimental family will be supported as well as other serving or former members of the CF who have served with the Regiment. In cases of doubt as to eligibility or for extension to these guidelines, the circumstances will be forwarded to RHQ and/or the VPP Facilitator for decision.

#### Who Our Potential Clients Are

While the core clients of the program are casualties and their families and retired veterans in need of assistance, the scope of veterans' care in the Regiment extends to those who may be in financial difficulty, having administrative or

family problems, are imprisoned or who may be in other difficulties.

Casualties most likely to require the assistance of RHQ or the Association are those who are extra-regimentally employed, in medical care or on the Service Personnel Holding List (SPHL) and without the strong support units provide.

#### Meeting Member Needs

For our members at any stage of their lives the Regiment assists by:

1. Providing information to units, individuals and VPP volunteers on support programs through the www.ppcli.com website, through brochures and advertising, and through personal contact with branch and national volunteers;
2. Referring clients to CF, VAC and other agencies with programs aimed at identifying and resolving problems;
3. Assisting members in overcoming obstacles and crises on a one-to-one basis where established processes and programs are unable to help or are unavailable because of distance or other factors; and
4. Providing companionship and by listening to their concerns.

#### RVC/VPP Principles and General Guidelines

##### Philosophy

The underlying philosophy of Regimental veterans' care is that the Regiment is a family whose members are under a lifelong bond individually and collectively to support one another and their families. Through this support, serving members of the Regiment draw strength, and those who are retired maintain and increase their commitment to the Regiment and to the values for which it stands.

##### Principles

The following principles apply to the Program:

- The Regiment supports all who have served in or with the Regiment and to their families and survivors.
- The Regiment will complement and not replace existing care providers.
- Care provided by the Regiment will respect the Chain of Command. RHQ and the Association VPP will assist serving soldiers only at the request of the unit and will keep the unit fully informed of the status of cases, consistent with the Privacy Act.
- The RVC/VPP is a no fault and totally non-judgemental support program. No person will be denied a fair hearing and the support he or she may need.
- Support will not be denied under any of the areas of discrimination in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
- All members seeking support are entitled to the Duty of Care and Standard of Care expected within Canadian society under Common Law.
- Serving members must comply with CF regulations, orders and instruction.



- The PPCLI Association is responsible for the actions of its volunteers and must ensure that all necessary actions are taken and sustained to ensure a reasonable standard of care.
- All members engaged in the VPP will be volunteers who will be provided with the necessary information and guidance to accomplish their task. They will also be provided with protection should they be exposed to personal or financial risk.
- All Canadian legislation, regulations and common practice relating to privacy, access to information and security of personal information will be observed.
- Association volunteers will be entitled to reimbursement for major out of pocket expenses related to their service.
- Association branches will operate independently based on the policies and procedures contained in this handbook.

#### A Simple Process

The RVC/VPP support structure is simple and adaptable. Not only are people's problems unique, but so are factors such as geography and the quality of care available. In essence, the process used is one of input, process and output. With input being the identification of a problem, process being the expression, analysis, referral or assistance of the problem, and output being a member of the Regimental family who is well cared for and confident in the future.

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### VAC BENEFITS YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED

*By John Hunter*

In looking up VAC services and benefits that might apply to one of our veterans, I discovered some interesting stuff that you might not know about. Here is a list of some key changes to eligibility. They are available at [www.vac-acc.gc.ca/general/sub.cfm?source=feature/newhealthreg](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/general/sub.cfm?source=feature/newhealthreg).

#### Seriously Disabled Pensioners

As clients age, their medical conditions are likely to involve ailments from both pensioned and non-pensioned conditions. To eliminate the complication of distinguishing these conditions, when a war service veteran or civilian has been pensioned for a serious level of war-related disability, health care may now be provided for all conditions.

#### Continuation of Health Care for Income-tested Clients

The new policy implemented in these regulations will allow health care for income-tested clients to be continued based on health need, once the veteran has satisfied the initial income test. In the past, when veterans' financial or family circumstances changed, they could have faced the difficult loss of their health care eligibility as a result of a reassessment of their incomes. Typical situations where this measure will help veterans include small increases in income from just below to just above the maximum level (e.g. the awarding of a disability pension) or the death of the spouse or common-law partner causing a decrease of the applicable maximum income level.

#### Chronic Care

Certain veteran categories who had access to "intermediate care" are being extended access to chronic care to better respond to possible changes in their health condition: Canada Service Veterans (i.e. those who served in wartime in Canada only), Special Duty Area pensioners (e.g. peacekeepers) and military service pensioners (i.e. members of today's Canadian Forces). For the last two groups, the care must be provided in respect of a pensioned condition.

