

# The Strathconian

100th Anniversary of the First Edition



Lord Strathcona's Horse  
(Royal Canadians)

Published annually by the members of  
Lord Strathcona's Horse (R.C.)



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July 9-12, 2015

**'MASTERS'**

CSI 5\*  
Sept. 9-13, 2015

# Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)

## Battle Honours

South Africa

**South Africa, 1900 - 1901**

First World War

**Festubert 1915, Somme 1916, '18; Brazentin, Pozières, Flers-Courcelette,  
Cambrai 1917, '18; St. Quentin, Amiens, Hindenberg Line,  
St. Quentin Canal, Beaufort, Pursuit to Mons,  
France and Flanders 1915 - 1918**

Second World War

**Liri Valley, Melfa Crossing, Torrice Crossroads, Gothic Line,  
Pozzo Alto Ridge, Coriano, Lamone Crossing, Misano Ridge, Casale,  
Naviglio Canal, Fosso Munio, Italy 1944-1945, Ijsselmeer**

**North-West Europe 1945**

Korea

**Korea 1951-1953**

**Afghanistan**



*(Battle Honours approved for emblazonment are in heavy type)*

## Allied With

The Queen's Royal Lancers

## Partnered With

10 (Polish) Armour Cavalry Brigade



## Affiliated Cadet Corps

1292 Cadet Corps - Calgary

2860 Cadet Corps - Fort Simpson

1813 Cadet Corps - Cranbrook

3066 Cadet Corps - Golden

2716 Cadet Corps - Mayerthorpe

3070 Cadet Corps - Evansburg





## The Strathconian

Is the annual journal of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)  
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**Lieutenant-Colonel J. Major, MSM, CD**  
**Commanding Officer**

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## Message From the Colonel-of-the-Regiment

*MGen Cam Ross*

This is my last Strathconian article as Colonel of the Regiment. I write it with great pride in our Regiment. Over the last five years, I have seen our soldiers meet their challenges head-on whether in the field, in garrison, or in Canadian communities. They have done so with extraordinary professionalism, confidence, and élan.

2014 has not been an easy year. The budget cuts continue to be severe but the Strathcona 'can do' attitude has persevered. Much credit goes to our support arms who have worked their magic to keep equipment functioning. The loss of the bulk of the truck fleet has had a profound impact on the Regiment's ability to support itself. For some of us older soldiers, we might be tempted to say that we have been through this before. However, we would be wrong. In my almost 40 years of service, I have never seen such drastic cuts, in so short a time, with such impact. Yet, our Regiment continues to excel.

Non-Strathconas often ask in amazement how the Regiment does it. The answer is simple; the execution is more difficult. We have developed over the years a culture of the pursuit of excellence in leadership, discipline, and most importantly, morale. An example of this culture is ably represented by this yearbook, the Strathconian. Over the years, it has developed into a first-class publication. The editors, contributors, and especially the CO's Secretary, **Kathy Batty**, should be roundly applauded for producing an exceptionally good product.

I will hand over my duties on 20 June 2015 to **Col Greg Hug**, an outstanding Strathcona who is the Regiment's nominee as our next Colonel of the Regiment. I will do so with the knowledge that our Regiment is in great hands. I am confident, that within the constraints of the day, every Strathcona is being given the opportunity to realize their full potential. Furthermore, the Regiment, with the diligent guidance of the Senior Serving Strathcona and Regimental Colonel, is being led by its Commanding Officer, Officers, Warrant Officers, and NCOs in a superlative manner.

*"In war, everything depends on morale; and morale and public opinion  
comprise the better part of reality"  
Napoleon I, 1769-1821, Pensées*





## A Word From the Senior Serving Strathcona

*Col Spike Hazleton*

75 years ago, Strathcona's fighting to liberate Italy fought and distinguished themselves in some of the bloodiest and fiercest battles of the Second World War. During the last week of November 2014 here in Italy, I had the honour and privilege of being present with 28 Canadian WWII veterans of whom two were Strathcona's. It was to say the least a very emotional and memorable week for me, and more importantly provided me an opportunity to spend time with a group of exceptional and humble soldiers. While listening to their recollections of past battles, they constantly reminded me that within our Regiment and Regimental Family we have veterans who have experienced combat and the horrors of war since WWII and we as a Regiment must never forget their sacrifices.

Regardless of generation, I am always humbled by the one common theme when talking with Strathcona's, that being the pride in our Regiment and of being a Strathcona. Despite the challenges and hurdles faced in 2014, it has been another outstanding year for our Regiment. As always, the men and women of our Regiment have distinguished themselves in countless ways and as such have been recognized through various honours and awards. In operations and in the field, we have easily maintained our military élan and professionalism and as a result we continue to earn the respect and compliments of all who come into contact with us. As the Colonel of the Regiment highlights "we have developed over the years a culture of the pursuit of excellence in leadership, discipline, and most importantly, morale." I can only echo his wise and sage words, but also as I have been prone to do throughout my career offer my own observations as well. The backbone of our Regiment are the people regardless of rank, trade, and age or hockey team choice. From the CO, RSM, OC's, SSM's down to the new Troop Leader or Trooper we have a unique sense of pride, swagger, confidence and yes.... humbleness which set us apart from all the rest.... We are the Soldiers of the Queen, we are Strathcona's, and we are proud soldiers who chose to serve in the finest Regiment on behalf of all Canadians.

In closing I would like to thank **MGen Ross**, our Colonel of the Regiment for his outstanding guidance, steady hand and dedication for his 40+ years of service to our Regiment and Country. Knowing him like I do, I am confident he will continue to remain engaged and ensure our interests are well looked after. Along with the Regimental Colonel, CO, RSM and all ranks, I look forward to working with **Col Greg Hug** who as we go to press, is the Regiment's nominee as our next Colonel of the Regiment. As always, I am honoured to be your Senior Serving Strathcona.





## Commanding Officer's Message

*LCol Josh Major*

Prior to my arrival at the Regiment, I had only brief encounters, envious remarks from other units, and incredibly positive comments from senior Army leaders as to the exceptional performance and reputation of the Strathcona's. Commanding our outstanding Regiment and soldiering alongside its members has reaffirmed, time and again, the excellence of our soldiers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank **LCol Paul Peyton** for the leadership he brought to the Regiment during his time in command. He and the team can be justifiably proud of their achievements. I would also like to highlight that this edition of the Strathconian marks a hundred years since the publication of the first two editions in 1914. Having an annual journal with a century of tradition is an amazing accomplishment and the Strathconian is a tangible manifestation of our ever-expanding history and achievements.

The Regiment continues to hone its warfighting and soldier skills with a view to being ready for any mission. These skills were continuously on display during Op NANOOK, as well as during our collective training exercise STEELE SABRE where A and Recce Sqn completed foundation training and B Sqn conducted an impressive squadron level live fire attack in preparation for their high readiness role, all the while ably supported by HQ Sqn. Members of the Regiment also did us proud during the SULLIVAN CUP, WORTHINGTON CUP, and Canadian Patrol Concentration (top 3 Division team, earning the right to participate in the next Cambrian Patrol assigned to the Brigade). This is in addition to several other significant community events such as support to Spruce Meadows and the Calgary Stampede, No Stone Left Alone, Edmonton Oilers team building, World Triathlon Championship, and the list goes on and on. 2014, like so many years before, has demonstrated the professionalism and dedication of all our soldiers.

The next year will provide Strathcona soldiers with even more opportunities to excel. A significant portion of the Regiment will train in the US, the Regiment will act as the OPFOR Battle Group for Exercise MAPLE RESOLVE, B Sqn will be part of high readiness Task Force 1-15, and A and Recce Squadrons will begin their road to high readiness with Task Force 1-16. The Regiment will also "bring it" to the rest of the Brigade and Army during several competitions, all the while being ready to accomplish any other mission assigned to us at home or abroad.

I could not be prouder to be part of such an outstanding team and soldier alongside each and every member of the Regiment. Enjoy this 100th anniversary issue of the Strathconian. It tells the story of the incredible work of all Strathconas during the past year and it is my sincerest hope that the pride I feel in our members is conveyed throughout its pages.

