

PPCLI Association Newsletter



On horseback with helmet is believed to be MGen Fredrick Loomis, KCB, CMG, DSO Commander 3rd Canadian Division talking to BGen John Clark, CMG, DSO Commander 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade. To the right rear is LCol A Hamilton Gault, DSO. Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry guard possibly commanded by Capt AC Allan, MC and bar is on parade with the Ric-a-dam-doo. Capt later LCol JH Carvosso, MC and bar is the helmeted officer immediately to the rear of the Colour Party. Photo Credit: PPCLI Archives P30(18.1)-1

FALL 2018

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Editor: Mike Wind

COLONEL-IN-CHIEF MESSAGE

PPCLI Association 9 November 2018

My Dear Patricias,

I was delighted to be asked to provide comments for this Association Fall Newsletter. One hundred years ago the Regiment as part of 7 Canadian Infantry Brigade and was actively involved in the liberation of Mons. It is quite fitting that LCol (Ret'd) Richard (Dick) MacIntosh, CD is the PPCLI Association's representative at the Veterans Affairs Canada 100th Anniversary celebration of the Liberation of Mons from 6 – 12 November. He will represent the Association very well, especially given his personal family connections to the Battle as well as the fact that he attended the 50th Anniversary of this event when he commanded the 2 PPCLI group that represented the Regiment on that day in 1968! We will all look forward to Dick's recounting of his experiences in the *Patrician*.

The Association is actively searching for wives or partners to join the Association Board of Directors. Willing volunteers would be nominated at the next Annual General Meeting to be held in Edmonton on 7 and 8 August 2019. This is an excellent initiative which will ensure the needs of families are better highlighted and reflected within the Association's policies and procedures. I encourage spouses to get involved. Interested spouses should contact Paul Hale, National President or Mike Austdal, Past President and Head of the Nominating Committee.

I have noted the success of the Association's undertakings to grapple with the issues of suicide prevention and mental health. I have also been advised that a Veterans and Family Support Committee has been created for the Association, as part of the structure to develop better support for veterans and their families. I am certain this will have a positive impact, as we have an obligation to do what is practical and positive in these regards. The Association's renewed focus on assisting Veterans and Families is outstanding and I encourage all Patricias to support this initiative and become involved at the Branch or National Level.

Yours faithfully,
Adrienne Clarkson
Colonel-in-Chief
Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT MESSAGE

PPCLI Association 9 November 2018

The Association has a long history of providing a social and informational support focus for retired Patricias, effectively extending the camaraderie of service post-separation from the CF. The structure of the Association reflected the approach of the British War Services Unions – physical branches in meeting places, largely centered on democratic meetings and group activities, the taking of grog and the telling of tales. The establishment of branches and headquarters gave sustenance to the military structures of old.

The establishment of the Volunteer Patricia Program (VPP) in the early days of the Afghanistan war took the Association out of its traditional box. The money to begin the first effort which led to OP Small Pack and VPP - provided a package of goods that a soldier wounded and in hospital might use -razor to track suit-was raised in a very short time by an on-line appeal within the Regiment, and the program was soon taken over by the CF.

That first effort has expanded as the operational stress impact of high operational tempo during that war and in like operations in other theatres, became apparent to us. The very nature of post-traumatic stress, long term in its impact and debilitating, has demanded complex and widespread treatment and assistance programming, to offset the brutal trauma to body and brain for many Canadian servicemen and women, including many Patricias.

The characteristics of PTSD – it being long term, debilitating, often progressive, socially distancing and sometimes leading to fatal results- established the need for a wider understanding of the issues. Hence the effort of the PPCLI Association to undertake Mental Health and Suicide Awareness (MHSA) training. Our Association structure and the size of the country led the President to undertake it on a regional basis which has its own benefits and demands. This initiative has further required the expansion of the detail in the constitutional writ of the Association to ensure that it can receive and develop the funding needed to create and maintain an expanded VPP network in Canada, with a view to empowering people in and out of uniform, to identify fellow Patricias (of any stripe and name) who need help, and being able to direct them or lead them to an appropriate helping agency or person.

The initiatives undertaken by the Association clearly demonstrate the requirement in the post-operational community to address the whole and broader regimental family as part of the bigger military community that is struggling to combat the vicious disease of PTSD and to care for the wounded veterans and their families, who also suffer and who also need to be a focus of our efforts.

This work by the PPCLI Association deserves the support of us all as individuals and all three entities of the PPCLI. It provides a very clear purpose for the continued relevancy of the Association and adds significantly to its sustainability. It can be, with the other themes of generosity (bursaries, youth support, comradeship) in the Association's activities, transformative. This initiative, as well as others that are being discussed to augment the breadth of support effort, calls out to all of us to rally to the help of those who need our love and support, whether or not they know it or know how to ask for it.

BGen V.W. Kennedy, OMM, MSM, CD (Ret'd)
Colonel of the Regiment

President's Report

9 November 2018

It has been a very busy and productive time for the PPCLI Association since my last President's report in the Spring Newsletter and at the 2018 AGM in Medicine Hat. The Mental Health and Suicide Awareness Workshops have been a tremendous success. 74 Patricias, including six wives, have completed the five workshops conducted so far. In addition, 40 other individuals from a wide range of organizations also participated in the workshops. The cost of conducting the five workshops has been about \$27,000 and it was well worth the expense. The PPCLI Foundation intends to provide \$8,000 for the Calgary workshop and True Patriot Love provided \$14,000 which will be used to fund the Kingston workshop and a portion of costs for an upcoming workshop in Winnipeg 26 – 28 April 2019.

To date, the Volunteer Patricia Program has helped over 35 individuals. 4 were Association members and 6 were non Patricias. Cases have been referred to us by VETS Canada, other agencies, local Branches or by word of mouth. The point is that we are helping people in need by referring them to the appropriate support agency and providing them with social support. The common factors are a lack of social support and not knowing where to go for assistance. We are making a difference in peoples' lives and wellbeing.

It became obvious to me during the Mental Health and Suicide Awareness Workshops that the participation, care and support provided by wives is critical to everyone's wellbeing. It was at this point that I realized we did not have wives or partners on the National Board of Directors. I brought this concern to the Board and we will recruit wives to join the National Board of Directors. Specifically, we intend to nominate two wives to the Board at the next AGM in Edmonton on 7 – 8 August 2019. For wives who are interested in joining the Board of Directors please let your Branch President know or Mike Austdal who is the Nominating Committee Chair.

The Board of Directors has established a Veterans and Family Support committee that will focus on the support we provide families and how to improve Association efforts. Peter Leger has agreed to head this new committee and will be assisted by Arthur and Brittany Laramie, Chris Klodt and others. I strongly believe that these individuals will move the Association forward in how we assist Veterans and their families.

We are in the process of updating the charitable objectives for the Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund. Adding these new objectives will not be simple. They will require close coordination with the Canada Revenue Agency and may take a couple of years before appropriate approvals are granted. However, they will result in a wider range of objectives that will support Veterans and their families for decades to come. We intend to add:

Mental Health and Suicide Awareness training;

Veterans and Family Support in the areas of:

- a) relieving poverty and promoting a healthy environment by assisting with the cost of home modifications not covered by the Canadian Armed Forces or Veterans Affairs Canada;
- b) relieving poverty and promoting a healthy environment by assisting with medical costs or equipment not covered by the Canadian Armed Forces, Veterans Affairs Canada or Provincial Health Care;

- c) relieving poverty and promoting a healthy environment by assisting with the provision or construction of housing for homeless veterans and families;
- d) relieving poverty by reducing financial burdens for Veterans and their families who have significant debt and are unable to meet immediate bills;
- e) promoting a healthy environment by providing support to Military Family Resource Centers and the programs that they conduct in support of serving soldiers, veterans and their families:
- f) promoting a healthy environment by providing support to Veterans Care and other agencies that assist veterans with homelessness, substance abuse, mental health and other issues or that need long term support;
- g) promoting a healthy environment by assisting with costs related to the training and provision of PTSD Service Dogs;
- h) promoting a healthy environment by supporting alternate therapy methods such as Art, Music, Equine, Outdoor adventure, Hunting Camps, Virtual Reality and others developed or to be developed by mental health professionals; and
- i) promoting a healthy environment by assisting with costs relating to physical fitness and specialized equipment when all other sources have been exhausted.

Supporting the above objectives will only be possible if we have the funds available and increase our fundraising efforts. Fundraising is a topic that everyone dislikes but it is a critical component in our ability to support Veterans and their families. As of 31 August 2018, we have raised \$7,317.84 of a \$26,000 goal. This has a direct impact on the programs that the Association can support. This year we funded the following:

Mental Health and Suicide Awareness Workshops	\$25,700
Student Bursaries	\$21,000
PPCLI Cadet Corps	\$ 9,068
Regimental Museum	\$10,000
Wounded Warriors	\$ 5,000
Soldier On	\$ 1,500
Memorial Maintenance	\$ 140
Total	\$72,408

In order to provide the same level of support in future years, we must improve our fundraising, especially if we wish to continue the Mental Health and Suicide Awareness Workshops and increase support to Veterans and Families. You can donate by etransfer to association@shaw.ca, by cheque to Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund, 4520 Crowchild Trail SW, Calgary AB T2T 5J4 or by using Canada Helps <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/hamilton-gault-memorial-fund/>

100 years ago, the First World War ended in Mons. This newsletter contains an article written in 1968 by McG 39 Lt ML Hancock, MC of the 2nd McGill University company on his experiences during the liberation of Mons. Our next newsletter will have an article by LCol (Retired) Richard MacIntosh, CD who will represent the PPCLI Association at the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War. Richard's uncle BGen JA Clarke CMG, DSO commanded 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade who liberated Mons on 11 November 1918. Richard also commanded the 2 PPCLI delegation for the 50th Anniversary.

I would like to thank all those who took the time to attend the Mental Health and Suicide Awareness Workshops. It is because to you and your desire to help that we will be successful. In addition, a special thank you to Dougal Salmon, Brian Forbes Colgate, Stephen Bartlett, Jim Croll, Marv Makulowich and Sgt Blake Dunphy for the support you provided in hosting all the workshops across Canada. Thank you, Mike Wind for putting this newsletter together despite the personal challenges you have faced and overcome this year due to cancer.

I ask everyone to reach out to those who served with the Regiment and are not members of the Association. The fact that the majority of people we have helped to date were not members of the Association speaks for itself. It has been pointed out on numerous occasions that Sgts and below, medically released with less than 10 years' service, are the group that have the most challenges. The Association is making a difference in peoples' lives and we are continuing what was started by the PPCLI Service Clubs in 1917.

Paul Hale
President

MEMBERS WANTED!

FOR

PRINCESS PATRICIA'S CANADIAN LIGHT INFANTRY ASSOCIATION

1916 - First PPCLI Service Clubs established to assist veterans

1947 - PPCLI Association established by Hamilton Gault

1953 - Association incorporated

1964 - Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund established

Qualifications: Have served or deployed with the Regiment.

Desire to assist fellows soldiers when they need help.