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### NEW HEALTH REGULATIONS ASSIST WARTIME CIVILIANS AND PRESENT-DAY CANADIAN FORCES MEMBERS

Originally approved in 1990, the *Veterans Health Care Regulations* (VHCR) authorize and define health care programs for veterans. They provide treatment and supplementary benefits, home-based care under the Veterans Independence Program (VIP), and long-term institutional care. These regulatory amendments will improve equity of access to Veterans' Affairs Canada (VAC) programs and better meet the needs of our clients.

The amendments, which are effective from August 28, 2001, include many important and long-awaited initiatives, including:

- Extending the Veterans Independence Program) to income-qualified civilian groups who served overseas in wartime;
- Extending VIP to CF members for their pensioned conditions;
- Providing seriously disabled wartime veterans and civilians health care for pensioned and non-pensioned conditions;
- Extending community-based chronic care to CF clients for their pensioned conditions and Canada Service Veterans (CSV);
- Ensuring uninterrupted eligibility of health care for income-qualified clients and CSVs;
- Extending equal benefits and obligations for all common-law partners; and
- a number of other technical changes.

#### Overseas Service Civilian Groups

Access to health care programs for civilian groups who served overseas in wartime – Newfoundland Foresters, Ferry Command, Overseas Fire Fighters, Overseas Welfare Workers (Canadian Red Cross, etc.) – is being improved by extending the Veterans Independence Program to those whose income is below the maximum level set out in legislation.

#### Members of the Canadian Forces

This initiative, which began last year with the enactment of Bill C-41, is designed to improve equity of access to VAC programs for Canadian Forces personnel regardless of where they have served. With these changes to the VHCRs, current and former members of the Canadian Forces pensioned for injuries will be provided access to Veterans Independence Program services if their pensioned

condition impairs their ability to maintain an independent lifestyle.

However, while they are still-serving with the Canadian Forces, their treatment benefits will be provided by DND.

#### **Seriously Disabled Pensioners**

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#### **Special Income Test for Exceptional Health Needs**

The Regulations contain provisions which allow services and care to be provided when the cost of the care is unaffordable. For home-based and intermediate care, there must also be evidence of exceptional health needs on the part of the client. To harmonize these provisions with recent changes to the income assessment calendar of the *War Veterans Allowance (WVA) Act*, the relevant sections of the Regulations have been extensively re-written. Recalculating eligibility will now be done on the same annual cycle as the calculation of charges for "accommodation and meals" (i.e., beginning every October 1st).

This change will provide greater administrative efficiency and easier client communications.

#### **Other Changes**

*Accommodation and meals* – For the purposes of calculating the personal and family exemptions which reduce the charge paid by clients for accommodation and meals, the amended regulations now provide that in cases where there is no spouse or common-law partner, an "equivalent-to-spouse" exemption amount is available in respect of the first dependent child.

*Common-law partners* – The Regulations contain provisions pertaining to the spouse or common-law partner of qualifying veterans, civilians and military personnel. This amendment extends equal benefits and obligations to all common-law partners, consistent with recent changes to the *War Veterans Allowance Act*, the *Pension Act*, and other federal acts.

*Visits to critically ill clients* – The provision allowing the payment of transportation costs for visits by the next of kin to critically ill clients is expanded to include all critically ill clients in receipt of intermediate, chronic or acute care, rather than just those clients in departmental or contract beds.

### **KENT FOSTER APPOINTED HON COL COMDT OF THE INFANTRY**

National Defence Headquarters announced recently that Lieutenant-General (Retd) Kent Foster (a Patricia and former Army Commander) has been appointed Honorary Colonel Commandant of the Infantry, succeeding Brigadier-General (Retd) Bob Alden.

### **PHOTOS WANTED FOR 95TH AND 100TH ANNIVERSARIES**

*By Fred Goldring*

In preparation for the 95th and 100th Anniversary celebrations and reunions, I am still a number of photos short of my proposed display of PPCLI Depot photos from 1953 to 1968. If you were at the 60th AGM you saw a peek preview of the collection and display. Please find some time and dig through those old photo albums and barrack boxes. Unfortunately, the PPCLI Museum and archives do not have many depot photos.