*Embracing the Suck*



*Being Stuck*





## Regimental Sergeant-Major's Observations

*CWO Tony Batty*

Regimental Sergeant Majors have a unique view of the planet and the solar system, I am very much aware that the Regiment is at the core of that view. As usual when the “good idea train” barrels in throughout the training year I am never left feeling that “we” cannot achieve the plethora of tasks set out on our bountiful table. As is the norm I am able to look back and have a huge sense of accomplishment on the Regiments behalf.

2014 has come and gone and its the new year...as I carry out my latest seek and destroy mission on the keyboard (apologies to the IS cell), I look back on a year that has been extremely productive both here on Regimental duty and across the globe. All members of the Regiment both in Edmonton or serving in various ERE posts have continued to produce a stellar performance level.

To highlight the major muscle movements in 2014; the Regiment conducted the Primary Combat Function cycle, which created a look of mass confusion to the “outsider” whereas if you were in the know all was going as per the plan. There is rumour that the former Ops Warrant has to use special hair formula to attempt to hide the grey. All is well that ends well.....

Next up, the Regiment sent a team to the Sullivan Cup in Fort Benning Georgia, USA. If only the team could have utilized the American MBT there would be another trophy gracing our hallways. Also, we competed in the Worthington Cup in Gagetown, a well hosted competition by the Armour School that tested our soldiers in many ways. A strong effort was made that saw the Regiment as the top team in their Division, a few tweaks to the training plan and that trophy will find a new home in Edmonton, I am sure.

As always there has been a great many exercises, to highlight a few; STEELE SABRE, the fall deployment to Wainwright (a virtual jewel in the prairies not to be missed) – STEELE VIRTUAL, a computer aided exercise, all very big picture small map oriented and done in the shelter of the LTF (Lecture Training Facility) not a bad go if you can get it.

A huge thank-you to our families for their patience and unerring ability to provide support to their significant others throughout all our events. I am only too aware of the strain that Military families endure on an annual basis.

In closing I look forward to another year of excellent training, social events, and hard work. Be proud...

Once a Strathcona, always a Strathcona.



*The rumours are true....  
he can smile!*



## Editor-in-Chief's Foreword

*Maj Darryn Gray*

It gives me great pleasure to be the Editor-in-Chief for the 2014 edition of the Strathconian. This year marks the 100th year anniversary of the first issue of the Strathconian being printed, and although it has changed in format and style over the years, the underlying principle of the publication remains the same. As such, an editorial comment from the first publication will no doubt bring us back, and reunite us with our history. *"The name Strathcona is one to be held in the highest honour in the Mother Country, both on account of the high character of him who bore it, and also because of the glorious record of this achievement in the South African War. Let us strive to be worthy of that name and reputation."* With that said, the sense of pride and accomplishment over the years, through various conflicts and missions, has not only strengthened our Regimental bonds within the military, but with the Canadian public as well.

The 2014 year has seen the operational tempo of the Regiment equal to, if not exceed that of previous years, and although the unit was part of 1 CMBG's reconstitution period, we continued to maintain a Tank Squadron (PoW) on high-readiness training. As we completed one exercise or challenge, we would again be faced with another. As soldiers and officers alike overcame any, and all obstacles, we continued to make time to sit back with a drink and reminisce about the comical times. Recanting stories about silly things said, and amusing things people had done. The behaviour of our soldiers and officers throughout history has maintained a similar stance in that *"The people of England are not accustomed to the weird profanities which some of us have manufactured or picked up; to hear them will cause shock and disgust"*. Although sometimes unorthodox, it is the morale of the soldiers and officers that create the organizational climate in which greatness can be achieved. Nevertheless, our stance on professionalism has remained strong over the century and the comments from the first Strathconian still represent the truth today. *"Even as we hope to show a superiority in discipline, courage, and esprit de corps, let us also in our morals, our language, and our behaviour in general, strive to add lustre to the glorious name Strathcona"*.

I would like to personally thank all those involved in ensuring the Strathconian remained a success for 2014. Firstly, **Capt James Anderson**, who as the Editor, had the thankless job of hounding everyone for articles over the course of the year, made it quite enjoyable to compile the publication within these final weeks. I would also like to say thank you to **Capt Ahmad Jaradat** for stickhandling the advertising campaign... however he disappeared into the Brigade Headquarters somewhere, so the credit truly goes to the subbies, and to **Capt Shaun Rogozinski** for putting it all together at the final hour. Lastly, but certainly not least, is the strength and finesse behind the Strathconian, **Mrs Kathy Batty**. Your sheer dedication and meticulous eye for presentation has allowed the Strathconian to remain the most prominent Regimental yearbook in the Canadian Armed Forces.

I truly hope that you enjoy the submissions and pictures within the 2014 Strathconian. With the busy year that we have had, we have endeavoured to balance the photos and articles in an attempt to capture it all.





*1914 Stratheonas*





## SECOND JOBS

Helps to pay for the ballroom dance lessons...

# Year in Review



## INCOMING ADJUTANTS

Performance may vary.



## Births and Marriages

- MCpl Clegg's daughter Kaylin River Rose born 7 January 2014  
Cpl Green's daughter Savannah Lynn born 4 February 2014  
MCpl Kearns' son William Robert was born 6 February 2014  
Capt Anderson's daughter Victoria Elizabeth was born 13 February 2014  
Capt Dullege's son Logan was born 20 March 2014  
Lt Wright married Melissa Zehr on 12 April 2014  
WO Levis' son Beckham was born 23 April 2014  
Cpl Ranchuk daughter Alexias was born 2 May 2014  
Capt Kaye's daughter Emerson was born 22 May 2014  
Cpl Croxall's son Thomas Mitchell Robert was born 23 June 2014  
WO Clark married Laura Anne Barrett 28 June 2014  
Cpl Kozlik-Harding's daughter Laura was born 7 July 2014  
Capt Wreidt married Santo Mercurio 9 July 2014  
Cpl Coughlan married Cynthia Pond 12 July 2014  
Cpl Tuttle married Kayla Anne Marie 18 July 2014  
WO Clark's daughter Sophie was born 31 July 2014  
Cpl Hall married Ashley Rusk 3 August 2014  
Cpl Nicholson married Ashline Jean 9 August 2014  
Cpl Veilleux and Sgt Jahn's daughter Emma was born 15 August 2014  
Maj Gardener's son George Stewart was born 26 August 2014  
Cpl Rollins' son Connor Scott Extreme was born 26 August 2014  
Capt Frizzell married Lt Burchell on 31 August 2014  
WO Encinas' daughter Freda Sarah was born 11 September 2014  
Cpl Winchester's daughter Alexa was born 16 September 2014  
Sgt Murphy's son Rowen Neil was born 19 September 2014  
Cpl Smith's daughter Charlotte was born 23 September 2014  
Cpl Maxwell's son Aiden William was born 25 September 2014  
Cpl Loft's son Owen was born 26 September 2014  
Capt Nguyen's son Benjamin Felix was born 4 October 2014  
Cpl Pleau's daughter Alexia was born 26 October 2014  
Cpl Young's son Jake was born on 26 October 2014.  
Cpl Slade's daughter Emily Margaret was born 28 October 2014  
Sgt Bulmer's son Kyle James was born 31 October 2014  
Cpl Ranchuk was married to Jenn Leland on 22 Nov 2014  
Cpl Ouellet's daughter Lucy Rose was born 19 November 2014  
Cpl Valenzuela married Sherrie Libo-on 24 December 2014  
2Lt Clark married 2Lt Clubine on 27 December 2014



## Honours and Awards

### **Meritorious Service Medal**

BGen Hilton (ret'd)  
CWO Crabb

### **Order of Military Merit**

Capt McMurachy  
CWO Batty  
CWO Crabb  
MWO Taylor  
Sgt Charette (ret'd)

### **Chief of Defence Staff Commendation**

Col Hazelton  
Col Macaulay  
Maj Callens  
Maj Fournier (ret'd)  
Cpl MacEachern (ret'd)

### **Commander LFWA Commendation**

Maj Gardner

### **Canadian Forces Decoration Second Clasp**

MWO Clayson

### **Canadian Forces Decoration First Clasp**

WO Boland  
WO Webb  
Sgt Mancin  
Cpl Roberts

### **Canadian Forces Decoration**

Capt Meikle  
Sgt Brister  
Sgt Johnston  
MCpl Dobson  
Sgt Davidson  
Sgt Eady  
Sgt McAtasney  
MCpl Pasuta  
Cpl Fong  
MCpl Silcox  
MCpl Erb  
MCpl Hume