**Incentives: Recently released Patricias automatically
qualify for a free, three year Basic E-Membership**

DON'T WAIT ☆ GET INVOLVED NOW ☆ HELP OTHER VETERANS

**CHECK OUT ☆ WWW.PPCLIASOC.CA ☆ FOR A BRANCH NEAR YOU
OR JOIN AS A E-MEMBER**

10 Reasons to join the PPCLI Association

1. **Once a Patricia, Always a Patricia.** We are all part of this Regimental family. Regardless of your background, your length of service or your 'next bound'. You will always be a Patricia and welcome in The Association. Did you know that the Association offers a free three-year National membership for those released or retired since April 2016? Take advantage of this. In particular, if you are a medical release. We are here to help!!!
2. **Volunteer Patricia Program (VPP).** The VPP supports serving, released and retired Patricia's and their families who need assistance. Since June 2017, they have helped over 35 individuals who were either homeless, dealing with extensive medical bills, needed help travelling to medical appointments or needed a fire team partner. We need more VPP volunteers with the time and energy to help others.
3. **Mental Health and Suicide Awareness.** The Association has aggressively promoted Mental Health and Suicide Awareness. We have conducted five workshops to date and trained over 75 Patricias on Mental Health and Suicide Awareness. The next workshop will be in Winnipeg 26 – 28 Apr 19. Get involved and attend a workshop so that you can help your brothers and sisters. Saving one life makes it worthwhile.
4. **Education.** In 2018, the Association awarded 18 Student Bursaries for a total of \$21,000. This program is available to serving, released and retired Patricia's, including wives, children and grandchildren. Applications must be submitted by 15 July of each year
5. **Support to Veterans and Families.** In 2018 and beyond, the Association will provide financial support to Col Belchner Centre in Calgary, Kipnes Centre for Veterans in Edmonton and Valour Place Edmonton. We have created a Veterans and Family Support Committee that will provide advice on how best to assist Veterans and Families. We are actively looking for wives to join the Board of Directors.
6. **Cadets.** Our 'Farm Team.' Young people who work hard to perpetuate our Regiment. The Association provides Regimental hat badges, shoulder flashes and financial support to PPCLI Affiliated Cadet Corps. Cadets will benefit from your mentorship.
7. **Regimental History and Heritage.** Memorials to the fallen are sacred and must be preserved. As part of the 100th, the Association raised \$300,000 for Patricia Park in Edmonton, completely refurbished Frezenberg at a cost of \$65,000, Lansdowne, Ottawa at \$25,000 and designed and paid for the Memorial Baton. The Association maintains Frezenberg, Lansdowne, Patricia Park and other Regimental Memorials.
8. **Regimental Museum.** The Museum preserves our achievements and history. They depend on funding and volunteers. The Association supported the museum's operations and outreach by donating \$10,000 for the Victoria Cross and 81 mm Mortar displays.
9. **Fundraising.** The Association cannot accomplish the above without money. Every 18 months, the Calgary Branch Casino raises between \$60-80,000. The average return on Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund investments is \$25,000 per year and a further \$8 - 10,000 is donated by Association members. With more support, we can have an even greater impact.
10. **Regimental Influence.** There are 14 Branches across Canada and each hold several social activities based on the desires of their membership. Branches keep the Regimental spirit alive and often assist individuals within their local area. There is no rank in the Association. If a retired or released Pte/Cpl/MCpl, etc.. does not like the way things are going they can voice their opinion and be heard. Get involved in a Branch and help chart the Way Ahead for the Branch and Association. The Association is not just for 'Old

Geezers.' It is your Association – get involved and steer it towards activities that interest you.

Serving members can join and those long retired are also welcome! National dues are \$25.00 a year and cover the costs of operating the Association.

FIND OUT MORE at: <http://www.ppcliassoc.ca/> on how to contact your local branch or join as an e-member.

The bottom line is the Regiment needs the Association and we need you!!! We work behind the scenes, building and protecting our legacy so that the serving component can get on with making history.

Volunteer Patricia Program (VPP) Update

In simple terms, the purpose of the VPP is to help others find the help they need. We are not professional caregivers, so we are not in a position to provide counsel or advice. We are caring Patricia's who stand by to assist a brother or sister who is having one or more of a wide range of problems to access the many support agencies that may be able to assist them.

Cases come to us through a variety of sources. VETS Canada's focus is on homeless veterans. We have a good working relationship with VETS Canada and they are happy to have us assist them with their Patricia clients. VETS Canada will get them off the street and into a safe environment. There are usually underlying problems that VETS Canada may get a start at defining and arranging initial treatment. Their primary request of VPP is to offer peer or buddy support to the individual as they continue to navigate various support agencies.

The Regimental Veterans Care (RVC) cell at RHQ is another source. The RVC identify the issue with VPP taking the lead in establishing and maintaining contact with the client. Working together, VPP and the RVC have been able to resolve most issues by sharing knowledge and contacts that are best placed to assist the client and then linking the client up with the appropriate resources.

We have had a number of cases that have been identified by Association members, whether through their direct contact with a person in need, or having it brought to their attention from another source. The first step in these instances is to reach out to the individual and **listen** to what they have to say. The reality is that some will have nothing to say, particularly during a first encounter. By maintaining contact though, we build trust that may lead to a more open conversation that will help us define what the problem or problems may be. Once we have that understanding, VPP Coordinators and the VPP Facilitator can look at options for assistance and then develop a plan of support that is offered to the client. It remains the client's decision on how to move forward however; and we must respect that decision.

A large percentage of cases are, not surprisingly, in the Edmonton area. A few others have been in the general area of another Association Branch. There have been many though that have been far from a local branch. In these cases, the VPP Facilitator has reached out to E-Members in the local area to seek their assistance. In all cases E-Members stepped up to the plate to assist another Patricia to get back on their feet and serve as a buddy in the process.

Below is a summary of cases since June 2017:

Total Cases – 33; Active – 3; Monitoring – 5; Closed - 25
Referred by Assn – 7; RVC – 8; VETS Canada – 11; Others – 7.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to those that I have reached out to for assistance in helping a brother or sister get the help they need. You have made a difference in people's lives.

Once a Patricia, Always a Patricia!
Dave Pentney
VPP Facilitator.

2018 PPCLI Student Bursaries

The PPCLI Association Bursary program had another successful year. We provided \$21,000 dollars to 18 outstanding applicants. We received 41 applications, which is a record for the Association. For the first time we had to sit for two days to properly review all the applications.

The selection committee was made up of a combination of Hamilton Gault Trustees, Association members and serving members. These included: Mike Austdal, Jim Croll, MWO Littlejohn, Ron McBride, Tim Penney and Don Irvine.

Each of the bursaries was named after a Regimental figure or an action and the successful recipient received a biography about the individual or event to help them further understand the significance Regimentally. This year's top bursary was named in the honour of Medak pocket and the outstanding actions by the 2nd Battalion in that action.

Recipients:



Rachel Hacualt is the daughter of a Patricia. She will be attending Queen's in the 5-year Concurrent Education program which will allow her to earn both a Bachelor of Science and Education. She received the \$2,000 Medak Pocket Bursary.



Shannon Mason is a military spouse, pursuing an education degree at Queen's. She received the \$1,500 Capt James Decoste Bursary. James was a member of 2 PPCLI and died on 18 September 1993 in a vehicle accident between Medak and Gracac Croatia



Madelaine Ricard is the daughter of a Patricia and cadet. She is attending the University of Manitoba in the Arts and received the \$1,500 Pte John Prezenski Bursary. John was an 18-year-old soldier who had just completed his basic infantry training and was posted to 3 PPCLI, Victoria in September 1976. He was tasked to crew command an M113, Armoured Personal Carrier on an administrative air move from Victoria to Wainwright. On the evening of 17 September 1976, the vehicle was part of a convoy moving from the airfield to the 3 PPCLI bivouac site in Wainwright. Tragically, the vehicle rolled at the junction of Black and White route. John was killed in the accident.



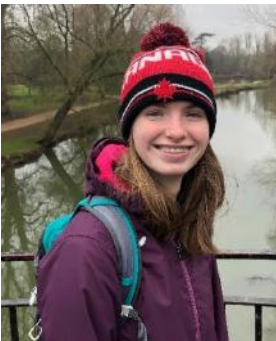
Michael Wickson is a serving officer who is pursuing a law career and received the \$1,500 Cpl Jean Marc Bechard Bursary. Cpl John Marc Bechard was a member of 2 PPCLI who was died in a vehicle accident on 6 August 1993. He had just returned from leave where he had been able to attend the birth of his first child and was able to hold his daughter Jannessa before he returned to the Balkans. Tragically he was crushed between two vehicles when one truck rolled backwards.



Alissa Keer is the daughter of a retired Patricia enrolled in Management with the University of Alberta in Camrose. She received the \$1,500 LCol AG Pearson, MC, DCM Bursary.



Jordan Cox is a former Patricia who is attending Algonquin College in Community and Justice Services. He received a \$1,000 Cpl Neil MacKinnon Bursary.



Gillian Cameron is the granddaughter of a Patricia and will attend the University of Alberta in Science. She received a \$1,000 Calgary Branch Bursary.



Collen Taylor is daughter of a Patricia and is finishing her Master of Social Work at University of Victoria. She received a \$1,000 Edmonton Branch Bursary.



Cayla Johnston is the granddaughter of a Patricia and will attend social sciences at McMaster. She received a \$1,000 Ottawa Branch Bursary.



Mackenzie Vickers is the daughter of a Patricia, attending the University of Calgary in English and History. She received a \$1,000 Wainwright Branch Bursary.



Cali Bruce is the daughter of serving members and is Attending Acadia to become a psychologist. She received a \$1,000 Hamilton Gault Bursary.



Blake Peloquin is the great grandson of a Patricia. He is attending UBC where he is pursuing a Science degree. He received a \$1,000 Hamilton Gault Bursary.



Teagan Cameron is the granddaughter of a Patricia, will attend University of Alberta in the Arts. She received a \$1,000 Hamilton Gault Bursary.



Dayne Bicketon is the son of a Patricia, attending Brandon University to become a teacher. He received a \$1,000 Hamilton Gault Bursary.



Jessica Martella-Ross is a military spouse attending Brandon University in 3rd year Sociology. She received a \$1,000 Hamilton Gault Bursary.



Dustin Gray is a former Patricia pursuing culinary management training as a Chef. He received a \$1,000 Hamilton Gault Bursary.



Karis Callaway is in the final year of her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology in military mental health issues. She received a \$1,000 Hamilton Gault Bursary.

Justin Barrette is the daughter of a Patricia pursuing a degree in Biotechnology. She received a \$1,000 Hamilton Gault Bursary.

Annual Ceremonial Review
2837 RCACC (PPCLI) Yellowknife

2837 RCACC held its Annual Ceremonial Review on 3 June 2018. The Reviewing Officer was Maj Jeff Tebo from 3PPCLI. It was the first time in many years that a serving Patricia Officer was able to visit the Corps and be their Reviewing Officer. The Corps was very pleased, and the parade was a great success. Many thanks to RHQ, 3 PPCLI and the PPCLI Association for supporting our Cadet Corps.



Maj Jeff Tebo, CD and Capt Sharon Low, CD

Association Membership

PPCLI Association Membership as of 04 Nov 2018						
Branch	Active	Membership by Location				
	Mbrs					
Atlantic	70	Alberta	370	Nova Scotia	50	
Calgary	91	Arizona	1	Nunavet	1	
Cypress Hills	7	BC	222	NWT	2	
Edmonton	118	California	1	Ontario	287	
Fraser Valley	44	China	1	PEI	3	
Kingston	31	Colorado	1	Philippines	2	
Man NW Ontario	49	Florida	2	Quebec	3	
Mid Van Island	23	Japan	1	Saskatchewan	31	
Ottawa	39	Manitoba	70	South Korea	1	
Saskatchewan	26	Minnesota	1	Texas	1	
SW Ontario	72	New Brunswick	29	United Kingdom	4	
Vancouver	0	Netherlands	1	Wisconsin	1	
Victoria	28	Newfoundland	10	Yukon	3	
Wainwright	12					
E Mbrs	197					
Total	807					

Regimental History

THE LAST ONE HUNDRED DAYS – START LINE AMIENS

Submitted by MWO (Ret'd) R.J. Sutherland CD

It is hard to put into words the thoughts and emotions a retired soldier has when walking through the battlefields and cemeteries of his comrades who paid the ultimate sacrifice. Especially when two of those who fought in the Battle of Amiens 100 years ago were close relatives. My Grandfather “Pte John Stowe”, served with the PPCLI during this battle and all that followed until his repatriation to Canada in 1919. Also, my Great Uncle “Pte William Sutherland”, who served with the 72nd Battalion (British Columbia Regiment) fought in this battle and two months later was killed in action on 29 September 1918 near Sancourt Village while the Battalion was advancing towards Cambrai.

As well, I had two more Great Uncles who served with PPCLI during the First World War. One was wounded and missing (Pte Edgar Stowe) on 8 May 1915 and was “Struck off Strength” after the Battle of Frezenberg. It was later found that he was one of seventeen Patricia’s taken as Prisoners of War that day by the Germans. Two years later on 22 Oct 1917 he escaped from the Munster POW Camp in Germany through Holland and back to England and was awarded the Military Medal. My other great uncle, Pte William Stowe fought with PPCLI and was wounded on 15 September 1916. He was evacuated back to England where he was treated and later was posted to the 7th and later still to the 6th Battalion. Another Great Uncle (Lt George Stowe) served with the 9th Battalion and later the 7th Battalion Canadian Railway Troops. In August 1917 he was “Blowed up and Shell Shocked” according to his medical records and eventually returned to Canada. My Great Great Grandfather Pte Robert Smylie served with the 238th Canadian Forestry Battalion. So, I have a long history with PPCLI (including myself from 1972 – 1980) and the First World War.

The Patricia’s were part of the 3rd Canadian Division, 7th Infantry Brigade along with the Royal Canadian Regiment, 42nd Battalion CEF, 49th Battalion CEF, 7th Machine Gun Company CEF and the 7th Brigade Trench Mortar Battery CEF. Also, within the Division was the 8th and 9th Infantry Brigades as well as the 3rd (Disbanded in May 1917) and 123rd Canadian Pioneer Battalions (which became the 3rd Canadian Engineer Brigade) and the 3rd Machine Gun Battalion CEF and 15th Machine Gun Company CEF.