In particular, I am looking for depot photos Fossio Munio 1953 and 1959; Gully 1953; Canal du Nord 1954 and 1957; Amiens 1955, 1956-57 and 1962; Mons 1955, 1962 and 1966-67; Roatti 1955; Flanders 1956-57 and 1960; Leonforte 1957; Argia 1957; Moro 1957 and 1961-62; North West Europe 1957; Rimini Line 1957-58 and 1962; Somme 1958-59; Flers Courcellette 1958-59 and 1962; Vimy 1960 and 1961; Passchendale 1960 and 1961-62; Scarpe 1960; Mons 1960; Hitler Line 1960-61; Kapyong 1961 and 1962; Gothic Line 1962; and San Fortunato 1962. Also on my wish list is a coloured photo of Number 2 Guard on the 1st Bn Trooping in Germany in 1964 to complete a pictorial history of the 1st's tour from 1963 to 1966.

I am also still looking for any group photos of jump and Jr NCO courses, platoons of Sp Coy, Sigs platoons, Tpt, etc, from 1953 to 1970.

So come on guys, help me out here. In Calgary they were lined up five rows wide and six deep to look at these old photos and memories. Let me know what you have, get in touch with me and we will work something out on how to get copies. Also, I have many other depot photos so if you want one get a hold of me.

## BRANCH NEWS

### Calgary Branch

*Alec Herdy*

Riding the wave of the very successful PPCLI Association 60th Anniversary the Calgary Branch continued forward with the annual fall meet and greet. Held in lieu of the September monthly meeting the evening was a resounding affair. For those of us who missed the annual excellent summer BBQ held by Jack and Sandi Raynor a complete after action report was given. It seems that the branch is now awash in musical talent. Several members (CJ Wallace, Bruce Nickel and Ken Smith) missing the soul inspiring sound of the bag pipes have taken it upon themselves to learn the art. The BBQ provided a forum to display how far they have progressed. The historic question as to what "Scottish men wear under their kilts" was brought to the forefront. Answers ranged from "not much" to "is that natural equipment or cloned".

October brought us the long awaited branch executive election. Stepping down but moving upward was branch President Joe Schulz (now Association Vice President). Voted in to replace Joe Schulz as the President, PPCLI Association, Calgary Branch was Jim Croll; and Farron Brown replaced Doug MacIssac as Vice-President. Replacing Annette Loykowski, who passed on, as the branch secretary is Philip Fisher. A change in the kit shop stewardship saw Fred Blackmore step down to be replaced by Pat Driscoll. George Arthurson, seeing the amount of "new blood" in the executive, has stayed on as the branch Sgt-at-Arms. The editorial duties of the branch, which experienced decades worth of excellent performance changed hands with Bob Zubkowski being replaced by Alec Herdy. Ted Lewis is now responsible for ensuring those branch members who find themselves temporary visitors to the city health facilities will be well looked after as branch hospital representative. The prior standing executive is also to be congratulated for their outstanding and continuing mentorship to the new executive.

November saw the branch active again in the various Remembrance Day taskings. Tasks included the poppy tagging campaign and getting out to the local area schools. *In many cases not a dry eye was to be found* given the eloquent speaking abilities of those branch members who participated. As for Remembrance Day itself, members paraded at the various sites in the city. November closed off with the presentation by Joe Schulz to Klaus Rimke of the insignia for the "Commander in Chief Unit Commendation." Klaus was a vehicle tech attached to 2 VP during the Medak Pocket Battle.

Following the Christmas break the branch resumed business in January with the 60th Anniversary Committee wrap up. Wine masters Fred Blackmore and Earl Wicks ensured there was an adequate selection of spirits to complement the excellent roast beef dinner prepared by Mike Zacharki. A wonderful evening, hosted by Joe Schulz, was had by all. The January branch meeting was highlighted by the awarding of a Branch Service Award to Bruce

Nickel. Bruce was long deserving of this award for both his long time participation in various branch committees over the years and his dedication and commitment to the 2554 PPCLI Cadet Corps. Additionally, Bruce also has taken on the duties of the branch entertainment representative. In closing Bruce exemplifies the saying "Once a Patricia, Always a Patricia".

For visitors to our city our monthly meetings are held on the last Saturday of the month at the Forest Lawn Legion in the A.M., with our regular "Happy Hour" the Friday night before at "Buffalo Bobs" beginning at 15:00 hrs.

### Edmonton Branch

*Fred Goldring*

Hey, out there. It is almost time to get the golf clubs out and start swinging – we are slowly getting there. You guys on the coast haven't missed a day of golf all year but our time is coming. Our branch weathered the winter alright; our annual snow birds to Arizona are due back before too long. We expect another full year again as was last year. You can read all about in the Patrician.