### **General Campaign Star - Southwest Asia 1st Clasp**

Capt Williams  
Cpl Wry

### **Operational Service Medal - HUMANITAS**

Maj Gray

### **Brigade Commanders Commendation**

MCpl Patterson

### **Commander CTC Coin and Commendation**

Sgt Chuback

### **Canadian Defence Academy OPME Program Certificate**

WO Delaney

### **Commander Canadian Army Coin**

Cpl Doan

### **Task Force North Commanders Coin**

Maj Mallette  
Cpl McDougall

### **Brigade Commanders Coin**

Maj Gray  
Capt Anderson  
Capt Williams  
WO Boland  
WO Holmes  
WO Sherran  
Sgt Vigar  
MCpl Churchill  
Cpl Barrett

### **CO's Coin**

Cpl Brooks  
Cpl Trainor  
Cpl Soutiere  
Capt Monroe  
Cpl Campbell

MCpl Kent  
MCpl Churchill  
Tpr Tassé 12 RBC  
Cpl Reid  
Cpl Coxall  
MCpl Van Heerden  
Cpl Balfour  
Cpl Hall  
Cpl Popoff

### **Allard Trophy**

Cpl Valenzuela

### **15 Year Long Service Award**

Kathy Batty

### **Prince of Wales Trophy**

B Squadron

### **The Hessian Memorial Sword**

Capt Jaradat

### **The Neatby Pace Stick**

WO Baglole

### **The Milroy Cross Belt**

WO Clark

### **Colonel of the Regiment Silver Stick**

Sgt McAtasney

### **Fox Bugle**

MCpl Davidson

### **Olympic Torch Trophy**

Sgt Davidson





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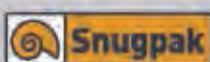
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## Promotions

Major Beitz  
 Major Leonard  
 Capt Couture  
 Capt Frizzle L.  
 Capt Frizzle  
 Capt Jaradat  
 Capt McTavish  
 Capt Moffat  
 Capt Monroe  
 Lt Casey  
 Lt Coughlan  
 Lt Peterson  
 Lt Ross  
 Lt Young  
 CWO Stacey  
 MWO Chenier  
 MWO King

WO Barker  
 WO Clark  
 WO Jones  
 WO Posluns  
 Sgt Brister  
 Sgt Bustard  
 Sgt Chubak  
 Sgt Doody  
 Sgt Gushue  
 Sgt Headrick  
 Sgt Jahn  
 Sgt Mansfield  
 Sgt McAtasney  
 Sgt Mckie  
 Sgt McMurtry  
 Sgt Murphy  
 Sgt Netik

MCpl McKenzie  
 MCpl Mijares  
 MCpl Norman  
 MCpl Paskuski  
 MCpl Silcox  
 MCpl Sullivan  
 MCpl Van Den Born  
 MCpl Zwicker  
 Cpl Albers  
 Cpl Allard  
 Cpl Atwood  
 Cpl Banting  
 Cpl Bolstad  
 Cpl Buell  
 Cpl Doan  
 Cpl Feenstra  
 Cpl Gauthier  
 Cpl George  
 Cpl Goodwin  
 Cpl Houston  
 Cpl Kiomall  
 Cpl Knopf  
 Cpl Leblanc  
 Cpl Martel  
 Cpl McNair  
 Cpl Moceton-Velasquez  
 Cpl Paquette  
 Cpl Slade  
 Cpl Smith  
 Cpl Stender  
 Cpl Sullivan  
 Cpl Tobin  
 Cpl Weeden  
 Tpr (T) Champagne  
 Tpr (T) Demille  
 Tpr (T) Dunn  
 Tpr (T) Francis  
 Tpr (T) Harding  
 Tpr (T) Maddison  
 Tpr (T) Marshall  
 Tpr (T) Naylor  
 Tpr (T) Park  
 Tpr (T) Pecarskie  
 Tpr (T) Rayment  
 Tpr (T) Rosenplot

Sgt Noskey  
 Sgt Paille  
 Sgt Shah  
 MCpl Banman  
 MCpl Bowers  
 MCpl Brisebois-Bergeron  
 MCpl Brown  
 MCpl Burris  
 MCpl Clare  
 MCpl Clegg  
 MCpl Collins  
 MCpl Croxall  
 MCpl Dalpe  
 MCpl Davidson  
 MCpl Droogers  
 MCpl Ford  
 MCpl Geiger  
 MCpl Gironne  
 MCpl Goodall  
 MCpl Graham  
 MCpl Hasworth-Harrisson  
 MCpl Howse  
 MCpl Hunt  
 MCpl Jesseau  
 MCpl Johnston  
 MCpl Kent  
 MCpl Koolman  
 MCpl Korenowski  
 MCpl Livingstone  
 MCpl Loft





# Regimental Roll 2014

## Colonel-in-Chief

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

## Colonel-of-the-Regiment

MGen Ross

## Commanding Officer

LCol Major

## Regimental Second-in-Command

Maj Onieu

## Regimental Sergeant Major

CWO Batty

## Commanding Officer's Secretary

Kathy Batty

## Adjutant

Capt Day

## Operations Officer

Capt Nitu

## Regimental Headquarters

### Regimental Orderly Room

Capt Jaradat  
WO Posluns  
Sgt Pirie  
MCpl Bowers  
MCpl Howse  
Cpl Ross  
OS McGregor

### Command / Operations Cell

WO Baglole  
MCpl Davidson  
MCpl Hume  
Cpl Guy  
Cpl Langlands  
Cpl Venoit

### Training Cell

Capt Couture  
Capt Monroe  
WO Englehart  
WO Webb  
Cpl Bolzan  
Cpl Priddle

### Regimental Signals Troop

Capt Masood

WO Healey  
Sgt Mansfield  
Sgt Truchon  
MCpl Gaudreault  
MCpl Hutchinson  
MCpl Livingstone  
Cpl Burke  
Cpl Carrier  
Cpl Cheng  
Cpl Knopf  
Cpl MacLennan  
Cpl Nadeau  
Cpl Skanks  
Sig Vantongeron

### Intelligence Cell

Capt Moffat  
Cpl Dugdale  
Cpl Keightley

### Regimental Police

MCpl Lister  
Cpl Symington

### Prince of Wales Squadron (B Squadron)

#### Officer Commanding

Maj Cooper

## Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO King

### Squadron Headquarters

Capt Timms  
Sgt Bustard  
Sgt Murphy  
Cpl Chaperon  
Cpl Gironne  
Cpl Kearns  
Cpl Marion  
Cpl McLeod  
Cpl Nicholson  
Cpl Schiffner  
Tpr Dillon  
Tpr Maisonneuve

### 1st Troop

Lt Ross  
WO Barker  
MCpl Chuback  
MCpl Collier  
Cpl Goodwin  
Cpl Gordon  
Cpl Harder  
Cpl Maxwell  
Cpl Popoff  
Cpl Shields  
Cpl Tuttle  
Tpr Atwood

Tpr Rayment  
Tpr Rosenplot  
Tpr Schellenberg  
Tpr Vanbeek

### **2nd Troop**

Lt Young  
WO Clark  
MCpl Burke  
MCpl Foster  
Cpl Buell  
Cpl Chase  
Cpl Doan  
Cpl Loft  
Cpl Lonegren  
Cpl Mullens  
Cpl Partington  
Cpl Schijns  
Cpl Valenzuela  
Tpr Moceton  
Tpr Smith CAK  
Tpr Weeden

### **3rd Troop**

Lt Casey  
Sgt Eady  
MCpl Droogers  
MCpl Heisz  
MCpl Patterson  
Cpl Coughlan  
Cpl Kroker  
Cpl Larcher Pelland  
Cpl Maendel  
Cpl Maw  
Cpl Monge  
Cpl Smith  
Tpr Bond  
Tpr Kiomall  
Tpr McNeil  
Tpr Park

### **4th Troop**

Lt Peterson  
WO Zubkowski  
MCpl Davidson  
MCpl Mckenize  
MCpl Pasuta  
Cpl Balfour  
Cpl Chen  
Cpl Martin  
Cpl Partridge  
Cpl Sandhu

