

**Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry  
Association  
Spring Newsletter 2023**



*Editor's Note:*

*The Spring Newsletter is typically produced and distributed in mid-April. As most readers know, unforeseen difficulties prevented the timely distribution of the Fall 2022 Newsletter. It was decided that a planned delay of the Spring Newsletter would provide a sufficient gap between publication dates and allow for the reporting of the Annual General Meeting held in mid-May. This edition of the Newsletter is intended to meet the needs of the Association by providing various articles of interest, reports from our Branches, and AGM reporting. Please note that some photos submitted for the newsletter were left out due to email size constraints.*

*Ted Giraldeau Past President / Newsletter Editor*



### **Colonel-in-Chief's Message**

My Dear Patricias:

Just recently, May 12 to 14, was our first in-person Association meeting in four years! It was wonderful to be able to get together again after these years of isolation that Covid imposed on all of us. I am always so happy to see the Association members and their wives who managed to make it to our meeting place which was the beautiful Niagara-on-the-Lake. The weather was glorious and so was our reunion.

At our dinner on Saturday, I was honoured to sit beside Corporal Bill Chrysler, one of our few remaining Korean War Veterans. We had a wonderful conversation and as I hadn't seen him for a few years, we got caught up on all sorts of things. I had never had the chance really to talk to him about Kapyong. This searing battle which the 2nd Battalion fought so heroically is something he will never forget. It is also remarkable for me to be able to have access to somebody who lived through that whole battle and survived. The performance of the 2nd Battalion PPCLI was outstanding, and we know what honours it brought to us. But for me, to talk to Bill at length about that battle and his participation in it, was very special indeed.

In thinking about Korea, we had no idea when we engaged in that war what the future would be. I have been watching a great deal of the excellent Korean television which is produced now by the Republic of Korea. And in it you see the wonderfully developed Korean society with its high rises, fashionable clothes and cars. This is the Republic of Korea that the Patricias sacrificed themselves for. Korea would not have been what it is today – a manufacturing powerhouse and a thoroughly modern country - without the sacrifices of our Canadians.

The 70th anniversary is being commemorated by the inauguration of hiking trails through the woods that now cover what used to be bomb-scarred mountains. Our PPCLI was responsible for bringing that prosperity and well-being to an entire nation.

We should be proud of the sacrifices we made. It is now 70 years and there are only a few like Bill Chrysler who are living memories of it. They must be honoured and we must never forget.

We are part of a wonderful Regiment with glorious history. We must never forget that and we must always honour it.

I'm delighted that all who are leaving our Regiment will automatically be informed of all the activities of the Association. I hope that this will ensure a continued interest on the part of people who have left active service and that they will find it worthwhile to continue their relationship with our legendary corps.

As a unit, we have lived together, and we have sacrificed together. And we remember all those things. We are now busily preparing for the events of the commemoration of our sacrifices in Italy in the spring of 2024.

The Armed Forces are undergoing a sea change in terms of its culture. The emphasis on sexual misconduct and a profound realisation that systemic changes are needed, have shaken the institution to the core. We must be ready as a Regiment to be proud and secure in our ability to help identify what these changes need to be and then to help implement them.

We've all come through Covid fairly well and are only beginning to feel what profound implications it has had for Canadian society, particularly in the lives of our children and adolescents who lost over 3 years of valuable socializing time by being isolated behind their screens at home. We will only begin to feel the results of this profound shattering of our young people in the decades to come but I think we must be aware that it will happen and to try and prepare for it. This was not just societal change: this was a profound unsettling of all the norms that we have been used to.

But I believe that belonging to our Regiment, to the values it represents and its place in Canadian history, is a help to all of us. We have experienced loyalty and commitment, and we continue to do so. Armies are as old as civilisation, and they haven't stayed in place just to be defensive or to commit aggression. There is a profound need in humanity to gather together with common values and a sense that everything must be done to protect those values.

I have enjoyed the comradeship, guidance, and good humour of Vince Kennedy as Colonel of the Regiment for five unprecedented years. We shared a commitment as Patricias which I will always cherish. Wendy and Vince will always remain treasured friends. I welcome Ray Romses as our new Colonel of the Regiment and look forward to his tenure with us and to enjoying the life of the Patricias with him and Carol.

We as Patricias will always do our part. When I meet all of you who have done yours in the past and are now continuing to do so in our Association, I am proud to be a part of you.

Yours faithfully,





### **Colonel of the Regiment's Message**

With the arrival of Spring, I would like to extend my warmest greetings to each of you.

In the five months since the last Association Newsletter, much has continued to evolve in the World and both the Canadian Armed Forces, and our Regiment remain extremely busy. Unfortunately, the world security situation also remains challenging as confrontation seems to now be the norm, whether that be with Russia, China, North Korea, or conflicts in countries such as the Ukraine, Israel, and Sudan. Other issues such as climate change and immigration are also impacting us and our security. We are fortunate to have General Eyre (a fellow Patricia) as Chief of Defence Staff guiding our military through the myriad of issues confronting our armed forces.

My wife Carol and I were honoured to attend the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Association in Niagara-on-the-Lake over the 12-14 May weekend. After a number of years of not having the ability to meet face-to-face, due to COVID, it was wonderful seeing members hugging each other once again. The hybrid model using Zoom allowed those who were not able to attend in person to still participate which was great. We thank former President Ted Giraldeau and his outgoing Board of Directors for their hard work over the past several years. To President Greg Ferguson and his new Board of Directors our congratulations are extended on your appointments, and we have every confidence that you and your team will continue to guide the Association with commitment and a steady hand. To those of you within the Branches who have taken on Executive positions we very much thank you also. Without each of you this Association would not be able to carry out its important responsibilities which impact so many.

The Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund Annual General Meeting also took place during the 12-14 May weekend. Chairman Dave Pentney and his Trustees do important charitable activities on behalf of the Regimental Family. Our thanks to his new Board of Trustees and those who have just completed their terms.

At this time, I would also highlight that the Kap'yong Commemorative Walking Trail initiative which the Association has been supporting is now complete and is being officially inaugurated in May whilst our Prime Minister is visiting South Korea as part of his G7 travels. Further, Paul Hale and Vince Courtney from the Regimental family will be going to South Korea from 23-29

July to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Korean Armistice as part of the Korean Government's Revisit Korea initiative.

2024 is fast approaching and with that our 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a Regiment. One of the key activities driven by the Association and Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund will be the PPCLI Sydney Frost Battlefield tour of Sicily and Italy from 16-31 May 2024. I encourage you to consider participating in this exciting initiative and passing the word about it to other members of the Patricia family. Other Anniversary events will include book launches of our Regimental History Book Volume VI in locations such as Victoria, Edmonton, Calgary, Ottawa, and Kingston. It now appears unlikely that a Presentation of New Colours/Trooping will be possible in August 2024 due to several factors not the least of which is operational tempo and the likelihood of the new Colours not yet being available. Rather it is anticipated that our celebrations will focus on the 3 PPCLI Change of Command parade and Association Annual General meeting which would occur in Edmonton the last week of June or early July. It is hoped that Association Branches would also hold key events to mark this Anniversary.

I want at this time to thank my predecessor as Colonel of the Regiment, General Vince Kennedy, for his efforts in that role and also for acting on my behalf whilst I was out of the country for 4 ½ months. He and his wife, Wendy, have been tireless in their commitment to Regimental activities and we cannot thank them enough.