Only two changes on our Executive: Warren Bard is now the Secretary as Liz Basham has stepped down after several years of being the Voluntary Secretary. Lyle Saumer is now the Vice President. Several members plan to go to Victoria in the fall for the AGM. Our meeting are still the 4th Saturday of each month except July and August for summer recess. March's meeting is the 29th due to Easter and December's is the 13th. Meetings are at 11:00 at the Kingsway Legion. Drop by if you are in the area.

### Manitoba & Northwest Ontario Branch

*D'Arcy Best*

The Branch holds most of its functions at the Charleswood Branch No. 100, Royal Canadian Legion, 6003 Roblin Boulevard, Winnipeg.

#### Coming Events

**Sunday, 16 March: Regimental Day.** 2:00 PM in the Patio Room, Charleswood Legion. This is an informal get-together of the Patricia Family, and serving members, wives, companions and friends are welcome. Light refreshments will be provided. Dress is optional.

**Saturday, 31 May: Barbecue.** 2:00 PM on the Patio, Charleswood Legion.

**Saturday, 18 October: Branch Annual Dinner** at the Charleswood Legion. Bar opens at 6:00 PM, Dinner at 7:00. Dress: Blazer or suit and tie.

**Sunday, 9 November: Remembrance Service** at All Saints Church. Seated by 10:50 AM.

**Tuesday, 11 November: Indoor Remembrance Day Service** at Oak Park High School. Seated by 10:25 AM.

### Vancouver Branch

*Thelma Holland*

**President:** Thomas (Tom) J. Holland (Address on Page 4)

**Vice-President:** Glenn S. Palmer  
6479 Canada Way, Burnaby BC V5E 3P3  
Phone: (604) 522-3613

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Thelma A. Holland (Address on Page 4)

**Directors:**

Donald (Don) M. Boyce 10-7291 Morrow Rd Agassiz BC V0M 1A2 Phone: (604) 796-8469	Dan Ipsen 305-20897 - 57th Ave Langley BC V3A 8L5 Phone: (604) 532-2078
Mary (Garry) Jantzen 217-2020 Cedar Village Crescent North Vancouver V7J 3P5 Phone: (604) 987-0384	Robert (Bob) McDonald 602-728 Farrow Street Coquitlam BC V3J 3S6 Phone: (604)-939-9304

**Branch Calendar**

**Annual General Meeting:** Sunday, March 16, 2008, at Seaforth Armoury, WOs & Sgts Mess, 11:30 AM.

**Patricia Regimental Luncheon:** Sunday, March 16, 2008. In the Anderson Room of the Seaforth Armoury. 1:00 PM. Anyone visiting the Vancouver area at the time is more than welcome to attend. Please contact the Secretary for catering purposes.

**Annual BBQ:** Will be at the home of Val Tutte in Richmond, 3rd or 4th Sunday in August. Details will be worked out at the Branch AGM. Anyone visiting the area is more than welcome to attend. Please phone Secretary to confirm for catering purposes.

**Christmas Party:** Tentative date 2nd Sunday in December 2008 at 3:00 pm at the home of Jenny Urquhart. All visitors to the area are more than welcome to attend. Please contact Secretary.

Any further details on the Branch Activity can be obtained at any time by contacting the Branch Secretary.

**Vancouver Island Branch**

*Ed Widenmaier*

Our AGM is over, held on 27th Jan 2008 with 26 members attending. An election for all positions held; only one's filled were President, VPP. Past executive members were given Letters of Appreciation and gifts for distinguished service to the Association from 5-15 years. Don't know who or if replacements can do as well.

Membership is down due to deaths, age, health and dissociation.

**Vancouver Island Branch Upcoming Events**

**Annual Regimental Dinner and Dance:** Sun 16 March, 1800-2200 hrs Langford Legion. Members \$40.00 per person. Non Members (most welcome) \$50.00 per person. Costs increase for function is to assist for AGM in August 2008 as current moneys retained from yearly dues would not cover a McDonald's dinner. Members of the Vancouver Island Branch are still very pro-active planning ahead to make this event work even if it will rate as a two star compared to Calgary's 60th. See you all soon at any event.

"Support the Troops"

**Wainwright Branch**

The Wainwright Branch meets the last Monday of each month at the Wainwright Legion.