Cpl Sawyer  
Tpr Brown  
Tpr Gallagher  
Tpr Kerr  
Tpr Mercier  
Tpr Pecarskie

### **Administration Troop**

Capt Meikle  
WO Churchill  
Sgt McLoughlin  
MCpl Adby  
MCpl Clegg  
MCpl Kearns  
MCpl Sullivan  
LS Baker  
Cpl Green  
Cpl Hall  
Cpl Hogan  
Cpl Allard  
Cpl Mohamed  
Cpl Ouellet  
Cpl Rollins  
Cpl Sherlock Hubbard  
Cpl Steeves  
Cpl Banting  
Tpr Babb  
Tpr Bryk  
Tpr Crackle-Skulason  
Tpr Naylor  
Tpr Smith NE

### **Maintenance Troop**

Sgt McKie  
MCpl Johnson  
MCpl Lussier  
MCpl Thompson  
MCpl Wiscombe  
Cpl Crocker  
Cpl Gordon  
Cpl Lake  
Cpl Stephen  
Cpl Shields  
Tpr Champagne

### **A Squadron**

#### **Officer Commanding**

Maj Gray

#### **Squadron Sergeant Major**

WO Boland

### **Squadron Headquarters**

Capt Williams  
Sgt Gushue  
MCpl Hodgkin  
Cpl Dunford  
Cpl Richardson  
Cpl Tobin  
Tpr Matchett  
Tpr Watson

### **Administration Troop**

Capt Anderson  
Sgt Brister  
MCpl Hunt  
MCpl Korenowski  
Cpl Charles  
Cpl Kabongo  
Cpl Kozlik-Harding  
Cpl Makula  
Cpl Meaney  
Cpl Myers  
Cpl Radford  
Cpl Taborowski  
Cpl Warren  
Cpl Woodland  
Tpr DeMille  
Tpr McKenzie

### **First Troop**

Lt Coughlan  
Sgt Williams  
MCpl Burris  
MCpl Graham  
Cpl Cook  
Cpl Dunne  
Cpl Fong  
Cpl Gnabs  
Cpl Smith  
Cpl Wagner  
Tpr Francis

### **Second Troop**

Lt Jung  
Sgt Vigar  
MCpl Churchill  
MCpl Collins  
MCpl Croxall  
MCpl Paskuski  
Cpl Fountain  
Cpl Hayes  
Cpl Stender

Tpr Armstrong  
Tpr Michaud

### **Third Troop**

Lt Simpson  
Sgt Gibson  
MCpl Brown  
Cpl Allman  
Cpl Blacklock  
Cpl Feenstra  
Cpl George  
Cpl Mitchell  
Cpl Rose  
Cpl Tomayer  
Tpr New

### **Fourth Troop**

Capt Wright  
Sgt Davidson  
Sgt McMurtry  
Cpl Bolstad  
Cpl Campbell  
Cpl Marshall  
Cpl Skinner  
Cpl Stratford  
Cpl Weir  
Tpr Comeau  
Tpr Ell  
Tpr Hodge

### **Maintenance**

Sgt Cooke  
MCpl Doyle  
MCpl Erb  
MCpl Geiger  
MCpl Mclaughlin  
Cpl Eveleigh  
Cpl Kozack  
Cpl Rimpilainen  
Cpl Russell  
Cpl Snyder  
Cpl Wilson  
Cfn Dunn

### **SQMS**

WO Sherren  
MCpl Dickey  
MCpl Kent  
Cpl Phelan  
Cpl Snoek

## **Recce Squadron**

### **Officer Commanding**

Maj Mallette

### **Squadron Sergeant Major**

MWO Fox

### **Squadron Headquarters**

Capt Gray  
Lt Carter-Wright  
WO Parent  
Sgt Netik  
MCpl Boodhoo  
Cpl Dobson  
Cpl Howarth-Harrison  
Cpl Morin  
Cpl Skaarup  
Cpl Smith LRJ  
Cpl Van Den Born  
Cpl Wry

### **Administration Troop**

Capt Collings  
Lt Rice  
MCpl Christie  
Cpl Barrett  
Cpl Broome  
Cpl Fettes  
Cpl Kewley  
Cpl Mathews  
Cpl Mekhail  
Cpl Stewart  
Tpr Bursey  
Tpr Harding  
Tpr Rourke

### **First Troop**

Lt Agius  
WO Parteger  
Sgt Kentfield  
MCpl Crowe  
Cpl Ford  
Cpl Job  
Cpl Schafer  
Cpl Talty  
Cpl Wheeler  
Tpr Ford  
Tpr Grewal  
Tpr Morin  
Tpr Nancekivel  
Tpr Norring  
Tpr Smith

## **Second Troop**

Lt Tardiff  
WO Jones  
MCpl Nancarrow  
MCpl Peachy  
MCpl Silcox  
Cpl Albers  
Cpl Brown  
Cpl Gauthier  
Cpl Leblanc  
Cpl Martel  
Cpl McDougal  
Cpl Senff  
Tpr Deringer  
Tpr Messecar  
Tpr Munro

### **Third Troop**

Lt Labreque  
WO Ross  
Sgt Johnston  
MCpl Alwani  
MCpl Zwicker  
Cpl Bazinet  
Cpl Danczak  
Cpl Grant  
Cpl Nieuwhof  
Cpl Ranchuk  
Tpr Davidson  
Tpr Hibbert  
Tpr Hill  
Tpr Maddison  
Tpr Martin  
Tpr Oaten

### **Fourth Troop**

MCpl Hume  
MCpl Murdoch  
MCpl Underwood  
Cpl Chung  
Cpl Germann  
Cpl Hall  
Cpl Lawrence  
Cpl MacLennan  
Cpl McNair  
Cpl Meaney  
Tpr Fulljames  
Tpr Kelly  
Tpr Thompson

## **Maintenance**

Sgt Shah  
MCpl Jesseau  
MCpl Smith  
MCpl Neil  
Cpl Boucher  
Cpl Lavoie  
Cfn Ellis  
Cfn Jungas  
Cfn LaChapelle

## **SQMS**

WO Holmes  
MCpl Keller  
MCpl Sephton  
Cpl Norman  
Cpl Young

## **HEADQUARTERS SQUADRON**

### **Officer Commanding**

Maj Gardner

### **Squadron Sergeant Major**

MWO Hopkin

### **Squadron Headquarters**

Capt Kim  
WO Barker  
MCpl Banman  
MCpl Hutchison  
MCpl Van Heerden  
Cpl Gibbons  
Tpr Morouney

### **Admin Troop**

Capt Frizzell, L.A.  
MCpl Lemmon  
Cpl Doyle  
Cpl Olaes

### **Squadron Quarter Master Stores**

WO Brown  
Sgt McAtasney  
MCpl Koolman  
Cpl Beatty

## **Transport Troop**

Lt Hoffart  
WO Delaney  
Sgt Jahn  
MCpl Brisebois-Bergeron  
MCpl Vallerand  
MCpl Wright  
Cpl Bannister  
Cpl Clendennin  
Cpl Edwards  
Cpl Ellis  
Cpl Gaona  
Cpl Guay  
Cpl Hatter  
Cpl Mijares  
Cpl Shepherd  
Cpl Townsend  
Cpl Trainor  
Cpl Van Nieuwenhuyze  
Cpl Young  
Cpl Boorman

## **Strathcona Mounted Troop**

Capt Frizzell, B.W  
Sgt KruhlaK  
MCpl Bernardo  
Cpl Aguila  
Cpl Barten  
Cpl Brown  
Cpl Crozier  
Cpl Fraser  
Cpl Freeman  
Cpl Germann  
Cpl Gray  
Cpl Hall  
Cpl Hopper  
Cpl Houston  
Cpl Hughes  
Cpl Lachance-Webster  
Cpl Lennon  
Cpl Morgan  
Cpl Paquette  
Cpl Prosser  
Cpl Roberts  
Cpl Southern  
Cpl Thibodeau  
Cpl Younger

## **Regimental Quarter Master Stores**

Capt Jackson  
MWO Clayson

MWO Mayfield  
MWO Riley  
Sgt Near  
Sgt Thomas  
Cpl Bondy  
Cpl Campbell  
Cpl Cavers  
Cpl Clare  
Cpl Girling  
Cpl Lanthier  
Cpl Lewis  
Cpl Martin  
Cpl Slade  
Cpl Veilleux  
Cpl Winchester