Lastly, the serving component of our Regiment continues to be very busy. All three Battalions have been participating in various activities such as OP REASSURANCE in Latvia, OP UNIFIER, the Ukrainian training mission in the United Kingdom and Poland, exercises in the United States, running primary combat function courses, and conducting winter training to name but a few. Most recently 3 PPCLI has deployed elements to fight fires in Northern Alberta. It is also noteworthy that 1 PPCLI will have a change command on 28 June in Edmonton and this will be followed on 29 June with a ceremony to mark the Colonel of the Regiment Change of Appointment.

In conclusion, let me express my best wishes to each of you for a satisfying spring and summer. Carol and I look forward to seeing many of you as we move into the future. VP

## **President's Message**

I would like to start off by taking the opportunity to thank Ted Giraldeau for leading the Association over the last two years. During that time, we were dealing with the upheaval of the pandemic. Ted led us with calm grace and strength while leading the Association in a totally different manner without the social interaction that we all desire and look forward to.

As I begin my journey representing the interests of you, my Patricia family, I want to take a moment to thank you for having the confidence in me to lead our Association for the next two years. I am pleased to be joined in this venture with Jake Flanders as your Vice President. Carrying on from the previous Board are Terri Orser, Jim Croll, Terry Loveridge, Tim Penney, and Gord Keener. We will be joined on the board for the first time by Wayne Niven, Jay Zdyb, Mark Lolacher, Darcy Parker, and Steve Verch.

In addition, we have the expertise of our Ex Officio Members, Ted Giraldeau, Don Dalziel and Herb Kenny.

I am confident that together we will help to guide the Association down the path as it was intended by our Founder, Hamilton Gault. Over the next two years I would like to see us get back to the roots of the Association.

- Gathering as Patricia's for social activities as we have since 1919.
- Providing emotional support and resources to fellow Patricia's.
- Helping Patricia's as they transition after leaving the service after a career or just a basic engagement.
- Leveraging resources to support and build upon our regimental pride and spirit.

We are here to serve you and will do so to the best of our abilities.

I want to end this with one final point, and it ties to the need to create succession planning to ensure the Association continues to thrive. We will encourage new ideas and fresh blood at all levels of the Association and while it is important to note that there is no rank in the Association, it is worth pointing out that while I was a Patricia, I was a simple private (the promotion to Cpl came after my remuster). For me it is a reminder that regardless of rank, any one of us can be called upon to lead and will do a great job because above all else our pride and respect for the Regiment knows no limits.

*Greg*

*Once a Patricia, Always a Patricia*

## **Past President's Message**

One of my favourite songs is "*Con Te Partiro*". And like the song's title, it is time to say goodbye, well, at least from my role as President. I have been a member of the Board of Directors for four years, two years as Vice President West and the last two years as the President.

I came to be President through unfortunate circumstances. And while it was not a job I asked for or aspired to, I was determined to apply myself to the important responsibilities that come along with the role. I hope I have lived up to those responsibilities.

Of course, a Board of Directors is more than one individual and the Association's Board is a prime example of that. The current Board on which I had the privilege of leading, is made up of some very dedicated and capable individuals. I want to thank each and every one of them for their commitment to the Regiment and specifically to the veteran component. The Association's leadership is strong and will be even stronger with the new President, Vice President, and new Directors. I look forward to supporting them as I assume the role of Past President. We are in good hands.

And finally, as I recently posted to the Association's Face Book page, it doesn't matter whether you served or are serving; whether you wear a blue blazer or a biker vest; or whether you're a VP or a DP, there is always room for proud Patricias in the Association.

VP

Ted Giraldeau



## **Incoming Regimental Major's Message**

Regimental Family, I want to take this opportunity to say “hello”, as I’m scheduled to be posted in as the Regimental Major (RM) this summer. This is a great privilege and honour for myself, being asked to take on this challenge for the Regiment as I finish my present employment as the DCO for Transition Unit Alberta and Northern Canada (TU AB/ North, former JPSU/ IPSC).

So, a bit about who I am. I joined the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Primary Reserves (PRes) in January 1985 while in high school. Found I like what the CAF was all about and decided to enroll in the Regular Force (Reg F) in April 1987. After recruit training in Cornwallis NS, PPCLI Battle School in Wainwright AB (Yes, PRes had to do everything all over again in the 80’s), it was off to 3 PPCLI in Esquimalt BC, 31 October 1987. While at the 3rd, completed several Combat Support courses, two plus years in Mortar Platoon, tour in Cyprus 88, Croatia in 92/93, then posted out as RSS with the Regina Rifles for a year.

In 1994, I was posted to 1 PPCLI in Calgary, more courses, some Domestic Operations (Winnipeg floods), one and a half years in Anti Armour Platoon, a promotion to Master Corporal (MCpl) then off with the Battalion move to Edmonton in 1997. At 1 PPCLI Edmonton, same stuff as Calgary, promotion to Sergeant (Sgt), tour in Kosovo 1999, Bosnia in 2002/03 and posted out to Trenton in 2003/06.

In 2006, returned to 1 PPCLI with a bit of a twist, was Commissioned from the Ranks (CFR) in October 2006, completed French and Phase 4 spring/summer 2007 and posted back to 1 PPCLI in August 2007, as a freshly minted Lieutenant (Lt). From fall 2007 to October 2009, it was course office on DP1 Inf, more career courses and workup training for Afghanistan. Deployed on TF 3/09 from October 2009 to May 2010, then 2IC Admin Coy till posted out in July 2011 to the Calgary Highlanders as the RSSO till July 2015.

In July 2015, was posted to 3rd Canadian Division Training Centre (3 CDTC) in Wainwright as the Adjt. In February 2017, was selected to deploy to Baghdad Iraq and work with 18 Airborne Corps as Deputy Key Leader Engagement planner. On return in December 2017, was bumped up to OC A Coy at 3 CDTC till posted out in July 2019.

In July 2019, was posted as OC Transition Centre Edmonton, promoted to Major, then posted again in July 2020 to Kuwait as part of Op Impact as the Capacity Building Advisor to the Commander. In June 2021, was posted from Kuwait to my present job as DCO TU AB/ North.

So, this is me in a nutshell. No spring chicken, seen both sides of the fence, watched the Regiment and CAF mature as we moved into the 21st century, and been with the Regiment for 36 years and counting. Again, this is a great opportunity and another adventure in my career in supporting the Regiment and working with the Association when I hang my hat as the RM this summer. I look forward to meeting as many as possible when visiting various events around the country in the months to come and wish the outgoing RM Major Cory Foley success in his future endeavors. VP.

Maj Steven Zivkow

## **News of Interest**

### **Annual General Meeting (AGM) Report**

Submitted by Ted Giraldeau

The 75<sup>th</sup> AGM was held in Niagara-on-the-Lake (NOTL), Ontario and was hosted by the SW Ontario Branch. This was our first in-person AGM in four years. By all accounts, a good time was had by all. On behalf of the Board of Directors (BoD), I want to thank the SW Ontario Branch's organizing committee for a job well done. It is not an easy task to organize an AGM especially as the committee had to cater to the wishes of both the Association's BoD as well as the HMGF Board of Trustees including managing registration, hotel reservations and social events. All this on a shoestring budget amidst a ridiculously expensive travel environment. While the BoD is responsible for the business aspects of the AGM, the hosting Branch is responsible for ensuring those in attendance had a good time. Mission accomplished!

### **Business Conducted**

Of course, the AGM wasn't all fun and games. The AGM provides the Association's membership an opportunity to contribute to the business operations of the Association. The active engagement of the membership is required to approve the operating budget, approve resolutions dealing with our financial affairs and to elect new Directors, and a new President and Vice President. It also provides the Board of Directors its mandate for the upcoming year.