The Battle of Amiens commenced on 8 August 1918. This was the start line for the last 100 days of World War One. Over 600,000 men of the armies of Great Britain (including Canada) and Ireland fell in battle during the Great War. Canada’s triumphs during the last 100 days of the war were impressive to say the least but came at a high price. In the Four Canadian Divisions more than 6,800 Canadians and Newfoundlanders were killed and approximately 39,000 wounded during the last days of the war. By the end of the war Canada, with 650,000 men and women in uniform, had lost 66,000 dead and 170,000 wounded. The sacrifices and achievements of those who gave so much in the effort to restore peace and freedom are not forgotten.

Veterans Affairs Canada asked the seven Regimental Associations whose members of those units won the Victoria Cross during or just after the Battle of Amiens to nominate a member as part of the official delegation. The Royal Regiment of Canada, The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada, Le Royal 22e Regiment, The North Saskatchewan Regiment, The Royal Winnipeg Rifles, The Royal Newfoundland Regiment and of course the Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry.

For the Patricias it was Sgt Robert Spall. In August 1915 he joined the 90th Infantry Battalion CEF and later was posted to PPCLI during which time he became a Sergeant. Sgt Spall earned his Victoria Cross in Parvillers, France during enemy action on 12 and 13 August 1918. His Citation reads:

“For most conspicuous bravery and self-sacrifice when, during an enemy counter-attack, his platoon was isolated. Thereupon Sgt. Spall took a Lewis gun and, standing on a parapet, fired upon the advancing enemy, inflicting very severe casualties. He then came down the trench directing the men into a sap seventy-five yards from the enemy. Picking up another Lewis gun, this gallant N.C.O again climbed the parapet, and by his fire held up the enemy. It was while holding up the enemy at this point that he was killed. Sgt Spall deliberately gave his life in order to extricate his platoon from a most difficult situation, and it was owing to his bravery that the platoon was saved.”

Sgt Spall has no known grave and is remembered on many monuments in Europe and Canada. One I visited was the Ring of Remembrance at the Notre Dame de Lorette. This ring of brass has every name of every soldier, friend or foe, who died for his country engraved in it.

The Canadian Delegation included 15 delegates plus the Ministers Staff who did an excellent job of coordination during the 6 – 10 August 2018 celebration. The delegation assembled in Quebec City on 5 August prior to the flight to France on the evening of 6 August and returned to Canada (except for myself who stayed an extra week) on the 10th August. A fast trip indeed and crammed with tours and remembrance ceremonies before and after the 100th Anniversary celebration of the Battle of Amiens. Followed is a summary of each day’s events:

5 August Prior to any formal tours, three of us Veterans (Rob Sutherland, Gerard Brennan and Doug Penner) had time to wander in the old City of Quebec. We passed the home station of the Voltigeurs de Quebec, the oldest French unit (1700 era) in Canada and had a private guided tour of the armoury as the final work was being completed after a fire several years ago. Many historical artifacts were saved and are back in in this magnificent building. In the afternoon we toured the Citadel and the Plains of Abraham followed later that night with a group dinner at the Hotel Chateau Laurier.

6 and 7 August After breakfast it was off to the Citadel for a tour of the R22R Regimental Museum. Then to the airport for Paris. Upon arrival Paris we checked into the hotel in Arras. That afternoon everyone participated in a tour of the Beaumont-Hamel Memorial and battle site.

8 August The 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Amiens, started in the morning with a Ceremony of Remembrance at Le Quesnel Canadian Memorial, then a reception at the local “Salle des Fetes” in the town of Le Quesnel. The ceremony was attended by local Memorial Associations and numerous dignitaries from France and Canada. It was quiet, giving time to think of our fallen comrades and what they accomplished and very appropriate to honor our Canadians separate of the main anniversary celebrations planned for later in the day. The Act of Remembrance was recited in both English and French, Last Post was played, and wreaths laid in remembrance. The reception allowed everyone to reflect on the ceremony and provided a “meet and greet” atmosphere but with challenges for those including myself who were not bilingual.

The ceremony to mark the Centennial of the Battle of Amiens took place at the Notre Dame Cathedral in Amiens in the afternoon. Security was tight with thousands of people attending including dignitaries from the United Kingdom and representatives from many Commonwealth countries, France, Canada, Australia, United States and Germany. His Royal Highness, Prince William, Prime Ministers,

Presidents, Ambassadors, Members of Parliament and Senates, Military Commanders from all countries, attaches, local and regional politicians, Civilians of all ages, Cadets from all branches and our Canadian delegation all gathered for one reason.

To remember our fallen comrades of 100 years ago at the start of the “Last One Hundred Days”.

After an initial welcome from the Bishop of Amiens, His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Prince William started with a reading about the Battle of Amiens and was followed by many others with readings from war dairies, letters to home, nurses’ stations, messages to the troops, messages from Commanders to Politicians, personal memoirs and diaries. In between the readings the United Kingdom Youth Choir and the Royal Air Force band performed. The readings provided everyone a picture of the day 100 years ago. A day that was the start of the end of the Great War.

On the first day of the Battle of Amiens, the Canadian Corps drove the German Army back 13 kilometers in the vicinity of Le Quesnel. The battle started at 0420 when Allied guns opened fire and more than 600 tanks accompanied the Canadian Corps on what would be the first battle of Canada’s One Hundred Days. The Germans were not prepared for an attack of such magnitude and many surrendered almost immediately.

German General Erich von Ludendorff said Aug 8 was “the black day of the German Army.....We have reached the limits of our capacity. The war must be terminated.”

The Battle of Amiens started with deception almost three weeks earlier when Field Marshall Sir Douglas Haig, commanding the British Expeditionary Force, told Canadian General Currie that the Canadians were to spearhead the attack at Amiens. Whenever the Canadians entered the front lines, the Germans expected an attack. The plan was to hide the Canadians move from the Arras to Amiens. Within days, two Canadian Battalions, signal and medical units moved north to Flanders in Belgium, deliberately not taking any care to keep their communications secret. Senior Officers visited the Flanders area, openly doing a reconnaissance as if for an assault, while soldiers received orders to “KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT”. Soon units quietly began to move south, using back roads and indirect routes to avoid detection. The guns were moved at the last minute on 6-7 Aug and the tanks were brought forward while Royal Air Force bombers flew back and forth over the front, making noise to hide the sounds of men and equipment getting in place. The 100,000-man Canadian Corps was flanked by the French on the south and the Australians to the north. The objective was to break through two enemy defense lines, located 3,000 and 9,000 metres east of the start line using three Divisions up and one in reserve. 646 guns supported the advance with heavy emphasis on counter-battery work, destroying and suppressing the enemy guns. At 0420 the Canadians went “over the top” under cover of fog and smoke and caught the surprised enemy sleeping. Enemy units disintegrated. Third Division engineers threw pre-built bridges across the Luce River and the tanks “creeping down the slope like huge beetles” shot up enemy strongpoints. The strafing attacks from the air also hammered enemy positions.

Months of training paid off. Still, casualties were high where the Germans stood fast. The 4th Brigade of the 2nd Division lost 588 men, but it took its objectives including 17 guns, 71 machine guns and 1,000 prisoners. All along the front, the advance moved forward much faster than expected and before 0900 the Canadians had reached its first objective, the “Red Line” and by 1730 Canadian Troops were on the final objective, the “Blue Dot Line”. The advance, 13 kms in all to Le Quesnel, had been a triumph. Canadian Casualties on 8 August numbered 1,036 killed and 2,803 wounded. For once the gains seemed worth the losses.

The Germans shattered and broken had estimated losses of 27,000. They quickly moved reserve forces forward. Five fresh divisions and 300 aircraft created a new defense line and when day two of the Battle for Amiens started enemy artillery pounded the Canadians, throwing a varied assortment of pepper gas, tear gas and poison gas along with heavy machine gun fire and artillery shells. To go farther in the face of such firepower was daunting. After three days of intense fighting with more than 9,000 Canadian casualties, the attack had gained 22 kms and came to a halt. General Currie, joined by General Sir John Monash, commanding the Australian Corps, insisted to Field Marshall Haig that their efforts be halted and to their surprise he agreed. The Canadians soon moved out of the line and returned north to Arras to rest and prepare for the next battle.

The Allies, and the Canadians in particular, fought a very modern battle with deception and combined arms tactics in the forefront. The enemy understood the significance of Amiens. The Chief of the German General Staff, Field Marshall Paul von Hindenburg wrote later: **“I had no illusions about the political effects of our defeat on 8 August.....”** and as mentioned earlier his Chief Strategist, General Erich von Ludendorff finished his statement more bluntly **“.....We have reached the limits of our capacity. The war must be terminated.”** On 11 November 1918 at 11am around a table in Mons, Belgium the ceasefire was signed, and Canada’s Great War was over. Not soon enough for Regt # 256265 Pte George Price of the 28th Battalion Canadian Infantry. Just moments before the 11am ceasefire on 11 November 1918 he was killed in action and fell with a bullet to the heart. He is buried in the St. Symphorien Military Cemetery near Mons a few paces from the grave of the first British soldier to die in August 1914 at the start of the war.

From the PPCLI War Dairies

Tue, Aug 6, 1918 ST FUSCIEN, FRANCE

ST FUCIEN 6.8.18 Rain throughout the day. Instructions for the attack received. The Battn. moves 9 p.m. to GENTELLES Wood bivouacking in open. Transport moves to BOIS de BOVES Roads blocked with Tanks - infantry - artillery & transport &c - moving up

Wed, Aug 7, 1918 WEST OF GENTELLES, FRANCE

GENTELLES Wood 7.8.18 Fine. Bn. moves at 10 p.m. to MEKNES ALLEY in readiness to jump off on 8th the day fixed for surprise attack by Canadians - in conjunction with Australians on left & French on right to clear AMIENS PARIS railway

Thu, Aug 8, 1918 NORTHWEST OF DOMART, FRANCE

VALLEY Wood 8.8.18 The morning of the attack opened with a dense mist making it impossible to see more than a few yards - clearing later but remaining overcast all day. The offensive opened at 4.20. The 9th Brigade with 2 battalions of the 8th were to jump off and capture the enemy's positions up to the Green line (approx DEMUIN to road near Valley Wood) and the 7th C.I.B. were to pass through the 9th at Zero + 260 min (The operation orders having been changed) and capture the Red line (approximately the line of railway running from CAYEUX EN SANTERRE to AMIENS - ROYE Rd. (DEMUIN MAP - 1/20000 - Ed. 1). 1 Vi Coys of Tanks were assigned to operate with the 9th - Vz Coy. with the 8th and 1 Coy. with the 7th Brigades - all available tanks to advance with the latter from the Green line. Supply tanks were also allotted to carry S.A.A., bombs, water, tools, sandbags &c. The disposition of 7th Brigade was - R.C.R. on right - 42nd in centre - 49th on left with P.P.C.L.I. in Support following 800 yards behind the 42nd Battn.

There was no preliminary bombardment, but the action commenced with a short but very heavy barrage and the attacking battalions going over at Zero hour advanced to their objective, apparently taking

the enemy completely by surprise. At 4.40 a.m. the Battalion left MEKNES Trench by Companies and advanced to the Bridge crossing the river LUCE at DOMART at 6.15. Some shelling was experienced at this point. At 6.45 the Battalion assembled in the trench on the river East of road, behind the 42nd (500 yards) and continued to advance without any check - passing along 85 contour and [inserted: 1 & 2 Coys were] over hill 102 by 8.00 a.m. Bad shelling was experienced after passing HOURGES but not many casualties. At 7.45 we passed the B.H.Q. of the 52 Battn at C 5 c 6 8 and by 8.15 a.m. had reached & taken up the required position in the valley behind Hill 102 and established B.H.Q. at D.7. b.3.1.

1 German Machine gun and 2 Lewis guns - which were being used by the enemy were captured on the way up - together with a considerable quantity of material & documents. No. 3 Coy captured a German Battalion Commander and his staff & their documents - [inserted: who] together with 120 other prisoners taken by the battalion were passed to report centre. Everything appeared to be going well but the French were temporarily held up at VILLERS AUX ERABLES at 10 a.m. The Battalion bivouacked at Valley Wood for the night. Total casualties for the day being 1 O.R. killed, 4 wounded. Lt. JEAKEINS was wounded, these casualties occurring while passing through the swamp.

Fri, Aug 9, 1918 VALLEY WOOD [WEST OF BEAUCOURT], FRANCE

9.8.18 This and all the following days of the AMIENS battle were fine & hot, with moonlit nights. The Battalion moved from Valley Wood at 11 a.m. to starting point at B. [inserted: or D?] 14 d 6 1 and rendezvoused at just outside BEAUCOURT waiting there until the evening at 9 p.m. when they moved E. along the ROYE ROAD to a field at K 16 d near FOLIES the P.P. C.L.I, leading the main body followed by R.C.R. 42nd and 49th in the order named - 4 Coy forming the flank guard. The 8th Brigade passed through the 4th Division to FOLIES while 1st Division were on the left.