Bill Miller, VPP Contact for the Wainwright Branch, is now living in Pierceland, Sask and offers his services to

retirees living in the Cold Lake, Bonnyville and Meadow Lake areas. He can be reached at Tel: (306) 839-4997 or E-mail wjm808@sasktel.net.

**LOST TRAILS**

**Leonforte Platoon 1960-61:** Looking for comrades who took their recruit training in Leonforte Platoon in the PPCLI Depot Sep 60 - Jan 61. Plans for a reunion are in progress. Please contact Errol Monkley at ecm@pei.sympatico.ca.

**Pte Holiday:** Pte Holiday (initials not available) graduated from the PPCLI Depot with Leonforte Platoon in January 61 and soon after remustered to RCASC. He is being sought in connection with a planned reunion of Leonforte Platoon 1960-61. Anyone who knows his whereabouts is asked to contact Pat McManus at jpatrickmcmanus@aol.com.

**Fredrick O. Wells:** The sister of Pte Fredrick O. Wells, killed in action in Korea, 8 March 1951, seeks information on her brother. She would be grateful for information from anyone who served with him, particularly photos. Anyone with information please contact Ed Hansen, (250) 478-3757 or piklee@shaw.ca.

**LIGHTEN UP**

I was feeling a bit depressed the other day, so I called the Suicide Hot Line. Like everything else in this country, it had been outsourced and I was put through to a call center in Pakistan. I explained that I was feeling suicidal.

They became very excited at this and wanted to know if I could drive a truck.



A priest, a lawyer and an engineer are about to be guillotined. The priest puts his head on the block, they pull the rope and nothing happens. He declares that he's been saved by divine intervention so he's let go. The lawyer is put on the block, and again the rope doesn't release the blade. He claims he can't be executed twice for the same crime and he is set free. They grab the engineer and shove his head into the guillotine. He looks up at the release mechanism and says, "Wait a minute, I see your problem."

## LAST POST

<u>Name</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
Marty (Killer) Kowalski	Regular Force	7 Jan 2007	
William Gillespie Riddell	WWII	10 Mar 2007	Vancouver BC
Walter Biener	WWII	6 Apr 2007	
Harry McNamara	WWII, Korea	13 Apr 2007	Ottawa ON
Donald Glassner	Regular Force	17 May 2007	Ottawa ON
David Mailhot	Regular Force	21 May 2007	Belleville ON
Henri Gerard Vandale	Regular Force	4 Jun 2007	Winnipeg MB
Joseph Ternowetsky	Regular Force	11 Jun 2007	Warnambool, Australia
Edward Iftody	Regular Force	24 Jun 2007	Vegreville AB
John Richard Linville	Korea, Regular Force	25 Jun 2007	Westlock AB
Kenneth Itsuo Sato	Regular Force	25 Jun 2007	Winnipeg MB
Bob Dumont	Regular Force	2 Jul 2007	Saskatoon
<i>Cpl Jordan James Anderson</i>	<i>Regular Force (3 PPCLI)</i>	<i>4 Jul 2007</i>	<i>Afghanistan</i>
<i>Cpl Cole Daniel Bartsch</i>	<i>Regular Force (3 PPCLI)</i>	<i>4 Jul 2007</i>	<i>Afghanistan</i>
Joseph C. Dumas	Regular Force	26 Jul 2007	Prince Rupert BC
Herbert Foresman	WWII, Korea	2 Oct 2007	Comox BC
Ronald Rene Paquette		25 Oct 2007	Ottawa ON
Anthony Paul Peigan	Korean War	28 Oct 2007	Regina SK
Richard Ivan (Dick) Wood	Korea, Regular Force (1 PPCLI & RCE)	30 Oct 2007	Chilliwack BC
Donald Welsh MacLeod	WWII	31 Oct 2007	Victoria BC
Bob McNeil	Regular Force	10 Nov 2007	Victoria BC
Donald John Bernicky	Regular Force (QORC & PPCLI)	11 Nov 2007	Smith Falls ON
Alfred Dapper Alexander Park, CD	WWII (1 Cdn Para), Korea (2 RHC), Regular Force (PPCLI)	18 Nov 2007	Winnipeg MB
Barry Blake	Regular Force (1 & 2 PPCLI)	23 Nov 2007	Black Diamond AB
Lloyd Keith Rheubottom	Korean War	25 Nov 2007	Winnipeg MB
Robert James Macaulay	Korea (2 PPCLI), Regular (RCAF)	26 Nov 2007	Surrey BC
Alfred McMillan, MMM, CD	Korea (2 QORC) Regular Force (QORC & PPCLI)	4 Dec 2007	Calgary AB
Rene Henri Stang, CD	Regular Force (QORC & PPCLI) 1956-80	8 Dec 2007	Calgary AB
Roy Thomas Bell	Regular Force, 1981-2004	17 Dec 2007	Winnipeg MB
Lloyd Elwood Cornett	Regular Force (PPCLI & QORC) 1950-73	21 Jan 2008	Tsawwassen BC
Charles H.H. Ball	Korean War (1 PPCLI)	29 Jan 2008	Vancouver BC
John Douglas Jenkins, CD	Korea, Regular Force	7 Feb 2008	Chilliwack BC
Andrew Foulds	WWII (RCA & Seaforths), Korea (2 PPCLI)	9 Feb 2008	Vancouver BC
George William (Bill) Giles	WWII	13 Feb 2008	Edmonton AB
John Reginald Bell	WWII	17 Feb 2008	Winnipeg MB