At this year's AGM, in addition to approving the 2024 budget, its proposed banking and auditing procedures, and amendments to our By-law 5.01, the membership elected Greg Ferguson as the new President, replacing Ted Giraldeau (who is assuming the Past President role) and Jake Flanders as Vice President, replacing Terry Loveridge (who will continue on the Board as the Heritage Director). Five new Directors were also elected: Darcy Parker, Mark Lolacher, Wayne Niven, Steve Verge and Jay Zdyb. New roles and responsibilities will be assigned to the Board members shortly. Impressively, Jim Croll was re-elected as a Director for a third term of four years. This will be Jim's last term as he has now reached the maximum terms allowable under our current By-law 5.01.

### **In Other News**

The AGM weekend was attended by 62 people in person and another 30 via Zoom conferencing. Guests included the Colonel-in-Chief, Madame Clarkson; General Ray Romses, the new Colonel of the Regiment; General Vince Kennedy, past COR; MGen Michael Wright, President of the Regimental Guard (and Senior Serving Patricia, not counting the CDS) and BGen Kirk Gallinger. Unfortunately, LCol Ben Schmidt, CO 3 PPCLI/Chair of Regimental Executive Committee, and his RSM, CWO Larry Schnurr were called back to Edmonton as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion was tasked to fight wildfires in Alberta.

At the outset of the AGM, Madame Adrienne Clarkson, Colonel-in-Chief, presented Don Dalziel with the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers. The award is in recognition of the long years of dedication and volunteer service Don has given to the Association.



Madame Clarkson also presented Dave Pentney with the Association Merit Award in recognition of his years of commitment, dedication, and efforts to the Association.



She also made a presentation of General Bill Hewson's original Regimental Coin (#003) to his widow, Norah. The coin was recently discovered in Rod Middleton's possessions by his son, Geoff. Rod was the Association's President at the time the coins were first distributed. It is believed that Rod had intended to present the coin to General Hewson but never did so and it remained with him for many years before both his and General Hewson's passing. Geoff Middleton thought it only fitting that the coin be finally given to Norah. It was a genuinely noble gesture that was well received by all involved.



Paul Hale also presented two 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Medak Pocket medallions to Janessa Bechard and Amy Vandebroek, daughter and widow of Cpl Bechard who was tragically killed in Croatia in August 1993, shortly after his return to theatre from Canada and the birth of his daughter. The medallions have been exclusively designed and created by Barb Bajema to commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Medak Pocket battle. Paul Hale thought it only fitting that these two ladies receive the medallions as a sign of respect for their sacrifice. MGen Wright assisted with the presentation.



Paul Hale made a final presentation to Madame Adrienne on behalf of Association member Bill “Marty” Martindale. Marty hand-crafted three pewter globes – one was given to his son to act as custodian; one was given to Paul Hale to act as custodian and pass it on to someone worthy when

Paul deemed appropriate; and one was for the Colonel-in-Chief to act as custodian until such time as she would pass it on to her successor. A start of a new tradition.



Socially, the AGM had two official functions: a Meet and Greet on Friday evening and a dinner on Saturday night. Of course, any gathering of Patricias would not be the same without a Better 'Ole and the SW Ontario Branch did not disappoint.

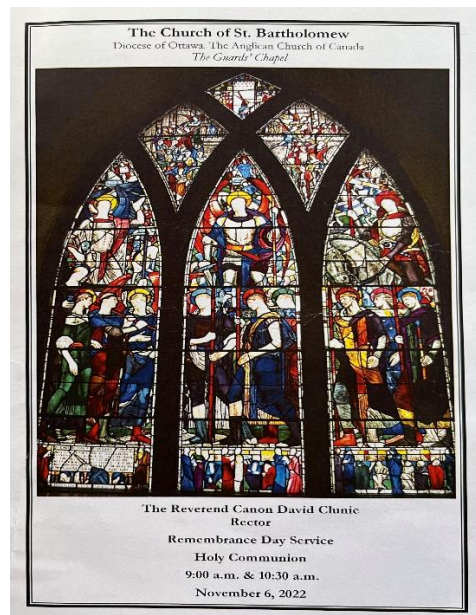


## Finishing the Work at the Ottawa Window

Submitted by Vince Kennedy with contribution by Don Dalziel

In the 2019 *Patrician*, the Ottawa Branch President provided an excellent history (p112-113, see <https://ppcli.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Patrician-2019.pdf>) of the Wilhelmina Geddes' Ottawa Window – the magnificent stained-glass artwork by the Irish artist that graces the chapel in the Church of St Bartholomew in Ottawa. At that time in 2019 the Church had recognized that the window and its casing badly needed repairs, cleaning, and maintenance. Restoration experts estimated the cost of the renovations to be \$250,000. A Church committee undertook to raise the money in a multi-year capital drive. The Ottawa Branch under Don Dalziel undertook to provide up to \$25,000 as a Regimental donation to this undertaking and in 2022, together with the Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund, conducted a fundraising effort to make this happen. It was enormously helped with a generous gift from the estate of Bill Hewson. The HGMF made an initial donation of \$20,000 before year's end.

The window was entirely removed from its frame, taken apart piece by piece, and sent to Montreal for the cleaning and restoration. The project was completed on time and within budget. In a service at St. Bart's on 6 November 2023, the window was unveiled again, now reset in its framing and glorious in the clarity of its colours. It was re-dedicated with the laying of a wreath by Gen (Ret'd) AJGD de Chastelain, the Act of Remembrance by the COR, Vince Kennedy, and comments after by His Excellency Dr Eammon McKee, Ambassador of Ireland to Canada.



On March 12<sup>th</sup> of 2023, David Pentney, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the HGMF was on hand from Kingston and joined a group of Ottawa Patricias to present to the Church officials the last \$5000 of the \$25,000 gift from PPCLI to St Bartholomew's.

This project extends the important link between the Church of St Bartholomew with its spectacular Memorial East Window and the PPCLI.



**The Witnesses at St Bartholomew's, 12 March 2023**

Left to Right: Greg Bell in rear, Al Johnston and Kenella Johnston in front, Mary Ann de Chastelain behind Norah Hewson, John de Chastelain in the rear, Vince Kennedy, Barbara Anderson, David Pentney in rear with Tony Anderson, Janet Pentney, Don Dalziel on the right.

## **The Korean War Veteran**

Submitted by Vince Courtenay with permission of the *Windsor Star*

V. Courtenay's note: The *Windsor Star* has kindly permitted us to republish this excellent article. It is based on the reporter's in-depth interview with my good friend, Bernard Cote, who served in the Battle of Kapyong in April 1951. It is the best short article describing the battle and the soldier's feelings in it that I have ever read. For all the years I have known Bernard Cote this is the first time he has ever expressed himself about the Battle of Kapyong, or any of the other battles he served in during his many months in the war.

Not mentioned in the article is the fact that Mr. Cote signed up to serve in Korea almost as soon as he heard that North Korean forces had invaded South Korea. At the time Canada had not yet made a commitment to send troops to Korea so he crossed the border into the United States and hitchhiked to Toledo and joined the U.S. Army.

On the train to Fort Benning for training, FBI agents came on board and rounded up all the Canadians. None of them had proper visas to work in the United States. They were all arrested and returned to the border in Detroit in custody.

They were released to voluntarily leave the country. *Time* magazine published a story about the intrepid Canadians who had jumped the gun and unwittingly committed an immigration laws crime by signing up.

As soon as Canada announced it was forming a special service brigade of volunteers specifically to serve in Korea, he hitchhiked to London, Ontario and enlisted in the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry.