Sat, Aug 10, 1918 WEST OF FOLIES, FRANCE

10.8.18 A very hot day. The Battalion remained in bivouac all day & night. The 8th Brigade reported to have taken QUESNOY after hard fighting. The 32nd Imperial Division went through the 8th Brigade to attack PARVILLERS and suffered severe casualties. They were reported not to have advanced. The enemy shelling around FOLIES not very great, but from now on night bombing was abundant around FOLIES and further back owing to the great concentration of troops and bright moonlight.

Sun, Aug 11, 1918 WEST OF FOLIES, FRANCE

FOLIES 11.8.18 The 32nd [inserted: Div.] being still unable to advance the 7th Brigade were ordered up to relieve them, and take over from Royal Scots, Argyll & Sutherland & Lancashire Fusiliers and moved out after dark leaving behind at FOLIES the Transport & rear details.

Mon, Aug 12 to Thu, Aug 15, 1918 PARVILLERS, FRANCE

12/15 Aug The operations 12 - 15th are detailed in the narrative in Appendix 1 & the Battalion moved back to FOLIES on the night of the 15th. The casualties incurred 8-15 were Officers: Major L.V. DRUMMOND-HAY M.C. and LIEUT D.A. WRIGHT - killed & died of wounds respectively.; LIEUTS G. GRANT - C.B. REXFORD \ O.B. Rexford] - J. CHRISTIE and ML. HANCOCK wounded. LIEUT J. W. JEAKEINS wounded at duty Other Ranks: 23 killed & died of wounds. 113 wounded & 9 missing. LIEUT D.H. MacCartney joined from C.C.R.C. 29-7-18 acted as Liaison officer with 16th. 2 O.R. struck off 29/7 [18] & 11/7 [18] 4 O.R. struck off 6/7/18 LIEUT C.B. Hick struck off to Can. Mach. Gun Corps 17/7/18 58 O.R. joined 11/8/18

9 August Today was a day of remembrance. First, we headed to the Notre Dame de Lorette and the Ring of Remembrance where every soldier who fell in the Nord and in the Pas-de-Calais between

1914 and 1918 is remembered. The 580,000 names are listed alphabetically, without distinction made between rank or nationality, former enemies and friends' side by side. That includes the 294,000 soldiers from the British Empire. Two names I specifically looked for were my Great Uncle Pte. William Sutherland of the 72nd Battalion (BC Regt) and Sgt Robert Spall VC of PPCLI. It was mindboggling to walk around this memorial. Name after name after name made it hard to take in and wonder why. Lunch was at the Estimanet de Lorette Restaurant. Not too well known for Canadians but well known to France. Beside the restaurant was a French WW1 cemetery that contained 44,000 French Soldiers.

After lunch we went to the Canadian National Vimy Memorial. Another special place for me as both my Grandfather Pte. John Stowe and my Great Uncle Pte William Sutherland fought here and survived. We were briefed by Canadian students at Vimy, then a self-guided tour of the museum after which we had a guided tour of the bunkers, tunnels and trenches before heading up to the Vimy Memorial itself. Some 3,600 Canadians lost their lives in the fighting here and 7,000 more were wounded. The Vimy Monument does not just commemorate one battle. On its walls are inscribed the names of 11,285 Canadians who lost their lives during the First World War and have no known grave.

10 August Today the delegation packed up and returned to Canada with a reinforced respect for our Canadian Soldiers of the past, present and future. The night before, at the delegation farewell dinner, there wasn't a speech that didn't bring tears to your eyes. The speakers could barely make it through their reflection of the past few days.

I stayed an additional week. I needed to see more and reflect more on what and how my relatives contributed during both World Wars. When I joined the First Battalion Patricia's in 1972 I was proud to be able to follow in my Grandfathers and Great Uncles footsteps and say that I was a Patricia and even prouder of what the Patricia's did and have done during all wars since then.

10 – 17 August My plans when I left Canada was to go to all battle sites the Patricia's fought in during the last 100 days of the First World War and then head to some Second World War sites where my Uncles served but realized after the first few days in France that it would be impossible in the time I had. I was on my own and backpacking it with no guides.

I left Arras and headed to Cambrai. I did a self-tour of Sancourt Village which was one of the objectives of the 72nd Battalion (BC Regt) while advancing towards Cambrai. It was a small town, probably of no significance during the war except that it had Germans in it. It appeared that it had not changed since the war. I walked down a cobblestone road approximately 700 meters into a farmer's field and found the British War Cemetery that my Great Uncle Pte William Sutherland was buried. He rests with two of his comrades from the 72nd, killed on 29 September 1918. I really don't know of the details of their deaths so am speculating that Lieutenant C.D. Nicol DCM, Pte P. Bardgett and my Great Uncle could have been on a recce together and killed during that recce. I'm like anyone else in that I would speculate that their deaths were caused during some big battle in which they were the hero's that saved the day. Maybe a little unrealistic but they are still heroes in my eyes. I placed a Canadian Flag and a 2018 Canadian coin at the base of his headstone.

I wandered around Cambrai trying to figure out how to and how our comrades would have fought their way through it. Again, I noticed that all or most of the buildings destroyed during the war were rebuilt and still in use today.

From Cambrai, skipping the remaining First World War sites, I went to Antwerp, Belgium en-route to 's-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands which I used as a base to visit the area and the gravesite of my

Uncle killed along with most of his crew in the Second World War in Uden on 2 October 1942. My Uncle, Warrant Officer 1 Sidney Stowe (My Grandfather John Stowe's son) was a pilot in Bomber Command 419 Squadron RCAF flying Wellington Bombers with his crew into Germany. After bombing Bremen, Germany on their eighth mission and returning over Uden, Holland, they were shot down by a German Night fighter. In a nose dive My Uncle Sid gave the order to jump. Flight Sgt Nelan (Bomb Aimer), the first to jump, survived with a broken ankle and was taken prisoner. The plane by this time though was too low and the remaining crew, FO Arthur Morlidge (Air Observer), FSgt Hubert Price (Air Gunner), FO Harding Stuart (Wireless Operator), FSgt Svien Sveinson (2nd Pilot) and my Uncle hit the ground before their chutes opened and were all killed. They are buried together at the Uden War Cemetery in Uden, Netherland. I placed a Canadian flag and a 2018 Canadian coin at the base of his headstone.

From the Netherlands I headed to Normandy and Juno Beach. I spent two days wandering the beach, Courseulles sur-mer, Bernieres sur-mer and of course the Juno Museum. Canadian Flags, monuments and plaques commemorating Canadian Units cover the boardwalk on Juno Beach. It was low tide as I walked the beach just as it was when the Canadians "Hit the Beach" on 6 June 1944. They had a long way to go before they had cover. I was imagining my wife's Uncle Able Seaman Sid Larsen, who was with the RCNVR aboard the troop/supply ship HMCS Prince Henry and was a Machine Gunner on one of the Landing Crafts during the first wave of D-Day. He could not remember for sure but believed he was bringing in the Canadian Scottish and as well could not remember how many times he left with wounded and returned with more troops. Assuming it was the Canadian Scottish, that would put him landing someplace around the Juno Beach Museum. Those bunkers, near the museum, were the ones that may have been shooting at him and caused the nightmares he had for the rest of his life. He passed away at 92 years old on 1 Sept 2017. He received the French Legion of Honor for his contributions during D-Day on 24 March 2015 at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #99 in Sicamous, BC.

Again, I spent a lot of time wandering around the town and must acknowledge the French for maintaining the buildings that are in the hundreds of years old in such good condition. The Juno Beach Museum (new in comparison) was staffed by Canadian students either on breaks or have taken a semester off from university. They represented Canada well and provided a tour of the facilities and bunkers with a high level of knowledge. The museum is impressive and the short film at the entrance on the D-Day landings made the hair on the back of my neck stand up. I took about five hours to go through the museum.

I spent my last day touring battle sites in Caen which was an impressive city. Of course, I went directly to the oldest part of the city, so I could get a feel of its wartime history. There I found and toured the core of Caen as it was in 1066 AD. The old walls and buildings are amazingly in great shape, I'm sure after numerous restorations over its thousand-year history.

Then off to Paris where I left the next day for Canada wishing I had taken an extra two weeks in conjunction with the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Amiens. Missed on this trip was Ypres (Flanders Field), Mons, Frezenberg and Dieppe. They will stay on my bucket list.

Remembrance Day has always been important to me. Now, thanks to the PPCLI Association and Veterans Affairs Canada, I have a visual experience that will enhance the Act of Remembrance solemnly stated on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

"WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"

Quevrain to Mons-November 1918

“OR RETURN TO MONS”

By Lt ML Hancock, MC

The article below was published in the 1968 *Patrician* and it is only fitting that it be repeated on the 100th Anniversary of the Liberation of Mons and the end of the First World War. McG 39 ML Hancock joined the *Patricias* in the field on 1 September 1915. He was promoted to Lt on 21 November 1917, wounded in action on 14 August 1918 and struck off strength on 20 March 1919. He was awarded the Military Cross for action in and around Mons.

A reunion of veterans of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, held in Ottawa in September of this year (1968), was for many of us both an historic occasion and a satisfying experience. The meeting marked the fiftieth anniversary of the last hundred days of the First World War. Old comrades were met, old talks were retold and pledges of brotherhood renewed. Returning home, the reading of a newly arrived book by Ralph Hodder William – “Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, 1914-1919”, Second Edition, brought some of those last great eventful days of the war into vivid focus. Thus I feel impelled to set is writing my experiences, in so far as they related to movements of Number 4 Company of my regiment, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in which I was a Platoon Commander.

The enemy was in full retreat. By the morning of November 7th, we had crossed from France into Belgium and arrived at Quevrain preparatory to taking over the front line of advance. By the morning on November 9th our Company had been advancing rapidly for two days and two nights meeting only sporadic resistance from the retreating enemy. Morale was very high. We were conscious of the fact that we were now in historic Belgium, not as conquerors, but as liberators. Some inner force, doubtless due to the years of frustrating trench warfare, gave us a strength we little knew we possessed. Our enthusiasm knew no bounds.

On this morning of November 9th, Number 4 Company, under the command of Captain A.C. White, was somewhere in the vicinity of the mining town of Jemappes, with scouts moving towards the city of Mons. The significance of the line of advance that had been assigned to us was clear. It was at Mons in August 1914 that British soldiers made their first stand against the advancing German Armies. Here we were in the same area and doubtless treading the same road. To be among those returning to the city in victory would be a great and symbolic honour.

Apparently, the German High Command had thoughts of another colour. We were to discover that we were not to take the city without a fight. About this time Captain White gave me a message to be personally delivered to battalion headquarters. This I accepted with some reluctance, not wanting to leave my platoon, but having been long enough in the army to know that the first duty of a soldier is to obey. Even to locate the regimental HQ under these open warfare conditions was a job in itself. Nearing the completion of my mission I was suddenly held up and surrounded by a crowd of civilians. They were holding a man they claimed was a German spy. They were in an ugly mood and appeared to want me to assist in lynching him on the spot. Telling them to stand back and firing a shot into the cobblestone road so that the sparks flew, I managed to extricate the man and marched him off to battalion HQ. Here I lost no time in getting rid of him and delivering the message.

My chief concern now was to get back to my advancing company. I had my map of operations and proceeded eastward, keeping in sight of the Valenciennes-Mons railway which was marked as our left flank. I was running through open fields about midway between the railway and Jemappes-Mons road and could see the city in the distance. This area of open fields gradually narrowed down to a point where the road crossed a

bridge over the railway and into the suburbs of Mons. Not having caught up with the company did not worry me when I considered the speed of their advance. I was conscious of occasional rifle shots but passed on and finally arrived at the bridge. By running diagonally over the bridge and diving into cover on the embankment on the south side I felt I was safe. A cautious civilian at the same spot rapped out something to the effect that I was running into the German line. Allemand! Allemand!

Naturally I got back to the West side of the bridge in a hurry, and the question was "Where now?" I no time at all, by retracing my steps, I saw infantry advancing in single file down the Jemappes-Mons road. It was Captain (Cyril) White in the lead, who exploded as could be expected, "Where the hell did you come from?" So far I can remember my only reply was "Don't go over that bridge."