## **Regimental Cooks**

WO Doucet  
Sgt Doody  
MS Houghtling  
MCpl Mowatt  
LS Brassard  
Cpl Coxall  
Cpl Reid  
Pte Sayyeau

## **Regimental Maintenance Troop**

Capt Mercurio  
MWO Hawkins  
WO Banks  
WO Forbes  
WO Lefebvre  
Sgt Cimon  
Sgt Paille  
MCpl Bennett  
MCpl Christopherson  
MCpl Dean  
MCpl Dobson  
MCpl Hasson  
MCpl MacDonald  
MCpl Svensrud  
Cpl Caron  
Cpl Courneyea  
Cpl Ellis  
Cpl Hunt  
Cpl Kipot  
Cpl Pleau  
Cpl Reid  
Cpl Richard  
Cpl Simpson  
Pte Dawson



### **Regimental Accounts**

Capt Rogozinski  
Sgt Jones  
Cpl White  
Cpl Wheat  
Cpl Levesque

### **Family Support Troop**

Capt Barabash

### **Stables**

Cpl Sullivan

### **Museum**

WO MacLeod  
Sgt Giberson



# The Year in Review

## January

13-17 – Ex STRONG CONTENDER

31 – Mayor Iverson visit

## February

6-10 – Wilderness Survival Training – Peace River

11-14 – RCAC meeting – Quebec City

14-21 – Ex ARCTIC RAM

## March

3-7 – Ex STEELE STRIKER

10-21 – Ex COLD STEELE

23-28 – Ex SPARTAN TRIDENT

## April

1-18 – Ex WARFIGHTER (US)

12-13 – Cadet Concentration

16-17 – Moreuil Wood

22 - 2 May – Ex PHALANX RAM

## May

6 – 5 June – Ex MAPLE RESOLVE 1401

9 – 18 – Sullivan Cup (US)

22 – Melfa River

26 – Commander Canadian Army visit (3 CDSG Base Edmonton)

29 – Deputy Commander CADTC visit,

## June

5-6 – Ex STEELE SLING

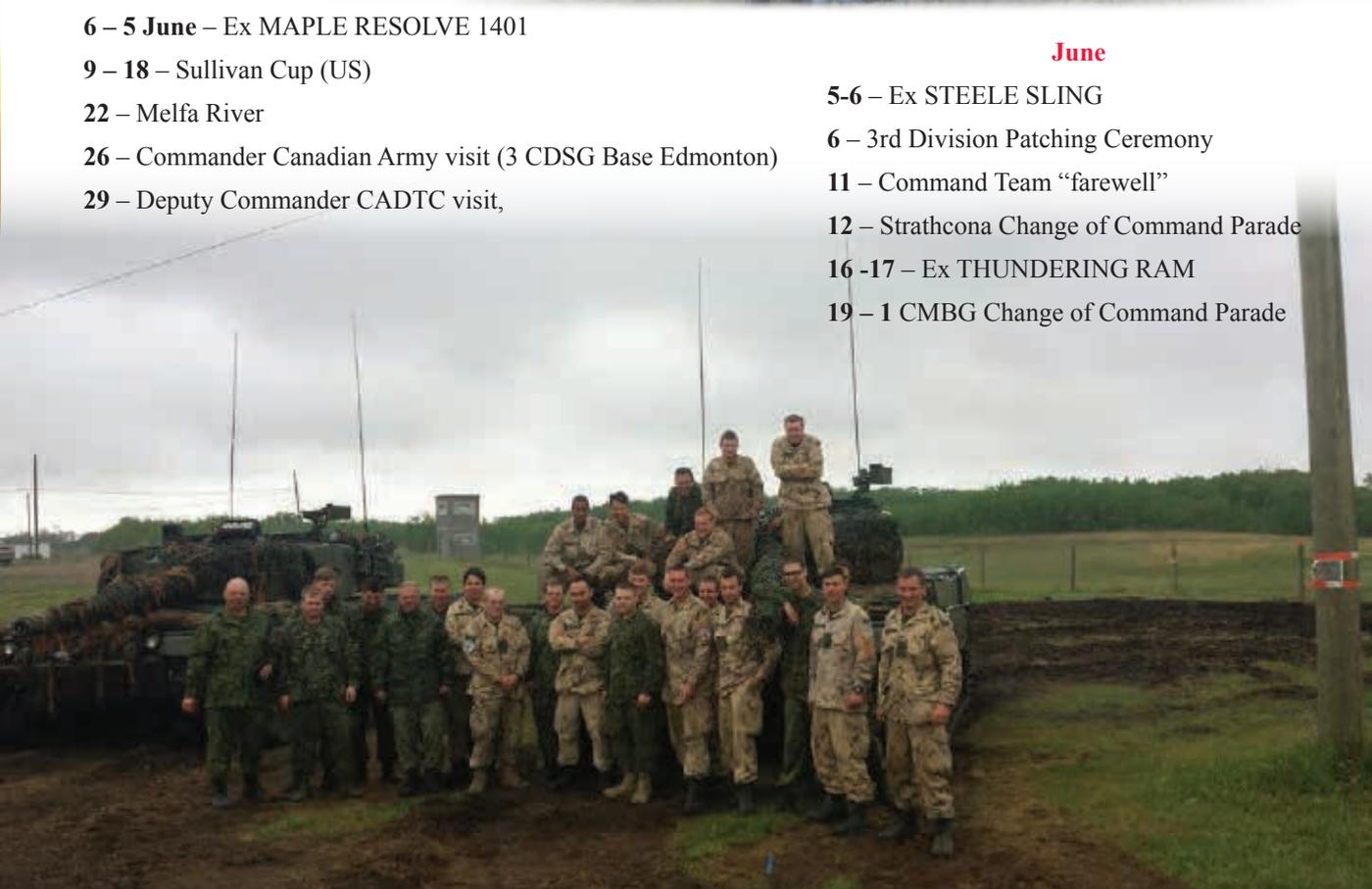
6 – 3rd Division Patching Ceremony

11 – Command Team “farewell”

12 – Strathcona Change of Command Parade

16 -17 – Ex THUNDERING RAM

19 – 1 CMBG Change of Command Parade





### July

- 3-6 – Calgary Stampede and Spruce Meadows 100 soldier guard
- 4-27 – Regimental Block Leave
- 18 – 3rd Division Change of Command Parade

### August

- 5 – Queen’s Royal Lancers Visit
- 7-11 – Feast of 10th Armoured Cavalry Brigade (Poland)
- 9 – 1 CMBG Military Heritage Day
- 11-15 – Ex VIGIL RAM
- 22 – Command Team Challenge
- 23 – 3 Canadian Army Vets visit
- 24-31 – Op NANOOK



### September

- 5 – Strathcona Business Lunch (EGOM)
- 6 – Strathcona Family Day
- 8 – Stand Up – Task Force 1-15
- 11- Ex MOUNTAIN MAN 14
- 13 – Project Valour II
- 22 – 26 – PCF Gun Camp (Ex STEELE SABRE 14)
- 26 – 14 Oct – Exported Armour Crew Commander (Tank) Course
- 27 – 3 Oct – Worthington Cup Challenge (Gagetown)

### October

- 10-13 – Thanksgiving
- 14 Oct – 10 Nov – Ex STEELE SABRE (Dry and Live Sqn training)



## November

- 6 – “No Stone Left Alone”
- 11 – Remembrance Day
- 17 – 21 Canadian Patrol Competition
- 19 – Regimental March and Shoot Concentration
- 25-28 – “Black Hat” PD week

## December

- 11 – Men’s Christmas Dinner
- 13 – 4 Jan – Christmas Block leave





## LdSH(RC)

ON BEHALF OF MY FAMILY, I WANT TO THANK THE ENTIRE REGIMENT FOR YOUR COMMITMENT, CAPABILITY, & PERSEVERANCE THROUGHOUT THESE PAST TWELVE MONTHS.

YOUR SUPPORT HAS BEEN GREATLY APPRECIATED.

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# Squadron



# Articles





# Prince of Wales Squadron





## Prince of Wales (B) Squadron – “Best job I ever had!”

By: Lt Cam Ross

This year was another successful, yet busy year for the Prince of Wales Squadron. It saw a number of great opportunities and experiences, as well as a number of its soldiers rising up to meet these challenges head-on.