*Editor's Note: This article was shortened and a photo removed due to email size constraints.*

## Hiking trail, shelter bring peace where Canadians fought fierce battle

Author of the article:

[Doug Schmidt](#)

Published Apr 25, 2023



'So frickin' scared.' Korean War veteran Bernard Cote, 94, shows a Ted Zuber painting in his Windsor home on April 21, 2023. The war artist depicted the scene atop Hill 677 during the Battle of Kapyong at the location when Cote and his platoon mates helped hold off a vastly superior number of enemy troops. PHOTO BY DAN JANISSE/Windsor Star

“It was awful, just awful — the sound, you couldn’t believe,” he recalls in an interview from the comfort of his Windsor home, more than 10,000 kilometres and 72 years removed from that chaotic scene. “You’re so frickin’ scared.”



Now 94, Cote is the last survivor of his small platoon of Canadian soldiers placed at the furthest rocky end atop Hill 677, a strategic high point between the South Korean capital of Seoul and a massive invading force represented by the People's Volunteer Army deployed from Communist China.

Those deadly artillery explosions all around him on the night of April 24/25, 1951, were actually among thousands of rounds lobbed into allied-held hillsides by friendly forces during the fiercely fought Battle of Kapyong.

“We wouldn't have survived without that (artillery),” Cote said. The enemy, who had infiltrated the mountainous Kapyong Valley under cover of darkness, had just routed nearby elements of American and Australian forces, with both sides suffering heavy casualties. Now they turned their attention to the 2nd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI).

Cote, 22 at the time, said his D Company had only just arrived in the valley the day before and were being set up in giant tents in what had been promised as some R&R (rest and recuperation).

The next morning, however, they were told to get their gear ready, including grenades and 100 rounds each of bullets, and then ordered to march up what had been marked as Hill 677 on military maps and to then hold the line. Arriving late that night, Cote said digging in was nearly impossible given that the narrow Z-shaped ridge was mostly rock.

The dawn brought a frightful sight.

“We could see the Chinese coming, like ants in the distance,” he said. Two divisions of attackers — up to 20,000 enemy soldiers — were on the way, but Cote's PPCLI company dug into hastily developed defences were told to “get their heads down — nobody leaves their positions.”

Part of staying put — and surviving — was to allow the New Zealand artillery guns to train fire on pre-set markers. Cote said the Chinese soldiers “were right on top of us,” with soldiers around him dying in what at times became hand-to-hand combat. At one point, his platoon was joined by survivors from an adjacent overrun position.

Surrounded on all sides by the enemy, American pilots had to execute precision resupply air drops of ammunition and food as the allied artillery continued to decimate the invaders who eventually withdrew. Cote said a couple of his platoon mates were among the PPCLI company's 10 soldiers killed in action. The Chinese lost an estimated 2,000 killed and many more wounded.

One of the few photos taken at the time shows members of Cote's platoon sitting around their Hill 677 position the following morning, with the young Windsor man staring at the camera, taking a drag from a cigarette.



Korean War veteran Bernard Cote is shown (centre rear, smoking a cigarette) on April 25, 1951, the day after the Battle of Kapyong, when a relatively small number of Canadian soldiers held off a vastly superior number of enemy troops from positions atop a rocky ridge dubbed Hill 677. PHOTO COURTESY BERNARD COTE. PHOTO BY DAN JANISSE /Windsor Star

Next month is expected to see the official opening of the Kapyong (also spelled Gapyeong) Memorial Trail, connecting all the Canadian platoon positions, with a traditional Korean-design shelter dubbed Canada House — “a place of peace and reflection” — at its terminus atop Hill 677, at the location where Cote and his platoon mates fought for their survival.

“That’s something nice,” said Cote. He’s been back to Gapyeong since, but when recently asked whether he would like to attend again for the trail opening ceremonies, he replied, jokingly: “I said you can have my ashes.”



The recently completed Canada House rest and lookout atop Hill 677 in the Republic of Korea is at the terminus of the Battle of Kapyong Memorial Trail, built in tribute to Canadian soldiers with the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry who fought in a fierce battle in April 1951 during the Korean War. PHOTO BY COURTESY OF VINCE COURTENAY /Windsor Star

The effort, which will include maple leaf trees planted in the future, was organized by a committee of Canadians and Koreans, including Canada's defence attaché to South Korea, Capt. (N) Jill Marrack, and assisted by Republic of Korea Special Forces soldiers, who helped stake out the trail network, and forest rangers who flew in materials by helicopter.

Hill 677 overlooks a farm valley that already hosts a Canadian peace garden and monument commemorating the 26,000 Canadians — 516 of whom were killed — who served with United Nations forces during the Korean War, 1950-1953.

“Hiking and mountaineering is a terribly popular sport in Korea,” said Vince Courtenay, a fellow Windsorite who also served in the Korean War. “There are hiking clubs all over — they’ll flock there.”

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## **More News on a Korean War Vet**

Submitted by Terri Orser



Murray Edwards (103 years young) was sent a PPCLI hoodie from RHQ for his birthday. Terri Orser was at the Veterans Lodge in Victoria to give it to him. He absolutely loves it. The staff says he wears it all the time!

## **Power of Social Media**

Submitted by Herb Kenny

On the 4<sup>th</sup> May, we lost a proud Patricia, Ray Knowles, at young age of 73. For those who knew him, you would have known he was a proud Patricia and you if didn't, you would have quickly realized that fact if you spend five minutes with him. After his passing, his sister reached out to the Association with one request: was it possible to have Patricias as his pallbearers. With a quick email to all Patricias in the local area and a post on the Facebook, the magic happened. It took only two days for the Pats to come together to make this wish happen. In conversations with his sister, she stated it was sad to have lost her brother but he passed in the presence of Patricias. Ray liked to drive in from North Battleford SK to Wainwright AB to attend course graduations and speak with newly badged Patricias. This was where he passed just following a DPI graduating course. Many thanks to Darcy Parker for taking the lead with the pallbearers. Patricias always step up when needed. Many thanks to the others who attended: Sgts Drew Marchand & Sean Wight from Camp Wainwright, Ed Bonin, Eddy Dagenais, Matt Marchewka, Tim Popp, Mark Fesciuc and Colin Maynard.



## **VICTORIA BRANCH - MUSEUM REPORT**

Submitted by Jack Bates

Following up on the history of the PPCLI exhibit within the CFB Esquimalt Naval and Military Museum dating back to 1998, credit is given to Herb Pitts, Don Ross, Chic Goodman and Bruce Dickey for initiating the display, Ed Widenmaier for his years of attention along with Bruce, Jack Bates and Gerry Nugent. Also, thank you to those who have contributed items to furnish the displays, mainly former members of 1 and 3 PPCLI from Work Point, and the Airborne Regiment.

This summer, the exhibit, along with the KOREA display, will be upgraded with assistance from summer students employed by the Base Museum, and input from members of the Victoria Branch of the Association.

A recent acquisition is that of a memorial window placed in St. Barbara's Protestant Chapel in Work Point Barracks, on March 30, 1994, in memory of twenty – two 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion members. When 3 PPCLI departed for Chilliwack on June 30, 1994, the leaded stained glass 9" by 15" memorial window featuring VP with Regimental Colours, remained in the chapel at Work Point.

The window was eventually removed during renovations for repurposing of the building and was discovered by Major Madeleine Dahl, former Commanding Officer of 2483 PPCLI Cadet Corps, at Work Point. Major Dahl had the window framed for protection and turned it over to the Victoria Branch of the Association. It will be housed in the PPCLI exhibit, along with a copy of the dedication program, pending a possible more suitable home.



We are still looking for the two memorial wall plaques that were removed from the Royal Jubilee Hospital years ago. If anyone has any information, please contact the Victoria Branch.