We flattened out, relaxed and discussed the next move. It was evident we needed more information. Fortunately, twilight was falling. With two or three scouts I returned over the bridge and into a deep ditch, again on the south side of the road. We ran up the ditch to a point where we were stopped by a large house closely abutting the road. All was quiet. It appeared safe to proceed to the front of the house where a dim light was coming from the basement. When I knocked on the front door a voice from within called "Je viens". At the same time a machine gun in another building, somewhat further along on the other side of the road, opened up on the house. In a split second I was through a half open driveway gate, immediately east of the house, frantically vaulting backyard fences back to the other members of my scout party. We could clearly see the building from which the firing came but it was too far away for us to reach with Mills hand grenades. By the same token it was foolish to think we could do them any damage by firing single rifle shorts. With darkness coming on we had to go for further directions.

Captain White advised giving the machine gun nest a dose of rifle grenades. These rifle grenades were the same as the hand grenades but adapted to be fired from a rifle. Duly equipped, back we went with the rifle grenades and fired off our salvo. This time there was no answer. Now we knew the birds had flown and we were able to send back the message 'all clear'.

With the company continuing its advance and feeling myself somewhat relieved of duty I could not resist going to the house again, this time with more caution and, to the back door. I shall never forget the excited cry of the person who came up from the basement to answer my knock. A long "Ah-a-a C'est un Anglais". The next few moments were an indescribable mixture of hugs and kisses, offerings of bread and cakes, lifting up of little children, anything to express their joy. It was the home of Monsieur DeFrise and Madame DeFrise, who with their daughters, neighbours and children were nineteen in all in that basement. Being afraid of losing contact with my comrades, and assuring them I would return, I explained it was necessary to go on. For me the day's work was over. On the floor of a smaller house, a few doors down the street which served as company HQ, sleep overcame me.

Our senior officers were busy overnight and were ready with a further plan of advance with the coming of daylight. While it was still dark our advance elements were held up again at another smaller bridge over a watercourse near a bend in the road leading to Avenue Jemappes. It was November 10th and the attack was to start with the first dim light of dawn. Lieut W. (Bill) Popey was to rush the bridge and proceed along the left flank of the main road leading into Mons. I was to follow with my men on the right side where there was a brewery and again a fairly deep ditch. Firing commenced with Popey's attack and if I remember rightly Bill and his men were advancing from tree to tree along the avenue using whatever cover they could get. Following with my men, and once in the ditch, our advance was easier. Beyond the brewery the ditch ended with a long line of row-housing closely fronting on the road. As we were not held up we proceeded by hopping the back yard fences and kitchen gardens of these houses. It was just too easy and we advanced farther than proved sensible. Suddenly there was a loud noise of shouting and rushing of feet. It

was an enemy counter attack in the street out front. We had only seconds to get into one of the empty houses by way of a back door, up the stairs and into a second story front room with a window overlooking the street. We were six in all.

It is difficult to describe how men act in such tense and dangerous situation. There was a deep consternation expressed in various ways. We knew we were completely cut off from our company and had no way of knowing how Popey and his men had fared. Calmness quickly returned, however, and seeing a German soldier in partial view standing immediately below the window, the boys wanted me to try and get him with my revolver. This I could not do without sticking my head out of the window. Big Monaghan volunteered to try. Standing on the inner window ledge, with his head near the ceiling and supported by someone else, he was able to draw a bead with his rifle on the helmet below. There was a sharp report and the brief "I got him".

There were shouts which indicated the enemy was trying to determine where the shot came from. This increased our sense of extreme danger. Had anyone tried to come in the back door and up the stairs he would not have lived long. This sense of crisis continued until shelling started. The buildings we were in being the target. At this time, we thought it was our own artillery but later learned it was enemy shelling. Some German infantry the we could see, had retired to the railway station approximately two hundred yards east into the city. Bricks and tiles were flying in all directions. Fortunately, no shell made a direct hit on the roof above our hideout.

Prior to the shelling we had kept a guard on the stairway and back door relieving each other from time to time as the strain became too intense.

In particular I remember the courage of Monaghan. Off duty he was always getting into one scrape or another, but when under fire he was superb. It has always been difficult for me to remember names, but the name of Monaghan is dented into my memory as if graven in stone. Finally, the shelling stopped and there was absolute quiet. With a cry of "Now's our chance", we were out the back door of the house as quickly as we had gotten into it. Leaping the fences, we rejoined our company at the site of the brewery. Our comrades said that we had been given up for dead or captured. We rejoiced to learn that there had been few casualties. It was now nearing nightfall and difficult to believe that these experiences had occupied the daylight hours of just one day.

That night the 42nd, Canadian Battalion leapfrogged our position and pressed on into the heart of the city. Our tired Company followed into the city behind them. All that I can recall is that by dawn I was getting to sleep in a small hotel with the pleasure of being between white sheets.

At some time, past 11 a.m. I was awakened by Lieutenant (Robbie) Robinson. "Get up, get up Hanny", he called. "Look out the window, the Armistice is signed. The War is over". Incredible! Throughout these last hectic days, no word had come through to us that the war was about to be ended. But it was true, too good to be true. From the window I saw in the street below another never to be forgotten sight. Masses of people parading arm in arm and hand in hand. Other groups were in excited conversations. Bands were playing. Belgium flags and bunting were being strung up everywhere. Never had three colours appeared to me so beautiful as the rich red, orange and black of the Belgium national emblem. Among ourselves we Canadians were quietly congratulation each other for having come safely through a long war. Now, some of us said, perhaps we may live to be eighty. In the terrible years and days just ended possible death had never been far away. I remember a caption over an Estaminet door, "A la terrible ans 1914-1918". Now happily, all was over.

Presentation of PPCLI World War I drum to Mons Memorial Musuem

The Mons Memorial Museum has a display of Military Drums from all units that participated in the Liberation Parade on 11 November 1918 with the exception of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Earlier this year, the Mons Museum approached the Regiment about the possibility of acquiring a drum in order to complete their collection.



At the end of the First World War, LCol James (Pinky) Carvossa, MC obtained a Regimental Drum. While in his possession, the drum received some modifications, including the addition of the Second World War badges. It was the only known surviving Patricia drum of that model from the First World War. In 2013, his family donated the drum back to the Regiment.

In 2014, the drum was restored to First World War British Army standards and placed back into service for the 100th Anniversary of the Regiment. In November 2018 the drum was presented to the Mons Memorial Museum in honour of the 100th Commemoration of the then of the First World War.

Dedication of Passchendaele VC Plaque – 10 November 2018

The Genootschap Passchendaele Society 1917 is a registered non-profit volunteer organization in the Passchendaele who will install a blue plaque at the former Town Hall of Passchendaele to commemorate the nine Canadian soldiers who were awarded a Victoria Cross at Passchendaele. Blue plaques are a traditional way of drawing the attention of those who pass by historic events, locations or people. They are instrumental in attracting attention in the public space, despite their simple design.

They approached the PPCLI Association and requested assistance in funding a portion of the cost to install the plaque. The Association agreed to provide \$225 towards this project.

Between 31 July 1917 and 10 November 1917, the largest battle ever fought on Flanders soil raged in the area between Ypres and Passchendaele: The Third Battle of Ypres, commonly known as “Passchendaele 1917”. During 103 days of bitter fighting, soldiers of all parts of the former British Empire slowly advanced the frontline in the direction of Passchendaele, at an incredible cost. It would finally be the Canadian Expeditionary Forces (CEF) which, between 26 October 1917 and 10 November 1917 captured the ruins of the village and ended the battle.

In fourteen days, the CEF suffered some 16,000 losses, approximately 4000 of them lost their lives. Over the three-month period, the total number of casualties on both sides rose to nearly half a million, about a quarter of them paid the highest price.

During the fourteen-day period in which the Canadian Corps was engaged, nine of its men were rewarded the Victoria Cross (VC). This is the highest number ever obtained in one battle by Canadian troops. Two of these men were killed in the action which earned them the VC: Lieutenant McKenzie is commemorated at the Menin Gate, Private Robertson has his last resting place at Tyne Cot Cemetery. Surprisingly, there was no reminder of this exceptional story in the village.

The nine VC's

- Private Tommy Holmes- 4th Canadian Mounted Rifles
- Lieutenant Robert Shankland- 43rd Battalion Canadian Infantry
- Captain Christopher O'Kelly- 52nd Battalion Canadian Infantry
- Lieutenant Hugh McKenzie- Canadian Machine Gun Corps
- Sergeant George Mullin- Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry
- Private Cecil Kinross- 49th Battalion Canadian Infantry
- Major George Pearkes- 5th Canadian Mounted Rifles
- Corporal Colin Barron- 3rd Battalion Canadian Infantry
- Private James Robertson- 27th Battalion Canadian Infantry

It is intended to incorporate the unveiling in the annual Passchendaele Ceremony on 10 November 2018 as part of the official centenary programme of the Flemish Government. The Colonel of the Regiment and Regimental Major will hopefully attend the dedication on behalf of the Regiment



Schjelderup Plaque Replacement – 31 August 2018



HONOURING VALOUR AT SCHJELDERUP LAKE

Lieutenant Cameron Park

The Canadian Scottish Regiment
(Princess Mary's)

Soldiers from The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) and Second Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (2 PPCLI) returned from a joint excursion to Schjelderup Lake on Aug. 31. The purpose of the five-day trek was to replace a damaged marble plaque at the lake dedicated to Lieutenant-Colonel Roger Schjelderup, DSO, MC and Bar, CD.

Led by Lieutenant Evan Machin of The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) and Sergeant Lance Beavin of 2 PPLCI, the team moved through complex, mountainous terrain to Schjelderup Lake.

They carried a 45-pound bronze plaque and the myriad of tools required for the replacement and mounting.

"I kind of underestimated what the mountain would look like," said Corporal Matthew Rees of 2 PPLCI. "I thought

we would go up one steep embankment and ride a ridge all the way down into a valley and then see the mountain, but that wasn't the case. The ridge turned out to be a series of what I would call mountains, being from Manitoba."

As they moved through the challenging terrain members of the expedition reflected on the challenges faced by Lieutenant-Colonel Schjelderup during his wartime service.

He was born in Smithers, but grew up in Comox, British Columbia. In 1937, at the age of 15, he summited the nearby Golden Hinde after camping at the lake that now bears his name.

Serving with The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's), he landed with 'C' Company on Juno Beach on D-Day - June 6, 1944. Wounded in the fighting, he was awarded the Military Cross for Valour. Upon recovering from his wounds, he rejoined the regiment as it fought through Holland. During the assault across the Leopold Canal in

October of that year, he was wounded and captured during a German counterattack. Escaping from captivity, the then Captain Schjelderup and a small number of soldiers were sheltered by members of the Dutch resistance. After three months behind enemy lines, and intermittent encounters with German forces, he managed to lead members of his group to link up with British forces.

"I think we drew some inspiration from his story for sure," said Lieutenant Machin. "Not only was he at that lake as a 15-year-old before there was a trail, and with the hiking technology of the 1930's which would have been a challenge in itself, but also his adventures in the Second World War. The escape from the Germans and slogging through the icy fields of Holland, it's a really incredible story."

Drawing on the technical expertise of Master Corporal Denis Byrne of The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's), the group carefully removed the

damaged plaque and mounted the new one. Having previously placed a plaque in a remote setting, Master Corporal Byrne was enthusiastic about joining the team. He pointed to the benefits found in a challenging trek.

"The tradition of mountaineering builds fighting skills and teamwork. It helps you on the battlefield. It's very intimate, like you're living together and enduring hardship."

With the war over, Lieutenant-Colonel Schjelderup continued to serve with the Canadian Army in a variety of posts, including command of Second Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. While still serving, Lieutenant-Colonel Schjelderup passed away in 1974 due to illness related to his wartime injuries. He lies today in Sandwich Cemetery in Comox, BC.

The remains of the damaged plaque were retrieved to be shared with the two units and Lieutenant-Colonel Schjelderup's family.

Photo by Lt Evan Machin, C Scot R.
Members of The Canadian
Scottish Regiment
(Princess Mary's) and
Second Battallion, Princess
Patricia's Canadian Light
Infantry move along
Phillips Ridge en route
to Schjelderup Lake on
Vancouver Island.

Photo by Private Jordan Oakley, 2 PPCLI.

Top of page: The joint team of soldiers from Second Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's). From left: Sergeant Lance Bevan, Master Corporal Lucas Roy, Private Mike Albrecht, Private Donovan Scott, Master Corporal Jed Jackson, Corporal Nicolas Cazalals, Private Matthew Dimmers, Private Carlee Smith (kneeling), Corporal Jonathan Dick, Corporal Matthew Rees, Corporal Devin Baret, Corporal William Cable, Lieutenant Evan Machin (kneeling), Master Corporal Denis Byrne and Private Jordan Oakley.