Worthington Cup was just one of these moments for the Prince of Wales Squadron to shine. The team, consisting of **Cpl Alastair Gordon**, **Cpl Henry Chen**, **Tpr Carter Dillon** and led by **WO Cari-Ann “Game On!” Barker**, displayed excellent gunnery technique and an uncanny ability to blow things up. The competition, lasting from 29 September to 3 October, saw our team score highest on the AFV Range, ending the week with a commanding lead of 4000 points in that section.

In the beautifully sunny and desolate wasteland of CFB Shilo from 6 to 9 October, B Squadron’s “Charlie” Crew Commanders and **Lt Erica “Hungry, Hungry Hippo” Young** partook in All-Arms-Call-For-Fire training. Here they honed the skills behind utilizing artillery from the subject matter experts themselves. In a week, all of these personnel had mastered the craft of turning rain into fire, and had returned ready and eager to spread this knowledge amongst the rest of the Squadron.

*Photo taken by: Cpl Olaes  
“Cpl Martin debating the finer points of branch stereotypes with entirely the wrong man.”*



*Photo taken by: Lt Ross  
“B Squadron, being renowned for their innovation, took a page out of Game of Thrones and used crow-bound messages when the radios went down on Ex STEELE SABRE. The results were mixed.”*

Ex STEELE SABRE saw the culmination of B Squadron’s efforts this year. As a part of our Road to High Readiness, the Squadron deployed in force to the training area in Wainwright. Here, the Squadron moved from basic crew skills to Troop level movement, and finally to a Squadron level attack. During this period the soldiers of the Prince of Wales Squadron displayed the aggressiveness, tenacity and warrior-spirit exceeding what was expected of a Canadian Tank Squadron. Such qualities were demonstrated during B Squadron’s force-on-force against Reconnaissance Squadron, where the Prince of Wales’ tankers displayed an extraordinary



Photo taken by: **Tpr Rayment**

*“Cpl “Billy” Goodwin spends two hours camouflaging his tank. We couldn’t find it, so here’s a picture of an inexplicable group of trees in the middle of a field which the crew of 21B decided to climb”*

Photo taken by: **Lt Young**

*“Not pictured: the utter confusion of **Lt Erica Young** and **MCpl Ryan Pasuta** as to why the hell there aren’t any tracks under those guns”*



level of speed and aggression, constantly maintaining the pressure and keeping Reconnaissance Squadron on their heels. This level of aggressive manoeuvre was displayed by **WO Christopher** *“I’m going to the bluffs!”* **Zubkowski’s** epic three kilometre bound on the west side of Battle River and the always ecstatic and possibly over-aggressive radio communications provided by **MCpl Matty** *“Most Excited Man in NATO”* **Collier**.

The magnum opus of the entire Exercise was during the level 4 live fire trace, conducted under the watchful eye of **Col Trevor Cadieu**. Beginning with, what has now become the Prince of Wales Squadron’s signature feature, an overwhelmingly aggressive and rapid advance to contact, the Squadron then moved into position for a hasty attack, supported by elements of 1 CER. As we awaited an H-hour that seemed to never come, some of B Squadron took their over-boiling aggression to the net, and perhaps none more so than **Lt Erica** *“two-two Whoohoo!!”* **Young** who displayed her blood thirsty rage prior to the attack, and **Capt Mike** *“SHOCK ACTION!”* **Timms** who lived up to his catch-phrase when he brought fire down on the enemy from the fire base with the help of 3rd Troop.

On 19 November, B Squadron deployed its 16-man team in the Regimental March and Shoot. Consisting of a forced march from Range Control to ATS Range 3, the Prince of



Photo taken by: *Cpl Olaes*

*“Sgt Kyle Chuback barely survives the shock of being promoted just before Christmas. His new pace stick did not. It exploded in the troop office 3 days later.”*

Wales team led by none other than our very own OC, **Maj Sandy** *“I swear I was chosen at random”* **Cooper**. The team managed to complete the march to the firing point in 34 minutes, arriving in good enough shape to conduct a successful shoot and managed to shave two minutes off of their return time.

2014 was an amazing year to be a member of the Prince of Wales Squadron. The various training opportunities brought a lot of valuable experiences to the Squadron and each member benefited in one way or another. But if this wasn't enough, next year is looking to be even more exciting with a large number of the Squadron getting some training in Fort Hood, Texas and of course the always exciting Ex MAPLE RESOLVE occurring in the spring to finish the job begun this year of bringing B Squadron up to High Readiness.

To adequately describe the experience of serving in Prince of Wales Squadron this year I feel I must steal the words from someone else. As one great warrior, whose name is now forever forgotten by history, once said, “Best job I ever had.”

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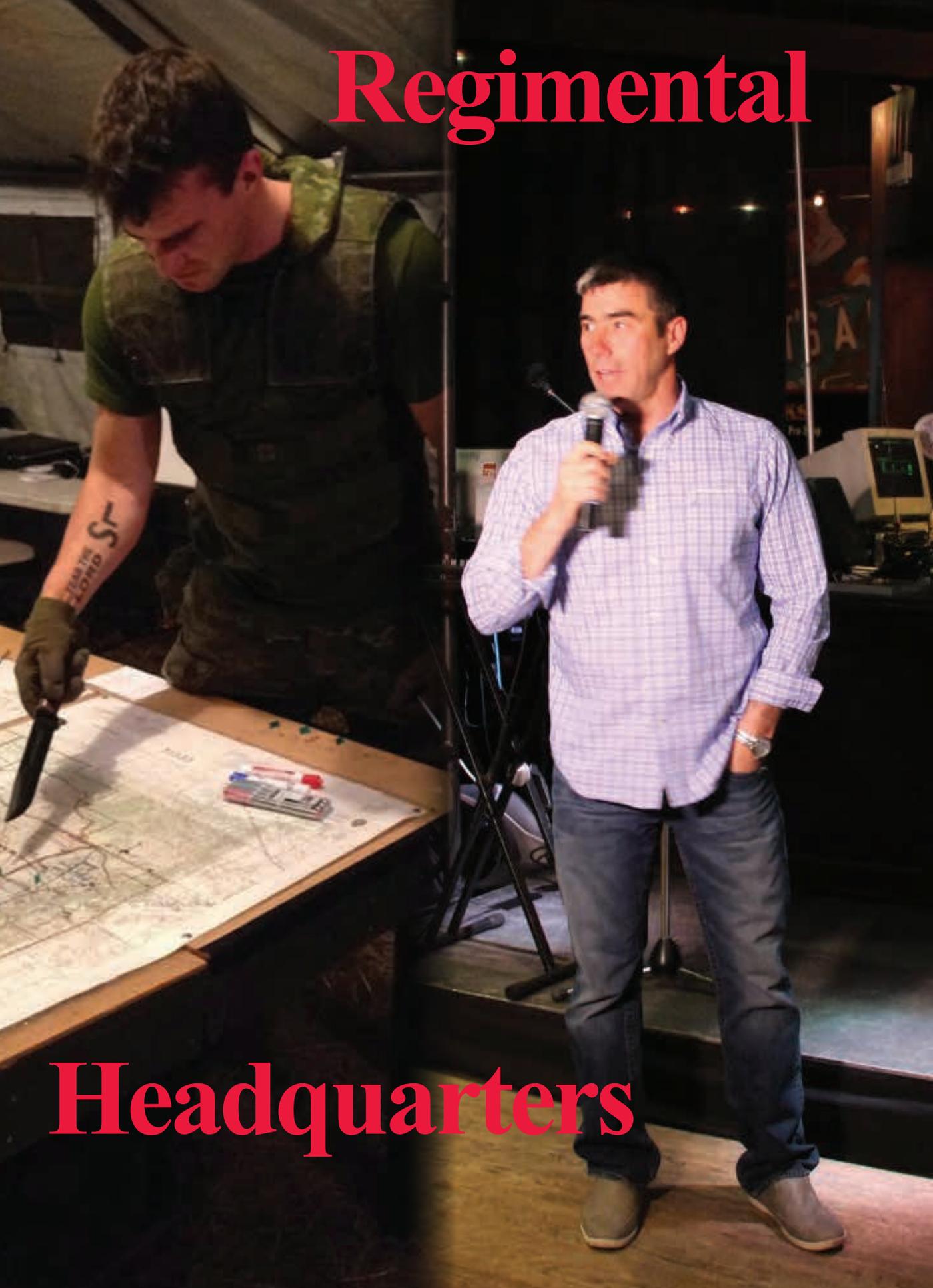
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# Regimental



# Headquarters



## Regimental Headquarters “Sometimes We Do Push-Ups”

*Capt Steve Couture*



*Preparing Int products to test Recce Sqn VCPs*

RHQ has always been an interesting team. It is an eccentric combination of multiple trades, jobs, and some crazy personalities. Signals Troop, the Regimental Orderly Room (ROR), the Intelligence Cell, Regimental Police, Command Troop and the Training Cell all have very distinguished and separate jobs to do. Somehow we always manage to come together successfully to accomplish our goals of leading and supporting the Regiment. Reflecting on 2014, it has been a great year for RHQ.