### **A Toast to the Heroes of Frezenburg**

Submitted by D.B. Marsh

Here's to the bloodied Patricias  
And to those who were never found  
And here's to the glorious fallen  
Bodies surrendered on sacred ground

They were the first of us to know such service  
The first to shed their blood  
The first to die for their sovereign  
The first to taste the mud

Generations have passed since Ypres  
Since Frezenberg at Bellewaerde Ridge  
But the pride of the regiment moves forward  
As our boots cross histories bridge

Many have worn the hat badge  
Bearing the cipher and coronet  
Patricias in peace and in conflict  
Proven ready to face the threat

And so,

Here's to the bloodied Patricias  
And to those who were never found  
And here's to the glorious fallen  
Bodies surrendered on sacred ground

We remember that powerful example  
We hear their soldier's plea  
We remember what it means to stand fast and hold  
As in chorus we call out, VP!

## **Sydney Frost Battlefield Tour of Sicily and Italy 16 – 31 May 2024**

We are planning a Battlefield Tour to commemorate the 81st Anniversary of the Landings in Sicily on 10 July 1943 and 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of subsequent actions as the Regiment fought through Sicily and Italy until they were transferred to Northwest Europe in March 1945.

The Tour will be in two parts

### **Part One 16 – 31 May 2024**

On May 16<sup>th</sup>, you depart Canada and fly to Rome arriving on the 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be a short tour of Rome on the 18<sup>th</sup> with a flight to Sicily in the afternoon. You will visit the beaches where the Regiment landed on 10 July 1943, D-Day museum in Catania, Leonforte, Mt Assoro and Agira Canadian War Cemetery. We will dedicate a memorial plaque at Leonforte in honour of the Regiment's action on 21-22 July 1943, where the Regiment liberated the town and reinforced the Loyal Edmonton Regiment who had been surrounded by the Germans. During this battle, the Bailey Bridge constructed by 3<sup>rd</sup> Field Company, Royal Canadian Engineers was the first Bailey Bridge constructed while under enemy fire during WW II. On May 21<sup>st</sup> you will fly back to Rome and link up in Cassino with those who are doing Part Two.

### **Part Two 19 – 31 May 2023**

For those on Part Two, you depart on May 19<sup>th</sup> arriving in Rome on the 20<sup>th</sup>. You will do a quick tour of Rome on the 21<sup>st</sup> and drive to Cassino where you will link up with Part One. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> we visit Monte Cassino, the Commonwealth War Grave Cemetery, and Gustav Line.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> we unveil our second memorial plaque at the Hitler Line. On 23 May 1944, the Regiment attacked as the far right Battalion in a Divisional assault on the Hitler Line. By the end of the day, 77 men were left standing. The Patricias suffered 58 killed, 162 wounded and 27 taken as prisoners of war.

We will visit Melfa Crossing where Jack Mahony of the Westminster Regiment was awarded the Victoria Cross. On the 24<sup>th</sup> we drive to Ortona. We will visit Villa Rogatti where Cammy Ware was awarded the DSO and participate in a Remembrance service and meal with village residents. On the 27<sup>th</sup> we go to Rimini, visiting the Gradara Cemetery and San Marino.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> we will tour the Gothic Line, Corriano Ridge Commonwealth Cemetery and San Fortunato. We unveil the final memorial plaque at Osteria Nuova on the Gothic Line. On the 29<sup>th</sup> we tour the River Battles where the Regiment fought from November to December 1944. We plan to visit commonwealth cemeteries at Villanova, Cessena and Ravenna. After a remarkably busy day you finally arrive in the vicinity of Venice. You will tour Venice on the 30<sup>th</sup> and fly home on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

The cost per person for the entire Battlefield Tour is \$4,890 plus airfare. It are only doing the Italy portion the cost is \$3,950 plus airfare. We are using Special Travels International

who supported the 2015 Battlefield Tours as part of the Regiment's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. To date 12 individuals have registered. You can find further details on the Battlefield Tour on the HGMF website <https://hgmf.ca/> . The Tour will be opened to the public on 1 October 2023.



## Branch News

**Sgt Roy Rushton Branch,  
PPCLI Association Atlantic**  
Submitted by Glen Ryan

During the first 5 months of 2023 the Atlantic Branch has hosted 2 meet and greets. The Atlantic Branch co-hosted a Regimental Day meet and greet with Joel Turnbull and the Dirty Patricia's at the Armouries in Fredericton, NB. This was a very successful meet and greet as it was our largest turnout with over 40 in attendance.



During this meet and greet a fundraising draw was held for a wood carving of an original cap badge of the PPCLI. All money raised during this draw will be donated to the Hamilton Gault Memorial fund. A total of \$369.00 was raised through ticket sales. The winner of this draw was Joel Turnbull.



On 08 May 2023, the Atlantic Branch had a Frezenberg Day meet and greet with a small gathering of 7 members in attendance.



While attending the PPCLI Association AGM in Niagara-on-the-Lake, the Atlantic Branch President (Glen Ryan) presented Dave Pentney with a check for \$369.00 that was raised during our Atlantic Branch fundraising draw for the HGMF.



The next gathering for the Atlantic Branch will be on 10 Aug 2023 for the Regimental Birthday and our Atlantic Branch AGM will be held 22-24 Sep 2023 in Halifax, NS.

### **Kingston Branch**

Submitted by Glenn Nordick

To finish off 2022, Kingston Branch held its Christmas Dinner, 17 December 2022, at the Greek Isles Restaurant in Kingston. We had 22 people in attendance but the new Branch President, yours truly, forgot to take a picture. We all had a great time enjoying fantastic Greek food – always a great reminder of many tours in Cyprus. It should also be noted that the Branch runs a 50/50 draw, at all our local events, with all proceeds going to the Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund.

On 2 Dec 22, Col Adam Moore, the Kingston Area Senior Serving Patricia, hosted a Beer Call between the Kingston Serving Patricia's and the Kingston Branch members at the Captain Matt Dawe Memorial Legion. It was a great chance to mingle and, it is hoped, these Beer Calls will once again become frequent events – as Covid restrictions continue to ease. We had a second combined Beer Call on 17 March to celebrate the Regimental Birthday.

The Branch held its annual Regimental Dinner on 22 April. In recent years it has become a necessity to move the date into April, as the Branch has to work around the many snowbirds, as well as a significant number of members who continue to work for Calian, providing expert simulation and exercise support to an intense Army training programme. As has become tradition, the dinner was held at the Captain Matt Dawe Memorial Legion. This Legion is a great supporter of both the Regular and Association Branch of the PPCLI and, as you can see, has become a regular meeting place for Patricia's in Kingston. We had 22 attendees who stayed until the Legion was pushing us out the door.



Five Branch members and spouses will be attending the upcoming Association Annual General Meeting in Niagara-on-the-Lake in May. Finally, our next Branch event, the Annual Branch Golf Tournament will be coming up in mid-June. All are welcome, so if you are interested let us know and the Branch will send invites once the dates are confirmed.

### **South-West Ontario Branch**

Submitted by Greg Ferguson

As the nation has been gradually reopening since mid 2022, the SW Ontario Branch has begun to return to normal.

One of our challenges in SW Ontario and yet one of the assets of our branch is the size of our area. We have such a large area that we sometimes find it difficult to gather as we would like yet



at the same time, we all look forward to being together and celebrating as part of our Regimental Family.

On December 2 we were able to gather for the first time since 2019 for our Annual Christmas Dinner and while the numbers were small, we had an awesome time and by all accounts the Moose Milk hit the spot. Thanks to Rich and Angela for doing the leg work to bring this across the finish line.