Korean War Ceasefire Ceremony

Capt R. Dumas, Adjt Loyal Edmonton Regt

On 29 July 2018 at the Alberta Legislature – veterans and families, citizenry and military community and VIPs commemorated the 65th Anniversary of the signing of the Korean War ceasefire agreement. By no means has the war ended but stability and much better days have ensued for Republic of Korea (ROK). Veterans of Canadian and Korean descent along with serving members of First Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (and its Edmonton Branch, PPCLI Association) and cadets gathered to remember those that had fallen during the pursuit of peace on the Korean peninsula. Across Canada, Korean Canadians have visibly shown their unwavering gratitude for what our Korean War veterans have contributed in regard to securing their freedom and prosperity. These days, they are playing a greater role in the preservation of our veteran's legacy by way of ceremony and reception. The Edmonton Korean Canadian Association's support to the Korean Veterans Association of Canada, Unit 21 – Edmonton was absolutely sterling as was their reception featuring delicious Korean cuisine and hospitality.



Master of Ceremony Brian Gold welcomes participants and VIPs to this year’s event. Hidden from view are federal MPs, provincial MLAs, representatives from Edmonton City Council and supporting elements. Participants stand fast in the thirty-degree heat, remembering those that served during “The Forgotten War”.

The war began, 25 June 1950 - 2 PPCLI having sailed into Korea by that December; active fighting ceased 27 July 1953, with the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement. During that period, of the 26,791 Canadians that served, 1,558 were wounded, 516 were killed and 33 were taken as prisoners of war. Between the signing of the Armistice and the end of 1955, approximately another 7,000 Canadians served in that hostile theatre of operations. Canadian troops remained in the turbulent peninsula until 1957 as The Cold War brewed on. There are 378 Canadians, buried at the United Nations Military Cemetery in Busan.



Pictured is the Alberta Korean War Monument west of the Alberta Legislature’s front entrance, along the parking lot, in front of a beautiful garden. Included with the inscription are the names of Albertans that died during the fight. We Shall Remember Them.

Victoria Branch PPCLI Association highlights CFB Esquimalt Naval and Military Museum's "Korean War Exhibit"

At the CFB Esquimalt's Naval and Military Museum's exhibit of Canadian Force's involved in the Korean War, 1950 – 1953, currently in progress, the Victoria Branch of the PPCLI Association is instrumental in providing material for this display. Featured is this associated photograph, from the Ed Hansen collection, captioned "Korea 1951." This newsletter article is requesting assistance in naming the soldiers in the photograph. Please contact Association member Jack Bates at opcmh@telus.net if you can help in this quest.



Also featured is a scrapbook of newspaper articles, two newsletters from the USS Pvt. Joe P. Martinez ship board publications the "Eagle Leaf," en route to Korea in December 1950, and photographs along with other memorabilia. Association members Ed Widenmaier and Bruce Dickey have contributed a mannequin with appropriate dress of the period.

Jack Bates

Wounded Warriors Balkans Bike Ride Sarajevo to Medak

Wounded Warriors Canada conducted a Battlefield Bike Ride in the Balkans, from Sarajevo through Medak Pocket to Plitvicka Jerava, Croatia from 9-15 June 2018. I was asked to fill the role of PPCLI Ambassador for the ride and to be prepared to discuss my experiences on various tours with an emphasis on Bosnia-Herzegovina. I agreed but wondered if I could bike that far.

The ride was a great success with 85 riders who raised at least \$349,184. Team Patricias were front-and-center, led by Mike Spellen, a Medak Vet who served with CSM D Coy 2 PPCLI and me. The seven members of Team Patricias raised \$36,780, which will be used to provide a PTSD Service Dog for a Patricia in Alberta. Other members of the team were Carlo Manuel (3VP and Afghan Vet), his wife Eryn; Lane and Van Linden, a grandfather grandson team; and Jason Campbell (1VP and Kosovo Vet).

In addition, there were a number of Medak Vets on the ride. Paul Reaper who served with A Coy, Wade Smith who served with D Coy and Todd McGowan who was a medic with the Battalion Unit Medical Station. There were another 15 or so veterans who had deployed to multiple locations.

The ride covered 600 kms with a net climb of 16,000 feet. Every day had its own challenges. On 9 June, I missed some of the routes signs and ended up biking 100 km vice 40 km. But to be honest my mind was so focused all the negative memories of my time in Bosnia that I was just pushing myself harder and harder on the bike. It was like I was trying to drive out all the negative emotions and hate I felt for all three sides in the war.

On the 10th we pedaled from Sarajevo to Mostar. I was the speaker for at the start of the day and covered some of my experiences in April 1992. At lunch we stopped at bridge on the Nerevta River and I realized I had crossed that bridge on 14 April 1992. At that time, half the bridge had been blown and metal plates had been used to reinforce the bridge so that one-way traffic could cross it. I will not bore you with the details of the next day and half in 1992, except to say that I was carjacked outside Sarajevo on 15 April 1992. A lot of memories came back and that was when I realized I was not bullet proof and my daughters almost lost their father. Those memories still haunt me!

June 11th was a challenge since we covered 100 kms ride in 44-degree heat with a climb of over 3,000 feet. Everyone was very happy that the last 8 kms were a beautiful downhill ride to the coast. The 12th and 13th were a blur and everyone put their nose to the grindstone and biked. I do remember Ryan Mitchell talking about his time as a reservist with 2nd R22eR in Bosnia and the challenges that he faced after being injured in a vehicle accident. There was also a talk on the Izzy dolls that we were giving out on the ride to children in Bosnia and Croatia.

14 June was the most challenging day both physically and mentally. Physically, because we biked 140 km with a 2,500-foot climb, and 80 km headwinds (I'm not kidding). You actually had to pedal downhill. However, the mental stress was extreme. This was the day we rode through Medak.

In the morning, before we left, Mike Spellen spoke about the challenges faced by the young soldiers in the 2 PPCLI Battle Group and how one soldier he had known, had the 1000-mile stare. He clearly stated he never wanted his children or grandchild to smell or see the horrors he or those soldiers did. Todd McGowan spoke about the smells, the explosions and the reality that when they finally entered the village everything was dead: people, livestock, cats, dogs, chickens and the pain he felt was still heavy with him after 25 years. After biking about 80 kms, we stopped for lunch just after riding thru Medak Pocket. The

war damaged houses are unoccupied and overgrown with vegetation. 25 years later and no one lives in the village of Medak.

Over lunch, Wade Smith talked about his experiences with D Coy. How everyone was scared, and that serious shit was about to happen. He explained how at 3 am, Jim Calvin, the CO came around and visited the troops and expressed his concerns that everyone may not make it out of this one. Wade was very open that during the ride, he felt heavier and heavier emotionally as he got closer and closer to Medak. The emotion finally overcame him, and he broke down, stopped outside Medak village and cried when the weight became too much. The support provided by other riders who stopped with him, provided him the ability to carry on. Wade also explained how he had come to realize that it was time to move on and he come on the ride for love, compassion and forgiveness.

You should take the time to watch the Wounded Warriors BBR 19 video. It brings to life what I am trying to say and can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lv_mbdUIy4&feature=youtu.be&bbblinkid=123218640&bbemailid=10433004&bbejrid=792130121&fbclid=IwAR3nPTGu3YWGepa9EUzF6DI-dfWORRAZ9sZUm3-0iFgjaJb6CAwbn2ObxKw



Mike Spellen, Wade Smith, Todd McGowan and Matt Muzzi
at a Croatian Memorial outside Medak

The Memorial for Capt Jim Decoste was not on the official route. Accordingly, we arranged detoured and after lunch were driven to Jim's memorial. We cleaned up the grass around the memorial, left a Wounded Warriors commemorative coin in the gravel and held a short service in honor of Jim and all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. I did not have the privilege of serving with Capt Jim Decoste, but I am very honoured to have participated in remembering his sacrifice. It is very appropriate that I am writing this article just before November 11th.



Mike Spellen, Eryn Lesley, Paul Rider, Carlo Manuel, Jason Campbell, Trevor, Paul Hale and Wade Smith

15 June was the last day of the ride and by this point from some strange reason most people were a little tired. However, we all dug deep and finished despite the rain, cold and transport trucks that seemed to pass us by about 18 inches. In summary, about half the riders had no military service and this was the first time they had listened to soldiers who talked about their experiences. They saw that raw emotion and pain caused by war. They realized that healing takes a long time and for some it never happens.

I have to be honest, the Balkans Bike Ride did not close any doors for me. I still hate all three sides. But I love my brothers and sisters in arms.

Paul Hale

Once a Patricia, Always a Patricia

Branch Articles

Atlantic

Let me begin this report by personally thanking the 68 Associate members that joined or continued to support the Atlantic Association in 2018. Stating this, unfortunately three of those current members have passed away since the last newsletter. “We will Remember them”.

This year has come and gone, far too quickly, but we have found it both busy and rewarding for our Patricia’s. Most of the activities seem to take place in the late Summer/ Fall time frame. Again, this year, we provided members for the third Annual “Soldier On” golf game, that had taken place in Dieppe N.B. Many thanks to the National Association and Foundation for supporting this worthwhile cause, by providing the entrance fee, and also to the Organizers/Sponsors Michael Feyko, Jake Bell and the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires. This year’s tournament raised nearly \$70,000, with a grand total of three years of \$180,000 for this great program. BZ to all.

During the second weekend of September, we were fortunate enough to be able to run the third of five Mental Health and Suicide Awareness Workshops here in Gagetown. Of the 17 candidates attending the workshop, 12 were members and are now our future Volunteer Patricia Programmers within the Maritimes. Again, another huge BZ to our National President, Paul Hale for organizing and Sherry Lachine for leading us on this Workshop.

On the 18th August, many Patricia’s, Legion members, Korea Veterans, family and friends gathered to say farewell to one of this country’s oldest and finest Patricias and Gentlemen. Sgt (Retired) Roy Rushton’s Memorial had taken place in Pictou N.S. If you do not know the history or biography of this WW11, Airborne Paratrooper and Korea hero, take a few minutes to visit this site;

<https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/longform/he-lived-100-years-and-served-in-two-wars-despite-the-shrapnel-in-his-skin>

Highlighting Roy’s legacy, during our AGM that had taken place on the end of October, it has been decided and voted unanimously, that as of 01 January 2019, our Association, will be known as;

Sgt Roy Rushton Branch PPCLI Association Atlantic Area.

Stephen Bartlett



Gagetown Mental Health and Suicide Awareness participants



Kingston

The Kingston Patricias continue to be busy with a number of social and charity events. The Branch assisted again with a slightly wet Highway of Heroes Clean-up on the interchanges near Trenton followed by a distinct culinary experience at a local BBQ diner. In May, we held our second annual Golf Tourney organized by John Hooyer. Some members avoided the course and headed straight for the club bar while the intrepid ones battled thru 18 then joining the rest on the club patio for a well-deserved BBQ. In September, a smaller hardy crew hit the vinyards of Prince Edward County for a wine tour organized by Ray Paquin and John Hooyer with a phenomenal time had by all. Then in October, our focus switched to the more serious business of hosting the Ontario Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Seminar which was maximized for attendance with members from Ottawa, SW Ontario and Quebec traveling in. Great skills for dealing with this important issue were passed on and many acquaintances renewed. Our next event will be Christmas dinner Sunday 9 Dec. All Patricias, families and friends are always welcome, just contact any branch executive member for sign up details.



OPP escort George Farrow, Collin Fitzgerald, Chris Wellwood,
Marv Makulowich, Dave Banks, Shaun Tymchuk



Happy Golfers and spectators enjoying post game activities



Front Row: Dave Pentney, Patti English, Elise Huffman, Mike English, Marv Makulowich
Back Row: Janet Pentney, Ray Paquin, Jim Calvin, Sandi Manderstrom

South West Ontario

By SW Ontario Editor-in-Chief Mike Goodspeed

“First in the Field” Greetings to all PPCLI Veterans and your families, all Veterans that served with the PPCLI and your families and to all our brothers, sisters and families who are still serving the Regiment in Canada or abroad.

The South-West Ontario Branch has had an active 2018 with our 80 Members attending numerous veteran events, dinners, beer calls and get-togethers across Ontario. Of particular note were our first annual Christmas Dinner held on 1 December in Hamilton, our SW Ontario Branch Annual General Meeting held in St. Catharines, and The Regimental Day Dinner in St. Catharines and the Regimental Day lunch in London.

We had strong turnout in all our locations for Remembrance Day services. Attendance this year has been particularly good, especially in light of the fact that the Branch covers numerous cities and towns and is spread out over a large and diverse geographic area. The Branch is grateful to the many hosting locations with a special shout out to the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Veterans Club in Hamilton for hosting several of our events. Hamilton is a central location for the Branch and serves well to reduce travel times for those who live in distant locations.

The Branch is especially grateful to the hard work and focus of our past president Phil Cook who is this year relinquishing the reins. Greg Ferguson will be the Acting President until the AGM elections in May. We wish Phil the very best in his future endeavours.