During Ex COLD STEELE in March, RHQ deployed to Carson Lake for some very challenging Winter Warfare training. Soldiers were trained and qualified on the operation of the Light Over Snow Vehicle and the Sig O (**Capt Scott Smith**) taught the Squadron a multiple day course on how to survive solely through Ice Fishing. ... Ok, the truth is that this Exercise was focused on rest and relaxation. **Cpl Brad “Callsign” Priddle** described the experience: “We all learned how to snow

mobile and ice fish, **Cpl Jesse Bolzan** drank some Caesars, I ate 12 hotdogs at once, and the Sig O couldn’t catch a fish if his life depended on it”.

RHQ provided the 25mm crew for the Worthington Cup. After months of training, including simulator training and Frag vest runs, **MCpl Colin “I hate Gagetown” Davidson**, **Cpl Graham “I didn’t set my alarm” Venoit**, and **Cpl John “I’m gonna puke” Langlands** traveled to CFB Gagetown where they represented the Regiment during the Worthington Cup. They achieved the top score in 3 out of 4 events to include; the March and Shoot, Driver’s Maintenance, and Armoured Fighting Vehicle Recognition. Their performance was outstanding and they definitely made the Regiment proud. After 3 months of hard work and dedication to fitness and nutrition in preparation for this event **MCpl Colin “I’m going to eat 3 full pizzas” Davidson** actually consumed 3 full pizzas while celebrating with a case of beer. He regretted that decision for at least a week.

Signals Troop came together this year with a new but very experienced roster. Prior to Ex STEELE SABRE, Signals Troop ensured they were highly proficient with their equipment. This involved extensive Troop level refresher training. The last day of that training was spent mastering the many capabilities of the CAF high frequency radio. One of the capabilities of this radio is the ability to send data in the form text messages. This provided the opportunity to send some hilarious, although potentially inappropriate jokes. Unfortunately for Signals Troop, the high frequency radio doesn’t tell you who is reading your text messages on the other end. **Sgt Jesse Mansfield** wasn’t expecting to read a



*EX SS 2014 Three quarter view - Front of Cammed RRB*

message (that clearly wasn't meant for him) insulting his taste in women. **MCpl John Livingstone** says they worked pretty late that evening! The other very fun activity that Signals Troop was engaged in while prepping for Ex STEELE SABRE was "Ups and Downs." (Signals code for setting up a CP as fast as possible and then, on order, tearing it down as fast as possible). It's been said that this is where **Cpl "No Bueno" Nadeau** started using "No Bueno" in literally every sentence.

After a long year of supporting exercises and competitions within the Regiment, Ex STEELE SABRE provided RHQ with an opportunity to develop into a very cohesive team. At the end of September we deployed to Peregrine 9 in Wainwright in order to set up C/S 0, which was to be our home for the next six weeks. While on exercise, we supported the Armoured Crew Commander (Tank) Course, multiple ranges, three Squadron level exercises, and two iterations of Regimental Force on Force. We conducted 24 hour operations at all times, and deployed tactical forward Command Posts. We had the best coffee in the Peregrine. Working out of a Regimental Command Centre can be stressful if you're working with the wrong people. This year you couldn't have asked for a better group of individuals. Conversation never ran dry when **WO Tom "No Carbs" Healey** and **Capt Joycelyn "Chirps" Moffat** were around. I'll never forget watching **MCpl Scott Hutchison** teach **Cpl Joe Knoff** and **Cpl Andrew Carrier** the "7 Layers of ISO" (whatever that is) by using a push-up pyramid.

With the year coming to a close, RHQ is still hard at work, continuing to provide excellent training opportunities for the Regiment. Much of the work conducted by RHQ on a daily basis is behind the scenes. The Regiment couldn't function properly without the integral support provided by the ROR, Int Cell and RPs. I've had multiple opportunities to serve with RHQ in the past few years, and I can definitely say that I'm most proud of our current team.

*EX SS 2014 Main CP*



WELCOME TO THE SULLIVAN CUP



*MCpl Mitchell Croxall, Cpl Cummings, Cpl Spencer Richardson and Sgt Dave Brister at the Sullivan Cup*



# A Squadron

*Arctic Ram L-R Cpl Dave Michaud, Cpl Kyle Meaney, Sgt Matt Williams, Cpl Quinton Stender, MCpl Alex Kent, Cpl Garret George, Tpr Justin Matchett*



# “Best Job I Ever Had” – A Squadron in 2014

*Capt Dave Williams*

Major events of 2014 for A Sqn included several high profile visits, a robust Primary Combat Function (PCF) cycle, and hosting a Chilean Reciprocal Unit Exchange (RUE) during Exercise STEELE SABRE. Despite the demanding task list, the year was both challenging and rewarding for all ranks, forging a cohesive and ready fighting team.

The year began with the notable occasion of escorting **His Worship Don Iveson** Mayor of Edmonton through a tour of the Regiment, including a ride in a Leopard 2. March saw the launch of the Squadron to Gregg Cabin, near Hinton, AB for a winter team building exercise. Thirty minutes out of cell reception, the Squadron lived in five-man tents while conducting ice fishing, skeet shooting, snow-mobiling, snow shoeing, winter survival training, and skiing. Just as importantly, the essential field craft skills of Beer Pong and Cribbage were also honed to a razor edge on Exercise COLD STEELE.

In April, A Squadron began its tenure as Immediate Reaction Unit (IRU) Vanguard Company, which it would maintain until October 2014. Despite a near miss the afternoon prior to summer block leave, the weather Gods spared the province of Alberta this flood season and there was not a repeat IRU deployment from Edmonton.

An A Sqn crew consisting of **Sgt Dave Brister**, **MCpl Mitchell Croxall**, **Cpl Spencer Richardson** and **Cpl Cummings** deployed to Fort Benning, Georgia in May to compete in the 2014 Sullivan Cup: Best Tank Crew Competition, hosted by the Maneuver Center of Excellence, the US Army Armor School, and the 194th Armored Brigade. Their performance was exemplary and maintained the Regiment’s sterling reputation at this prestigious event. May also saw the deployment of 4th Troop under **Lt Jamie Brittain** and **WO Melanie Parent** on Exercise MAPLE RESOLVE as a Contemporary Operating Environment Force Tank Troop testing the resolve of 2nd Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group soldiers on their Road to High Readiness.

Exercise STEELE SLING followed in June, in which the Sqn organized and lead a Regimental motorcycle ride to Snaring River Campground in Jasper, Alberta, with **Maj Eric Angell** leading the way.

Following summer block leave, the Sqn Change of Command took place with **Maj Eric Angell** and **MWO Marcel Chenier** handing the reins to **Maj Darryn Gray** and **WO Cordell Boland**. Primary Combat Function (PCF) courses once again began in earnest in preparation for collective training in the fall. A Sqn proudly took the lion’s share of this task, executing four concurrent Leopard 2 Gunnery courses, and the first exported Armoured Crew Commander (Tank) [ACC(T)] course. The crew skills developed during this period stood the Regiment in fine stead for the training ahead, producing motivated and deadly Leopard 2 Gunners and Crew Commanders.

*A Sqn and Chilean crews on  
Ex STEELE SABRE 14*





*A Sqn Christmas Party at the Tilted Kilt West Edmonton*

During the field portion of ACC(T) in October, the Sqn had the opportunity to host the Edmonton Oilers and deliver a robust and unique team building experience. Described by then Head Coach **Dallas Eakins** as “an incredible, inspiring, once in-a-lifetime day,” the Sqn effort included Leopard C2 and small arms ranges, a Close Quarter Combat obstacle course, as well as Leopard 2 crew commanding and driving circuits. A fully immersive experience, some players were even treated to the motivational speaking talents of **Sgt Joe “Politically Correct” Gushue** in the turret, and **Capt James Anderson** with **MCpl Wallace Churchill** on the obstacle course. Concluding with a smoker, end of day saw the National Hockey League players exhausted and grateful for the service and dedication of A Sqn soldiers.