Derrick “Junior” McClinchy and Rich Davey have been leading our London Area Patricia’s with regular (monthly) gatherings in London. Turn out for the luncheons is usually well received and in case someone wants to tell a “war story” we have the helmet on the table. You will note in this picture it is on Ron O’Connor’s head so I will let you draw your own conclusions.



Regimental Day 2023 was a great opportunity to gather with Patricias. The London Area Patricia’s went all out and had a great lunch with cupcakes. Kerri Tadeau a friend of the Patricia’s donated some coffee mugs, hats and pins which we drew names for. What is really great about these gatherings is that invariably people run into others that they have not seen in many, many years.



Our Annual Regimental Day Dinner in Niagara Falls was also well attended, and we were able to celebrate our day with many others. Romeo Daley has used the pandemic as an opportunity to hone his artistic skills and presented a number of paintings to some of the past presidents of the branch.

National Past President, Paul Hale surprised our President Greg Ferguson with the PPCLI Association Award of Merit.



Not to be outdone, our Trenton Area Patricia's led by Ian White held a gathering with others some of whom went over to the dark side and ended their careers in blue.

Thanks to all who continue to meet the bar as set out by our founder, Hamilton Gault 76 years ago when he brought all the Patricia clubs under the PPCLI Association Banner. Hamilton Gault believed in the value of meeting with fellow Patricia's for fellowship.

The helmet came later!!!

One of the initiatives that we have started here in SW Ontario is to comb our local cemeteries in search of Patricias. When we find one, we ask a member to adopt it and try to have an occasional toast with our fallen sister or brother. Ron Rumble has taken on two such brothers in St. Thomas and looks after them. Decorating the markers with a Camp Colour and Canadian Flag. This is something that we hope will catch on across the country.



Finally, the SW Ontario Branch hosted the 2023 National AGM in Niagara-on-the-Lake at the Vintage Prince of Wales Hotel. While the numbers were not as strong as we had hoped for it was by all accounts a huge success. One of the traditions that the SW Ontario Branch has been doing for the last number of years at our social dinners is to have hospitality suite which we refer to at the Better 'Ole.



We would like to thank everyone who was able to attend the meeting in person as this AGM was no exception. We hope that this will set the bar for all future gatherings because as we know the comradery and fellowship are what truly helps to define us as Patricias.

### **Manitoba and North-West Ontario Branch**

Submitted by Perry Batchelor

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of March, the Association was to hold its AGM, but because of a huge snowstorm we needed to postpone the meeting until the 28<sup>th</sup> of May. Many of the Branch Members attended the Regimental Day social event held at Smitty's Restaurant in Winnipeg. The Branch is grateful to CannaConnect who continues to support the Branch through sponsorship.



On 25 April 2023, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion PPCLI Veterans stretching from the NWT, Alberta, Saskatchewan and members of Manitoba NW Ontario Branch attended the 72<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Kapyong Parade in Shilo. Following the parade, the Battalion laid on lunch and a tour of the Battalion lines.





The event was capped off by the attendance of Captain James Brister (Alberta) a Kapyong Veteran. At 92 years young he can still handle the business end of a C6 medium machine gun. Captain Brister's son, Retired Major Dan Brister (Alberta) another son Matt (Alberta) and his daughter Stephanie (Ontario) also attended the event.



Captain James Brister was a Section Commander in 7 Platoon Charlie Company during the Battle of Kapyong and was promoted to Sergeant shortly after the Battle. He later received his commission.



Many of our Kapyong Veterans have gone to the big RV in the sky. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

Thanks to all ranks of 2 PPCLI for an outstanding day in recognition to those brave souls for whom we still wear the US Presidential Citation with pride.

The Manitoba NW Ontario Branch continues to stay strong with 85 paid up members in 2023. We welcome new and returning members, 365 days a year.

Once a Patricia Always a Patricia.

### **Edmonton Branch**

Submitted by Herb Kenny

Good day to all fellow Patricia's from all members of the Edmonton branch. We are now, we hope, out from under the umbrella of COVID 19. We are starting to gather again which is very nice. Finished 2022 with our well-attended Christmas Dinner. Started 2023 with our branch AGM in Jan. Surprise there was no change in our executive. Herb Kenny, a man of many hats, is still President, Secretary and Treasurer. Tim Penney Vice President, Mike Schneider VPP, Kevin Raper Sgt at Arms and Past President Fred Goldring.

We have 33 members plus attend our meeting on a regular basis, making for great conversations during and after the formal stuff. We are maintaining a steady strength despite losing members to the Battalions in the sky. In March, we celebrated the 17 March with many events. Started with members watching the First Battalion play Broom-i-loo in the morning. At noon, the local CannaConnect hosted local Patricia's with food and a cake. In the evening, there was a gathering at Patricia Park. A short brief of Lady P's life was read followed by a toast to her and the Regiment. The day ended with adult beverages in local pub.



Front Row: L-R

Malcom Thompson, Marky Burke, Shaun Peterson, Joe Jasper, Herb Kenny, Fred Goldring, Mike Bludd,  
Mike Rude, Rick Peters, Kevin Raper, Kim Whitaker, Gord Descoteaux, Norm Pryce

Second Row L-R

Pat Mathews, Kyle Turner, Sheldon Blowers, Ken Zack, Dana Wick, Darrell Chetyrbuk, Andy Social,  
Darrel Sherington, Jeff McIntyre, Ron Hamilton

Back Row L-R

Jeff Peart, Ed Haines, Kevin Nielsen, Malcom Bruce, Jim Butters, Mike Schneider

We had two presentations at the branch level in April. First on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April, Herman Barkemeyer turned 90 years young. He couldn't make the meeting, but Lyle Saumer was able to meet up with him in Barrhead and presented him with his 90 Certificate signed by the CINC and COR. The members of RHQ also provided him a Patricia hoodie. Secondly, as many of us have had the displeasure of doing and that is misplacing our Regimental coin. Well, one recently came up on eBay and the number belonged to a branch member, Stan Woodcock. In the late Eighties, he misplaced his in Victoria while serving with 3 PPCLI. The coin was acquired and represented to him at a meeting. He was very thankful to have his original back in his position.



Lyle Saumer and Herman Barkemeyer

In May, we prepared for the National AGM which 11 of the membership attended virtually. We are having our last meeting at end of May before the summer break. At which time we will celebrate Frezenberg Day. There are events ongoing during the summer. On 10 Aug at 1800hrs there will be gathering at Patricia Park to toast 109 years. This will be followed up with the annual PPCLI Campout 11 -13 Aug in Camrose.

A reminder to all Patricia's in the Edmonton area and those passing through, we hold our meetings at 1100hrs, the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month at the Kingsway Legion Branch #175. The Legion is located at [14339 50th St, Edmonton AB T5A 0S9](https://www.google.com/maps/place/14339+50th+St,+Edmonton+AB+T5A+0S9).

Also, please check out PPCLI Association Alberta and Saskatchewan Facebook page for upcoming events in and around Edmonton.

Once a Patricia, Always a Patricia!

## **Victoria Branch**

Submitted by Terri Orser

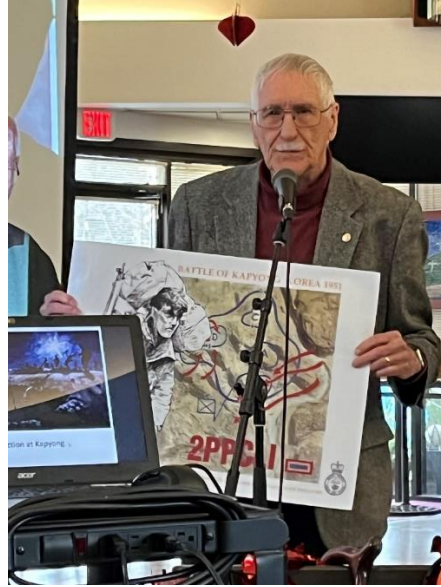
Victoria Branch is alive and well. We remain at around 50 members and continue to meet every second Thursday of each month.