South-West Ontario Branch is always on the lookout for new members, so if you know of anyone please don't hesitate to steer them to us.

SW Ontario Branch Editor-in-Chief

Michael Goodspeed

<https://www.michaeljgoodspeed.com>

<https://www.dundurn.com/authors/Michael-J-Goodspeed>



One of our own, Dean Irvine, out of Welland, Ontario, was selected as a member of the 2018 Canadian Invictus Team. He was helped along the way by several of our Branch members and with a special shout out to our Welland Branch 4 Royal Canadian Legion and the St. Catharine's Pine Grove Elementary School for donations to support the journey. Dean competed in the Invictus Games held in Australia this past October in Wheelchair Rugby, Rowing and Power Lifting – well done Dean.

March - Regimental Day

We had a great turnout for our Regimental Day as Patricias came from far and wide to our celebrations in St Catharine's and London.



Front Row – Bill Chrysler, Hub Lalonde, Romeo Daley, Paul Hale, John Hunter
 Back Row – George Ledwon, Al Foster, Jeff Wahlman, Jurgen Rudolph, Greg Ferguson, Malcolm Williams, Bruce Paxton, Jamey Cawley, John McGregor, Glenn Reed, Bill Johnson, Rick Cadilha, Phil Cook, Michael Bryne



Spouses and friends at 17 March



Left to right – Murray Stewart, Henry Klausnitzer, Bruce Stock, Randy Warden, Ric Awde, Doug Furchner, Jeff Wahlman, Rick Davey, Ron O’Conner



Cutting the cake – Left to right – Greg Ferguson, Malcolm Williams, peeking in on the picture -James Cawley, Phil Cook, Al Foster, and Jurgen Rudolph



Romeo Daley watching Hub Lalonde using up the last of the butter

April - Kapyong Day and Korea War Vets

PPCLI Korea War Veterans attended Korean Veterans Association at Korean Restaurant in Niagara Falls with Hub Lalonde, Romeo Daley and Bill Chrysler.



Bill and Ja Chrysler

May – Frezenburg

Our Annual Branch AGM took place in St Catharines and was followed by our Annual Mixed Dining In.

August BBQ - Regimental Birthday and Veterans of Foreign Conflicts

Thanks again to George and Barb Ledwon we celebrated an afternoon of storytelling and comradeship at our annual BBQ.

September - 25th Medak Pocket

Our 2nd Vice President Bill Johnson and his wife Valerie attended the 25th Anniversary of the Medak Pocket operation held in Shilo over 7-9 Sept 2018 weekend. Bill served as Platoon WO for 9 Platoon, C Company. It was a great opportunity for meeting old comrades. Apparently, “WO Johnson hasn’t changed a bit,” was nice comment for Bill to hear but did draw some odd looks from Valerie. Bill was awarded the Medal of Bravery for his actions. Pictured is some of the old 9 Platoon.



Left to Right - 9 Platoon - Bill Johnson, WO Oullette, WO Mason and Rob Touet

September Beer Call – WWII San Fortunato and The Balkans

Beer Call was held at the RHLI Veterans Club in Hamilton.

December 2018 – SW Branch PPCLI Christmas Dinner in Hamilton

New to our event schedule is our PPCLI Christmas Dinner. Patricias and their spouses travelled from across Ontario and came together for our first annual Patricia Christmas Dinner in Hamilton on 1 November. Our many thanks to Greg Ferguson and Doug Fulchner who orchestrated this event and already have plans already for 2019.

Manitoba / NW Ontario

Everything is moving in slow time at our branch level. Both our Cadet Corps are back at work after a summer of cadet camps.

2701 PPCLI Cadet Corps has 20 members. On Tuesdays 5 members of the Cadet Corp Drum Line train. In October the unit held a Field Exercise at Bird's Hill Park where they worked on navigation and general training. On Remembrance Day, the unit will parade at #4 Legion. The Drum Line will perform at #283 Army, Navy and Airforce Vets.

553 Tommy Prince MM Army Cadets have 36 members. Their regular parade night is Wednesday. On Saturday there is drill, sports and band (new this year). On Monday there is marksmanship and biathlon. On Remembrance Day, the unit will parade at the city ceremony at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

A big thank you to the Commanding Offices and staff for their dedication to making the cadet program such a great success.

Our next social event will be the Christmas Dinner with 2 PPCLI in Shilo. This is always a great time with the troops.

On the 13th of June 2018 at 553 Tommy Prince MM Army Cadets Annual Review, I presented to C/RSM Ocadchy with a \$1500 cheque from the Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund.



Our branch wishes a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Association members.

Stu Weeks

Saskatchewan

Autumn commonly known as fall is upon us, and it seems just like yesterday, the article for the Spring PPCLI Association Newsletter was due, and here we are writing one for the FALL Newsletter. The Saskatchewan Branch has been active during the past 6 months in keeping with the association's goals of keeping the Regimental Name alive, supporting Veterans, fundraising for bursaries and the Cadet Organization.

The Saskatchewan Branch has grown to 32 paid members, with another 3 members signing up in January 2019. One member has transferred to the Fraser Valley Association, we have continued to grow since 2013 when the Branch was "in trust" and almost being disbanded. Awesome!

Events that were attended by Sask. Br. members during this last period are: Mental Health Course in Calgary, 2 members (one under the age of 40 years old); a number of "Celebration of Life" for former Patricia's having lived in Saskatchewan; the unveiling of the PPCLI Muriel in the RC Legion Br. 001 Regina, the AGM. in Medicine Hat; Walk for Veterans (Equitas); invited and attended the Veteran's of Hong Kong Association Memorial Service; the "Pats" hockey game and "Open House" at the Regina Rifles in Regina. So, as you see, the name of the Regiment is being carried on in Saskatchewan. The Branch will continue to "show the flag" in attending Remembrance Day services in parts of Sask.; attend the "Armistice Ball" in Prince Albert, Sk. with the North Saskatchewan Regiment, (Nov. 03), visit the namesake Cadet Corp. in Estevan, Sk. for Christmas Dinner, and other invited events.

Planning continues for the upcoming National AGM. in 2020 where the Branch will be hosting in Saskatoon; the holding of the local Christmas Dinner, future Fundraising events and the maintenance of providing furniture to Veterans of all services.

Again, the Sask. Br. is quite active in Saskatchewan and proud to be Patricias.

Respectfully submitted by Raymond Moskowec

Edmonton

Another Fall is upon us in Edmonton or should I say winter! It seems that Fall has missed us this year. The spring and summer were very warm and filled with smoke from the British Columbia fires, sometimes making it difficult to be outside. Despite this, our members attended our branch functions in great numbers making for great gatherings.

In May we had 12 of our membership attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Medicine Hat, AB. A great event hosted by the Cypress Hills branch. We had our last summer meeting on Jun 2nd and discussed our plans for the summer's events.

The change of command of the Colonel of the Regiment and the Third Battalion was well attended. The Third Battalion did an outstanding job with all their displays. The following week Edmonton Branch also had great showing at First Battalion's Change of Command.

We attend the PPCLI Cadets 2551 Annual parade and presented them with \$1,000 from the National Association a \$1000.00 cheque, and \$250.00 cheque from our branch. The Cadet Corp used these funds to purchase T shirts.

A large number of our members are associated with the Airborne Social Club and 2018 was their 50th reunion. Events they attended were Siffleur Falls Parade and their formal dinner and dance held in Edmonton.

The Calgary branch again hosted the Casino for the Association and Edmonton branch had members assist them. A great event, which allowed us to help raise funds and socialize with old friends during and after work.

The PPCLI camp out organized by John and Patricia DeMerchant was once again a great time. We sat around the fire at night, told stories and golfed during the day. The food was amazing, and if you left hungry, it was your our fault!

The French Grey Golf was rather cold this year. Despite this, we all had great turn out and success. Fred Goldring, (wise old Soldier) was the only one of our team that wore gloves! It was a chilly and rainy windy day, so the rest of us had to drink spiked coffee to stay warm. The branch again assisted the PPCLI Foundation in its running of the 50/50 draw. We also organized a Mulligan draw to raise funds for the Hamilton Gault Fund, in the amount of \$300.00. Our branch must be the lucky one, as both were won by our members! Mike Bludd the 50/50 and Gord Descoteaux the mulligan prize.

The branch had our members attended two galas this summer. First being the French Grey Gala, and the Wounded Warriors. At the Wounded Warriors we presented a cheque on behalf of National PPCLI Association President Paul Hale. A great time was had by all that attended these events.

The Korean Parade at the Alberta Legislature had good weather. A large number of our Korea Vets attended, along with branch members. Also, a Guard from the First Battalion and the various Cadets Corps from around Edmonton and area also supported them.

Our branch continues each year to fundraiser making three contributions thus far. Cadets, Valour Place & the Hamilton Gault Fund. With a view to again donate both food and funds to local food bank during our Christmas dinner.

We as a branch decided that this year we would support Valour Place in Edmonton. (www.valourplace.ca) There were 6 members present at the presentation of a cheque for \$500.00 we were also given a tour of the facility. Anyone can drop in during the day and they would gladly show you their facility. Valour Place is a great facility, used by all members of the Forces.

Our final donation made by the branch was a \$500.00 cheque to the Hamilton Gault Fund from the branch and the \$300.00 from French Grey Golf.

The branch has been active in the Mental Health workshops having 7 members taking the course. This will surely assist our membership in having access to their skills if need be.

During the first Commanding Officers Parade at the 2551 PPCLI cadets on October 1st, three of our members were presented with special numbered coins. Coins they had made up to show their affiliation to the PPCLI and they're past supporting units. Ok Schneilder due to his long-time contribution and support was honored with the 001 coin. Fred Goldring and Herb Kenny were the other two members. The Norwood

Legion Branch # 178 Sgt At Arms Guy Lapointe was also a recipient of a coin. A great gesture from the cadets and greatly appreciated.

As a branch, we are planning the following events to end 2018:

- The first is getting guest speakers to attend our meetings to give us advice on matters that we may need to ensure nothing slips through the cracks.
- In October we had a lawyer talk about Wills, and their importance;
- In November we are working on having a Funeral Director to walk us through steps we should have in place in case of a death;
- The Remembrance Day parade at Patricia Park on the 11 Nov;
- We will continue support to the 2551 PPCLI Cadet Corp.
- During our Christmas dinner support to Edmonton Food bank with food and prize draws;
- The sending out of invitations to both Battalions, RHQ and Loyal Edmonton Association to attend our Christmas dinner; and
- Christmas dinner for all of our members.

Throughout the year, we again had the misfortune of attending too many Celebrations of Life for our fallen members.

A reminder to all Patricia's in the Edmonton area and those passing through we hold our meetings at 1100 hrs, the 4th Saturday of the month at the Kingsway Legion Branch # 175. The Legion is located at [14339 50th St, Edmonton AB T5A 0S9](http://14339%2050th%20St,%20Edmonton%20AB%20T5A%200S9). Also, please check out PPCLI Association Alberta and Saskatchewan Facebook page for upcoming events in and around Edmonton.

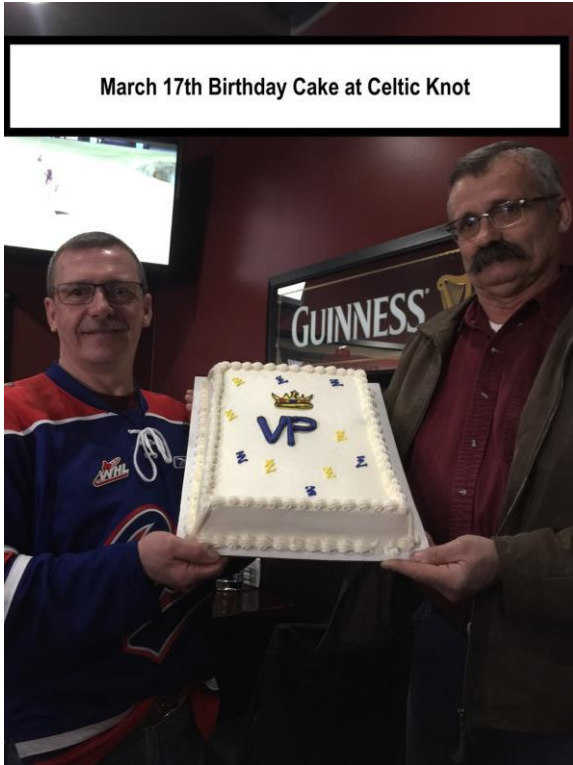
Once a Patricia Always a Patricia!