*"We will remember them"*

*"Always a Patricia"*

**PPCLI ASSOCIATION  
2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
LANGFORD (VICTORIA) BC  
29 TO 31 AUGUST 2008**

The Vancouver Island Branch of the PPCLI Association will host the 2008 Annual General Meeting in Langford (Victoria) BC.

**Dates:** Friday, 29 August to Sunday, 31 August 2008.

**Location:** Prince Edward Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, 761 Station Avenue, Langford BC.

**PROGRAM**

**Friday 29 August**

1000-1200 - Early Registration for Council.

1300-1600 - Council Meeting at Legion

1500-2000 - Registration and Meet and Greet at Legion

**Saturday 30 August**

1000-1300 - Annual General Meeting (Legion)

1700 - Cocktails (Legion)

1800 - Dinner (Legion)

2000 - Dance and Entertainment (Legion)

2359 - Cease Fire/Last Call

**Sunday 31 August**

1030-1200 - Church Service at St Paul's Anglican Church, 1379 Esquimalt Rd

1230-1400 - Museum Tour (DND Naden PPCLI Display/Navy)

1500-???? - Departure. Debrief at Legion.

**ACCOMMODATION**

Members are responsible for arranging their own hotel accommodations. Quoted rates do not include taxes. 13% will be added.

**Comfort Inn and Suites**

101 Island Hwy, Victoria BC. Tel: 1-800-661-4043 (mention PPCLI Association).

**Rates:** \$116.95 and up. Includes breakfast and internet connection. 10 minutes from Legion.

**Glen Lake Inn**

2668 Sooke Rd, Victoria. Tel: (250) 478-9797.

**Rates:** \$85.00. 10 minutes from Legion.

**Travellers Inn**

120 Gorge Rd E, Victoria BC. Tel: 1-888-292-6387

**Rates:** \$119.95 and up. 20 minutes from Legion.

Limited Legion Bus Service is available from the airport to your hotel if we are aware of your flights in advance.

**YOU ARE ADVISED TO BOOK EARLY AS THIS IS LABOUR DAY WEEKEND.**

**PPCLI ASSOCIATION  
2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
REGISTRATION FORM**

Member name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest name: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee: \$60.00 per person.

Number attending \_\_\_\_ x \$60.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed.

**Make cheques payable to PPCLI ASSOCIATION.**

**Registration fee includes the following:**

- 1) Meet and Greet at the Legion (pizza and chilli), 29 Aug
- 2) General Meeting (coffee and cake), 30 Aug
- 3) Dinner and dance, 30 Aug
- 4) Church service and museum tour, 31 Aug
- 5) Legion bus service (when available)
- 6) Welcome package with information on events and times.

**Please return your registration form no later than 15 July 2008 to:**

Mr E Widenmaier, 7706 Wallace Dr, Saanichton BC, V8M 1N5; or

Mr Larry Davies, #40-2911 Sooke Lake Rd, Victoria BC, V9B 4R5.

**EARLY REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR CATERING AND PLANNING EVENTS.**

## PROXY

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ Branch,  
being a member in good standing of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association,  
hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_, or failing him/her, the Secretary-Treasurer, to  
attend and act on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, 30 August 2008, and at  
any adjournment thereof, and to vote on such matters as may come before the Meeting.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2008.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Signed Proxies should be forwarded *to arrive by 15 August 2008* at:

PPCLI Association Secretariat  
c/o Regimental Headquarters  
Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
PO Box 10500 Stn Forces  
Edmonton AB T5J 4J5

or given to the Secretary-Treasurer two hours before the Meeting.