On Remembrance Day we participated and placed wreaths at the Afghanistan Memorial and at the Esquimalt Cenotaph with the 2483 PPCLI RCACC Cadets.

Our Christmas luncheon was very well attended. Murray Edwards (102 then) was there with many other Korea Veterans, as they were honored by the Korean Community.



(Korea Veterans - December 2023 with branch members Bruce Dickey, James Kempling and Terri Orser)



Bill MacMillan explaining the Kapyong battle.



Murray Edwards with James Kempling on the occasion of Murray's 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday.



Regimental Day in Victoria 17 March 2023



Poster sent to Korea as part of the Kapyong Commemorative Trail project – donated by the PPCLI Victoria Branch on behalf of the PPCLI Association

### Mid-Vancouver Island Branch

Submitted by Brad Marriot

Greetings to all from beautiful Comox, Vancouver Island, BC. At least it is now! Our winter weather threw a wrench into a lot of people's plans.

Our small group of members continue to meet monthly to share stories, and to try and come-up with ways to stay relevant in this fast-paced world. On paper we show upwards of 15 but less than 20 members, but this fluctuates when we meet on a month-to-month basis. One of my main priorities when assuming the President's position was to recruit new members. Unfortunately, reality has put a damper on my plans so far. I'm still committed to this endeavour, and when able while at work, pay a visit to the 19 Wing Imaging section to get some recruiting posters done-up.

There exists a fair number of ex-PPCLI members currently working both in the RCAF and as civilians here on the Wing.

We have met monthly this year, except for February when a winter snowstorm made it necessary to cancel last minute. We normally rotate our meetings between the RCL Branch 256 in Nanaimo and the RCL Branch 160 Comox. February's meeting was in Nanaimo and a majority of members were travelling from the west side and north island to Nanaimo. It isn't worth injury or death for a meeting, so I cancelled the event. In the future, all Comox meetings will be held at the 888 Wing Royal Canadian Air Force Association's venue. This is due to safety concerns of narrow stairs at the RCL Branch 160 Comox.

We were going to celebrate the anniversary of the PPCLI Regiment at the cancelled February meeting. Fast forward to our meeting in March, and with 10 association members and a few of the spouses, we all raised a pint in honour of the founding of the PPCLI Regiment. A welcome surprise to the group, was the playing of two songs that were actual recordings from WW2. One was the Ric-A-Dam-Do and the other Has Anyone Seen the Colonel. We stood in honour for both. These were provided by Richard MacIntosh one of our members in attendance.

In the future, the Mid-Island PPCLI Association has made a collective decision to concentrate on:

- \*Recruiting new members;

- \*Collaborating with the Victoria, BC branch (starting sometime in September);

- \*Focus on referring ex-PPCLI members (or any other trade/element if need be) to obtaining help for OSIs (we will not provide any medical, spiritual, psychological help);

- \*Assist the 2943 PPCLI Royal Canadian Army Cadets in Campbell River in anyway possible; and

- \*Developing a networking system, such as to garner information on service providers (e.g. plumbers, electricians, accountants, lawyers, etc, etc).

All the best and cheers to all the other PPCLI Branch Associations, from the members of the Mid-Island PPCLI Association!!! Enjoy the summer!



Nine of our ten members at our March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. The President was behind the camera.



Raising a pint in honour of the anniversary of the PPCLI Regiment. The President was once again behind the camera.



## Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund (HGMF) Update

Submitted by Dave Pentney, Chair HGMF

It has been two years since the formal separation of the Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund (HGMF) and the PPCLI Association occurred; however, the HGMF and the Association continue to work collaboratively to support the Regimental Family.

A major project this past year was raising funds to support the restoration of the of the Stained-Glass Memorial East Window in St. Bartholomew's Church. On Sunday, March 12, 2023, in the company of several Patricia's, I had the honour of presented St. Bartholomew's Church with a final \$5,000 cheque to complete our \$25,000 commitment.



Bonnie Robertson (Fundraising Chair), Rev. Cathy Davis (Clergy), Dave Pentney (Chair HGMF)



Front (L to R) Al Johnson, Tony Anderson, Vince Kennedy  
Rear (L toR) Greg Bell, Dave Pentney, John de Chastelain, Don Dalziel

In 2022, we were pleased to continue the student bursary program in cooperation with the Association. In recognition of the increasing cost of post-secondary education it was decided to reduce the number of bursaries awarded, but to increase the value of each. Our thanks to the Selection Committee composed of Stan Stapleford, Mike Schneider, Bill Dickson, George Arndt and Herb Kenney, and to Derek Prohar and Tim Penney who oversaw and administered the process. There were ten bursaries awarded for a total of \$30,000 being presented. The same model be used this year.

We were pleased to recommence, post-COVID, the HGMF Cadet Corps Trophy competition for the 2022/23 training year. Six of our PPCLI affiliated Army Cadet Corps participated in the competition, with 2837 PPCLI RCACC Yellowknife coming out as the top corps. They will be awarded a \$1,000 cheque by the HGMF. The HGMF will also be awarding a \$2,000 grant to each of the following cadet corps: 553 Sgt Tommy Prince MM PPCLI RCACC Winnipeg; 2837 PPCLI RCACC Yellowknife; and 2943 PPCLI RCACC Campbell River. The HGMF extends its thanks Gord Keener for his efforts on behalf of the Association in helping us deliver this program.

Over the past year the HGMF Veterans and Family Support Committee, under the leadership of Donna Campbell, conducted a comprehensive review of the myriad of veteran's programs with a view to identifying gaps that we might fill or programs we might support. An outcome of that review was an analysis of the HGMF charitable purposes and activities with a view to updating them to better serve the Regimental Family. Those revised purposes and activities have been submitted to the CRA Charities Directorate for comment before the HGMF proceeds with amending our constitution. We are still awaiting a response from CRA.

The PPCLI Association membership is our primary donor base. We sincerely thank those members that have supported, and continue to support, the HGMF and its activities through their donations. The easiest way to support the HGMF is through a regular, monthly donation using Canada Helps. We encourage members of the Association to consider this option. You can also make a donation by sending an e-transfer to our Chief Financial Officer, Ernie Reumiller: [cfo.hgmf@gmail.com](mailto:cfo.hgmf@gmail.com), or by mailing a cheque to The Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund, 4520 Crowchild Trail Southwest, Calgary, AB T2T 5J4.

Always a Patricia!

## Army Cadet News

### 2701 PPCLI Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps (Winnipeg MB)

Submitted by Lt(N) Tim Lehtinen



Cadet Chief Warrant Officer Frederick Schellenburg

It has been a busy year here at 2701 Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps from Field Training, introducing band into our unit, volunteering, lesson planning, shooting and much more. In this article, you will learn some insight from our Cadet Regimental Sergeant Major who is in the above photo. Cadet Chief Warrant Officer Schellenberg has been with 2701 (PPCLI) for 6 years. CWO Schellenberg grew up in a small town in Saskatchewan where no one heard about what a cadet corps was. It wasn't until he moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba when he was only 12 years old, where he was able to learn about the cadet program and join 2701. He was recently promoted to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer in March of 2023. Chief Warrant Officer Schellenberg was promoted to Regimental Sergeant Major in early September of 2022, where he has continued to lead the cadets of 2701 (PPCLI) with great pride. He has strived to ensure cadets are practicing dress, drill, and deportment while also ensuring cadets feel welcome and are having fun. Chief Warrant Officer Schellenberg said he never knew a program for youth could have so many opportunities. He continues to say that it's because of this program that he has had the opportunity to meet all kinds of different people from across Canada.