Herb Kenny

Edmonton Branch President



**HAPPY 104th BIRTHDAY
PATRICIA PARK**



March 17th Birthday Cake at Celtic Knot



AGM TRAVELERS
Norm, Gord, Herb & Mike

John DeMechant Campout



John the camp cook



PPCLI CAMPOUT 2018



Lyle & Joyce Saumers
& Tim & Linda Penney
Golf at PPCLI campout



John DeMerchant, Paul Beaugrand, Rob Gallagher & Herb Kenny
Golf at PPCLI Campout



Victoria

The Victoria Branch continues to be active and adding members. We continue to meet on the second Thursday of each Month at the Pro Pats/Trafalgar Legion on the Gorge.

On 14 June we held a very successful 89th Birthday Party for Herb Pitts, former Colonel of the Regiment at the Pro Pats/Trafalgar Legion on the Gorge. Around 80 people from our Association, The QOR Association and DZ Vancouver Island attended



Unfortunately, General Pitts passed away on 27 September. The Branch helped organize his funeral at the 1st Metropolitan United Church on 19 October. It was a solemn and fitting farewell. The Colonel of the Regiment BGen (Ret'd) Vince Kennedy attended and gave a eulogy.

Herb was the regiment's sixth Colonel of the Regiment. There was a near-capacity crowd at the First Metropolitan United Church of Canada. Marianne Pitts and her family were there, as was a powerful group of Honorary Pallbearers including three former CORs, two RMC Class of '52 friends of Herb's, LGen (Ret'd) Foster, Col (Ret'd) Dick Cowling, and Col Jay Adair. There were dozens of Queen's Own Association, PPCLI Association, Scouts Canada and congregational members. LCol Adam Moore, CO 3 PPCLI was there, and RSM 3 PPCLI CWO von Kalben read the Act of Remembrance, while soldiers of 3 PPCLI assisted in the Honour Guard and as ushers. Marianne remains a resident of Broadmead Veterans Memorial Lodge, Victoria.



Honour Guard



Pitts family front row, Honourary Pallbearers second row



The Colonel of the Regiment

A Life Fully Given - Herb C Pitts

Herb Pitts was born in 1929 and raised in Nelson, BC. In 1948 he enrolled into Royal Roads Military College in Victoria, BC, was commissioned in 1952, and immediately sent to the Korean War where he served with distinction as a rifle platoon commander with the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI). He was awarded the Military Cross for heroic combat leadership in Korea in 1953. On return to Canada, he was assigned to the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (QOR of C). He married Marianne Moore in 1954, and they would have four children. He progressed rapidly through the ranks in command and staff appointments including command of the First Battalion in Victoria from 1967 to 69, and later command of the Canadian Airborne Regiment (CAR) in Edmonton from 1971 to 73. He was posted to Canadian Forces Headquarters in Ottawa, to serve in senior operational appointments, culminating in his promotion to Major General in 1976. He retired from the Canadian Forces in 1978, with an impeccable record of service in war and peace and an outstanding reputation. He was revered as exemplified by his four honorary appointments with the Canadian Airborne Regiment (1982-86), Colonel Commandant Infantry (1985-88), PPCLI (1990-94), and QOR of C (2000-05).

As a retiree Herb and family tried farming cattle in Ontario, and he was President of the Ontario Safety League. After that they moved to BC. Beyond those two forays into civilian work, he served tirelessly in the interests of youth, military heritage, veterans and community in a myriad of agencies, associations and positions – never once to gain wealth or privilege, but only ever to give fully of himself to his values and the needs of others.

BGen (Ret'd) Vince Kennedy, OMM, MSM, CD
Colonel of the Regiment

Major-General (Retired) Herb Pitts

When I became Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment in 2007, one of the highlights of my first months was meeting Major-General (Retired) Herb Pitts. This tall, courteous gentleman immediately won my heart. After lengthy conversations with him and his wife Marianne, we were friends bonded forever.

It is often a cliché to say that people are legends in their own lifetimes, but truly Herb was a legend. I knew his reputation and I could see in his elegance and bearing the young officer who went to the Korean War immediately upon graduation from military college. To have been awarded the Military Cross at the age of 24 as a rifle platoon commander was what I thought was the stuff of legend. An officer who takes care of his men and is a hero is someone to always be admired. I have always been grateful that we were able to become friends.

I will always think of him as the tall gentleman with the twinkle in his eye and the maroon beret. Duty, devotion, and leadership were written all over him. When we spoke on the phone between meetings he was always clear and concise and with a delightful sense of humour and self-deprecation. I enjoyed talking to him so much and I will miss that.

I am extraordinarily grateful that I was able to speak to Herb on the night of October 26th. A phone call was made possible by Tom Martin, who held the phone to Herb's ear, and I was able to tell him how much I admired him and would be missing him. I was also so happy, that evening, to be able to speak to Marianne and to tell her how I felt. It's an extraordinary privilege to be able to say goodbye to somebody whom you admire without reservation. As I spoke to him, I remembered his last speech at the Dedication of the Canadian Airborne Memorial Cairn in Edmonton during our Centenary. He spoke with such clarity, pride, and yet humility. It was memorable and I will always have a picture in my mind of Herb and his clarity and devotion to duty. I am so glad that I had an opportunity to know him and to say farewell to one of the finest soldiers, one of the finest leaders that our Regiment has had.

I know that our Regiment, PPCLI, will always honour Herb Pitts and his memory. The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada and the Airborne Associations will also remember him. Quite simply, he was memorable.

I want to thank his family, and especially Marianne, for sharing him so fully with us for his whole life.

The Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, PC, CC, CMM, COM, CD
Colonel-in-Chief

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Last Post

PPCLI
27 September 2018



Major-General (Retired) Herbert Chelsey Pitts, MC, CD
14 June 1929 – 27 September 2018

Major-General (Retired) Herb C. Pitts, MC, CD was born on 14 June 1929 in Nelson, British Columbia. He joined the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) in 1948 as a cadet at Royal Roads Military College. Upon graduation in 1952, MGen Pitts was commissioned into Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) and quickly sent overseas to the conflict in Korea. His time as an armoured officer was short-lived. Upon his arrival in Korea, he was immediately transferred to Third Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) and served as a platoon commander. MGen Pitts would serve with distinction for the remainder of the Korean War and was recognized with the Military Cross for gallantry in action. He returned to Canada in July 1953 just prior to the ceasefire.

From 1953 to 1954 Lieutenant Pitts studied at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. Upon return to regimental duty he served with the First Battalion, Queen's Own Rifles of Canada (QOR of C) in Calgary, and then as a Staff Officer with the 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade Group in Soest, West Germany. In 1960 he attended the British Army Staff College at Camberley. Upon graduation he was posted to Army Headquarters in Ottawa, where he served for two years as Aide de Camp to the Chief of the General Staff. Upon promotion to Major, he served from 1962 to 1964 as a Company Commander with the Second Battalion QOR of C. He was again posted to the 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade Group and served for over two years as the Brigade Major.

In 1967 Maj Pitts was promoted to the rank of LCol and given command of the First Battalion, QOR of C, in Victoria, B.C. This battalion was designated 3 PPCLI in 1970. From 1969 to 1971 he was posted as an exchange officer at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, following which he attended the National Defence College in Kingston, Ontario. In 1971 Pitts was promoted to the rank of Colonel and posted to Edmonton to command the Canadian Airborne Regiment (CAR) for two years where he would play a critical role in developing the airborne capabilities for the Canadian Forces. From 1973 to 1975 he served at NDHQ as a Brigadier-General in the capacity of Director-General of Land Operations. Promoted to Major-General in 1976 he was appointed Chief of Land Operations. Following French Language training in 1977, he served in his final appointment of regular service as the Director-General, Bilingualism and Biculturalism until his retirement in 1978.

After MGen Pitts retired, he would continue to be close to the serving and retired components. Ever-dedicated to his regiments, he served as Colonel of the Regiment for the PPCLI and the CAR and later as the Honorary Colonel for the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, accumulating more than 44 years of uniformed service. MGen Pitts also served as the National President of Scouts Canada and was instrumental in the completion of the Korean War Memorial Wall at Meadowdale Cemetery in Ontario with KVA Canada.

Herb leaves his beloved wife Marianne of 63 years, daughter Susan, sons Gerry and David and his two grandchildren Sara and Mike.

He was predeceased by his son Danny in 1989 and by his sister Doreen Englund in 2017. He is survived by his brother Bob and his children Jennifer, Lori, Jim, Kathy, Bob Jr and Tom and two nephews Brian and Don Englund

A Memorial Service was held on Friday 19 October at the 1st Metropolitan United Church at Balmoral and Quadra at 1200 hours.

Patricia Last Post

Bill Greeley 86	Korea 1 VP Edmonton 2 VP	March 2018	Edmonton
John Rudy 61	joined 1976 1 and 3 VP 2 Cdo	March 2018	Perth, Ont
Andrew Butt 79	1 VP 1977	March 2018	Blairmore, AB
Arthur H Harris 95	2 VP Korea Kapyong	March 2018	Portugal
Harry Chatry 92	2 VP Calgary Edmonton Germany 50- 70's	April 2018	Chilliwack
Ed Sullivan 82	2 VP Calgary Edmonton 50-70s	April 2018	Qualicum Beach
Dirk Vrybloed 83	2 VP 56-62	April 2018	Fort Saskatchewan
Wilfred Weiss 92	WW 2 till 1951	April 2018	St John, NB
David Jacobs 65	joined 2 VP 70's	May 2018	Regina
Vince Pelletier 86	2 VP 50's - 70's Sgt	May 2018	Regina
Ernie Primeau 75	2 VP 60's went CAR in 1969	April 2018	Largo, Florida
Bill Wilkie 94	WW 2	May 2018	Thunder Bay
Donald Carrick 85	2 VP Korea 27 Apr 1951	May 2018	Orangeville, Ont
Peter Mackay 75	2 VP 59 went Cdn AB Regt MWO	Feb 2018	Ontario
Donald Murray 77	1 VP 62-82	May 2018	Pincher Creek, AB
Jim L Simpson 59	1 VP 76-79 82-89 Cyprus	April 2018	Halifax area

Jack L Binns 60	2 Lt 1 VP 1983	May 2018	Edmonton
Mike Mallette 86	2 VP Korea	May 2018	Edmonton
Howie William Howard 82	2 VP 53-76	May 2018	Vancouver
Roy Rushton 100	2 VP Korea 1 Can Para WW 2 Atl Branch	June 2018	Nova Scotia
John S Bateman 84	Korea	June 2018	Abbotsford, BC
Jerry Bashura 75	MWO served till 1982	June 2018	Winnipeg
Ken Rhodes 85	1 VP Korea	June 2018	Victoria
Donald McDonald 88	Korea 1 VP Germany 2VP 68	June 2018	Victoria
Ernie Kuffner 52	Joined 3 VP 1983 in Victoria	July 2018	Gibbons, AB
Barrie Gillam 84	Korea 52-53	July 2018	Calgary
Jack JJE Mirtle 83	Bandsman with VP and Naden Band	July 2018	Victoria
John Sulderitsch 84	1 VP mid 50's - 70's Edmonton Branch	July 2018	Edmonton
Len Bogle 82	Joined VP 1957 Wainwright Branch	July 2018	Wainwright
Joe Allina 32	2 VP 2016 Afghanistan	July 2018	Vancouver
Len D Connolly 84	served early to mid 50's	July 2018	Calgary
John MacIsaac 90	Korea - Reg Force	July 2018	Digby, Nova Scotia
Andrew Oliver Hartford 63	B Coy 2 VP 74-79	Aug 2018	St Stephens, NB
Buck Delaronde 81	1 VP 50's - 70's	Aug 2018	Winnipeg
Ed Bakker 77	QOR Cdn Ab Regt 2 VP 86	Aug 2018	Edmonton
Ken Smith	joined 1949 served in Korea	Aug 2018	White Rock, BC
Cornelius Pyne	WW 2 Reg Force	Aug 2018	Cranbrook, BC
Jake Fuchs 92	2 VP 56-59	Aug 2018	Edmonton
William Bickerton 82	2 VP 56-59	Sept 2018	Brandon, Man
Alfoncia Sparks 73	3 QOR 3 VP 1 VP MWO	Sept 2018	Strathmore, AB
Gerry Boyle 66	1, 3 VP MWO	Sept 2018	Calgary
Richard Pacan 57	2 VP 1979	Sept 2018	Ontario
Raymond L Brown 87	Germany early 50's	Sept 2018	Winnipeg
Len Hammerquist	WW 2	Sept 2018	Vernon, BC
Herb Pitts 89	Korea Reg Force C of R	Sept 2018	Victoria
Henry Mattson 67	2 VP 1978	Oct 2018	Edmonton
Bill Thielen 56	VP 10 years	Oct 2018	Calgary
Bruce Breustedt	2, 3 VP	Oct 2018	Winnipeg
Ronald Tisdale		Oct 2018	Victoria
Darrel Connick	3 VP, Airborne and more	Oct 2018	Powell River