Cadet Chief warrant Officer would like to add “Cadets is more than just the uniform, classes and drill, it’s about meeting new people, being able to make long lasting friendships, amazing memories you’ll keep for years to come and of course, Cadets Leading Cadets”.

### **2943 PPCLI Royal Canadian Cadet Corps (Campbell River BC)**

2943 PPCLI Army Cadets have had a great year. Our numbers have been growing and the cadets have enjoyed many activities outside of parade nights. The year started with a joint sea and army FTX to HMCS Quadra where they participated in sailing activities. The cadets have also participated in 2 Army FTX; one FTX with the Comox Army Cadets in the Fall and one solo FTX to a local lake in early Spring where they did some camping and survival training. May 12-15 the cadets will be participating in a fun physical training and team building weekend at Capernwray Harbour on Thetis Island. The cadets also had some local fun with activities such as bowling, rock wall climbing and basketball.

We are proud to represent the PPCLI and we thank Collins Harrow (Mid-Island PPCLI Association member) for his regular attendance at our parades and parents’ meetings as well as his donations to our bottle drive account and his history lesson that earns each cadet their cap brass. We would also like to thank Mr. Donald Bourne (Mid-Island PPCLI Association member) for donating a sash, sword and pace stick. These items will be worn and used with pride by our senior cadets. Mr. John Paulin (Mid-Island PPCLI Association member) also deserves a thank you for his generous cash donation.

Thank you to the Mid-Island PPCLI Association for your support!



Enjoying a fire during a FTX at a local lake



Collins Harrow conducting a PPCLI history lesson

### **2483 PPCLI Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps (RCACC) (Victoria BC)**

Submitted by Captain Rachel Lafitte

2483 PPCLI Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps (RCACC) has had a great training year with 55 cadets and 10 staff (both volunteer and paid) parading, the unit has had plenty of exciting opportunities.

In November and March, the unit participated in field training exercises at Albert Head where cadets had the opportunity to learn field skills such as building bivouac sites, navigation, leadership, survival and communication. Many of our more senior cadets have participated in expeditions at Horne Lake and Gordon Bay where they learned to canoe, use stoves, navigate, and lead teams in outdoor environments. Some of our cadets have been going above and beyond to volunteer for higher level positions and roles at the unit and we are very proud of their achievements. MWO Corser participated in the Senior Cadet Advisory Council throughout the year where he shares his opinion on the current climate of the cadet program with other senior cadets from all over BC and the Pacific Region Command Team. MWO Corser, Sgt Sison and Sgt Michiel filled leadership roles as support cadets for Silver and Gold Star Expeditions. WO Coakley participated in the Support Cadet Professional Development weekend at the start of the year.

Senior Cadets at the unit have been working hard in the last few months to learn to teach other junior cadets through both knowledge and drill classes and we have seen great improvements in their skills. Cadets have also been participating in sports nights and fitness tests to gauge their fitness levels. The unit has been participating in Military Band practices on Mondays with 3005 Service Battalion RCACC and holds unit marksmanship practices on Saturdays. The staff have facilitated cadets participating in the most recent candlelight vigil, hikes, Fort MacAuley Day, Remembrance day and Basic Training Days. We look forward to adding more activities to our list next year!

Many of our cadets are currently looking forward to summer camps all over Canada where they will learn even more skills and make many new friends. Our Annual Ceremonial Review will be held on June 11<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the end of the training year, 70 years of parading and the many successes of our team. We look forward to next year where we anticipate the cadet program will change but there will still be many new and exciting opportunities. We would like to warmly thank everyone who has supported us throughout this year.

## Last Post

Fred Carroll 59	1 PPCLI	Jan 2022	Germany
Michael Brodhagen 75	PPCLI	Aug 2022	Haliburton ON
Allan Novak 84	3 PPCLI	Nov 2022	Victoria BC
Lucien J Point 84	1 & 2 PPCLI	Dec 2022	Calgary AB
Oillie LeVern Ellingson 86	2 PPCLI	Jan 2023	Maple Creek SK
Robert T LeBlanc 59	1,2,3 PPCLI	Jan 2023	Edmonton AB
Stewart Kearsley 71	2 PPCLI	Jan 2023	Calgary AB
Richard W Weekes 62	3 PPCLI	Jan 2023	Kingston ON
John Powell 63	3 PPCLI	Jan 2023	Sherwood Park AB
John Joly 75	2 PPCLI	Jan 2023	Victoria BC
Derek W McVicar 49	1 PPCLI	Jan 2023	Saint John NB
Barry O'Rourke 87	PPCLI	Jan 2023	Sudbury ON
James E Huntley 83	1 PPCLI	Jan 2023	Calgary AB
Michael P Czubka 91	Korea	Jan 2023	Winnipeg MB
Bernhard Ackermann 94	2 PPCLI	Jan 2023	High River AB
Michael Danyleyko 92	PPCLI	Feb 2023	Edmonton AB
Jim Thurston 65	1 & 3 PPCLI	Feb 2023	Edmonton AB
Dr Heniz Griesbach 93	PPCLI	Feb 2023	Fort MacLeod AB
John Carol Roth 92	Korea	Feb 2023	Bridgewater NS
David W Stiles 83	3 PPCLI	Feb 2023	Victoria BC
Montague Cowan Allison 87	Korea	Feb 2023	Winnipeg MB
Jonathan E Jenkinson 40	1 PPCLI	Feb 2023	Calgary AB
Philip Hird 59	1 PPCLI	Mar 2023	Victoria BC
Errol C Monkley 79	2 PPCLI	Mar 2023	Charlottetown PEI
Greg Buehler 66	2 PPCLI	Mar 2023	Winnipeg MB
Roch Daigle 63	1 PPCLI	Mar 2023	Antigonish NS
John W Gribble 62	3 PPCLI	Mar 2023	Calgary AB
Gerard W Kennedy 64	2 PPCLI	Mar 2023	Steinbach MB
Gerald GA Bowen 76	1 PPCLI	Mar 2023	Pictou NS
Howard C Howard 61	1 PPCLI	Mar 2023	Burlington ON
Kevin Walsh 83	PPCLI	Mar 2023	Victoria BC
Alvin C MacKay 88	2 PPCLI	April 2023	Kentville NS
James D O'Brien 86	2 PPCLI	April 2023	Saanich BC
Todd B Gilman 53	1 PPCLI	April 2023	Calgary AB
Maxwell J Mayling 50	3 PPCLI	April 2023	Calgary AB
Donald F McKay 81	PPCLI	April 2023	Victoria BC

Clement L.T. Tisserrand 82	PPCLI	April 2023	Saanich BC
Dennis Jr. Eason 46	3 PPCLI	April 2023	Conception Bay NF
Wes Marshall 94	PPCLI	April 2023	Victoria BC
Zachary M Boring 22	1 PPCLI	April 2023	Kelowna BC
Scott G Hornbrook 58	2 PPCLI	April 2023	Grovedale AB
Michael Wroblewski 59	3 PPCLI	May 2023	Portugal NL
Raymond Knowles 73	1,2,3 PPCLI	May 2023	North Battleford SK
Norman H Lundre 82	1 & 2 PPCLI	May 2023	Calgary AB