Although highly successful, the course was not without casualties however, with **Lt Bryce “I lost another one” Simpson**’s tank seemingly devouring gunners and **Sgt Jeff “Knock on Wood” Gibson** trying to avoid damage to his fenders by using his head to bush bash instead.

Upon completion of ACC(T), the Sqn redeployed to Edmonton to conduct Individual Battle Task Standard training and take some much deserved rest. The week included some Professional Development with a private Sqn screening of the 2014 movie *Fury* coordinated by **Corporal Richard Wagner**. The following week Sqn crews returned to Wainwright to conduct Safety Staff in support of B Sqn’s Level Four live training. When finished, the rest of the Sqn returned with three Chilean crews to sign the tanks back from B Sqn and conduct our portion of Ex STEELE SABRE 14. A Chilean crew from Grupo Blindado No 9 Vencedores, Grupo Blindado No 7 Guias, and Centro de entrenamiento de Combate Acorazado respectively were each attached to a troop and fully integrated into all levels of Sqn dry and live training. Despite a harsh early winter, equipment challenges, and language barriers, the Sqn persevered to execute a tough, effective, and exciting exercise. Troops were confirmed live by day and night with plenty of 120mm and 105mm rounds down range. A testament to the comradery built in Wainwright, upon saying farewell to our Chilean brothers on Remembrance Day, it felt as if we were losing a part of the Sqn.w

2014 was an exciting and challenging year for A Sqn during which fundamental crew skills were sharpened and bonds reinforced. Always ready for a fight, A Sqn looks forward to its next turn in the breach in 2015 as the High Readiness Tank Sqn for TF 1-16.

*Bananas in Pajamas anyone?*





*ROBO – SSM Falls  
instructing survival training  
on Ex COLD STEELE*



*1 Troop Cruise in  
Frobisher Bay*

# Recce Squadron

# Recce Squadron 2014

*Lt Andrew Tardiff*

*The Catch*



This year was another busy one for Recce Sqn. Between refitting following a high readiness cycle, supporting Regimental and Brigade training, completing the Squadron's own training, and participating in a domestic training operation in Canada's North, Recce still had its fair share on the plate during its reconstitution year.

The year truly started with Ex COLD STELE, the

Squadron's winter adventure training on Cold Lake. According to **Cpl David McNair** the exercise was an intensive five days designed to hone the Squadron's winter warfighting capabilities. Unfortunately the training was a little too intense for **Cpl David McNair** who required a trip to the local emergency room following one of his late night "PT" sessions. In between winter survival training and a taxing LOSV course, the Squadron was able to have some down time to enjoy some ice fishing and a few brews among friends.

Upon its return from Cold Lake, preparations immediately began for 3 Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry's (PPCLI) Ex PHALANX RAM for which Recce provided the Contemporary Operating Environment Force (COEFOR). It was a Non-Combatant Evacuation Operation exercise around Czar, AB for which the Squadron represented the disgruntled East African locals, a radicalised enemy force, and a group of Canadians in distress. In true Recce fashion, immediately after the Squadron hit the ground we immediately began to push 3 PPCLI's buttons. Before their camp was even established, **Cpl Sargon Mekhail** and **Cpl Edward Snoek** had broken in and stole rations and fuel. While providing bodies to occupy various occupation sites, several other events were staged. One of the most notable was the death of **MCpl Mike "Generalissimo" Boodhoo** when he and his crew of less than reputable police went against the band of terrorists and lost. This all culminated in a riot at the Patricia's compound. During which

*3 Troop in York Sound*





*LOS Training*

Although the Squadron was just coming off of its high readiness cycle, elements of Recce were still sent to Wainwright in order to support the Brigade level Ex MAPLE RESOLVE primarily as Observer Controller Trainers (OCT). Concurrently in June, Recce spearheaded a reinvigoration into Close Quarter Combat by running a basic course. It was all in time for the incoming CO, **LCol Josh Major** to visit Wainwright to see the pugil stick bouts. This may have been a contributing factor for the generation of a new form of officer “professional development” which involved the Regimental Officers attempting to beat the snot out of one another, to the amusement of the troops.

Once the Squadron returned from summer leave, preparations began for Op NANOOK. Towards the end of August, the Squadron deployed to Iqaluit, NU and the great white north. Once on the ground, everyone was briefed on the most dangerous threat in the AO, the Iqaluit dump fire, which also happens to be Iqaluit’s number one tourist attraction. The second largest threat to a soldier in Iqaluit, second only to the noxious dump

the evil **MCpl Adam “I hope you get in a car accident” Christie**, as the insurgent commander turned the riot violent and **Sgt Ryan Vigar** had the mob chanting that the Company OC was a racist and for the Canadians to leave “their land.”

*CPC Team conducting orders with Longknife – Ex STEELE SABRE*



*Sgt Johnston’s detainee handling mask – Ex STEELE SABRE*





fumes, was rampant syphilis. This, however, was no threat to the LdSH(RC) soldiers on the task force due to the staunch discipline, professionalism, and adherence to fraternisation policies, which Recce Squadron is well known for. In fact the Squadron's "Ethics and Values Representative" **Cpl Liam** "*I just wanted to make sure they got home safe*" **Talty** had little trouble ensuring that these policies were followed. From Iqaluit the task force was transported to York Sound where Recce, as the Immediate Response Unit, took over from Search and Rescue. Although maintenance of the camp was our primary job, this also provided a fantastic opportunity for the Troops to brush up on their basic soldier skills. The unique environment provided a good opportunity to exercise navigation and field craft alongside the Canadian Rangers who were also in the camp. Several in the Squadron actually had the opportunity to participate in predator control patrols with the Rangers in order to keep the camp safe from polar bears. Unfortunately, in what seemed to be no time at all, the Squadron was back in Iqaluit, less 1st Troop who tried their hand in the Navy on a cruise around Frobisher Bay. The highlight of the operation, despite all this, in this author's opinion, was the baculum of a walrus **Lt Andrew Tardiff** acquired from a local, as it was far bigger than **MWO Iain** "*My ribs hurt too much*" **Fox's** walrus baculum.

The year wrapped up in Wainwright on Ex STEELE SABRE. The exercise started off with ranges to qualify new 25mm gunners and the Squadron level 3 live. Troop level ranges were unique this year incorporating a small arms range with a patrol level battle run. During this time, the Squadron also received a visit from members from 4th Squadron "Longknife", 3rd Cavalry Regiment (US) who were impressed with the Coyotes firepower and the Canadian's unwillingness to delay training for something as trivial as a wild fire. Following the ranges, our American brethren joined us on Recce's first force on force against B Squadron. This led straight into a five day screen operation where the Squadron focused on developing baseline conventional recce skills. For the last force on force, 2nd Troop's **Cpl Kurtis Albers** and **Cpl Damien Brown** maintained the Recce spirit by decorating several of the "bad guy's" (A Squadron) tanks for them while they were asleep. The month long exercise concluded with a redeployment trace back from Wainwright, through the rural manoeuvre area, to Elk Island National Park for a Squadron BBQ.

Also of note during this year for Recce Squadron was the ongoing implementation of the Medium Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (MUAV) "Raven" in a Recce Troop/Squadron context. **WO Bruce Ross** and **Cpl Richard Ford** spearheaded the integration of the technology into the Squadron and 2014 saw the development in the tactics, techniques, and procedures for its integration within the Squadron.

This year saw Recce Squadron further secured its reputations as the Brigade's go to sub unit. From managing its own training remit and assisting in that of other units, deploying new technology within the context of a Brigade Recce Squadron, and deploying to the Great White North on operation; this year the members have again shown Recce Squadron's warrior spirit of true cavalymen, and the Perseverance of true Strathcona's.

*2nd Troop in Iqaluit*



*Photographer: Cpl David Olaes*  
*MCpl Keary McAtasney briefs soldiers of HQ Sqn on range 16 in Wainwright*  
*prior to a familiarization shoot with the C16 Automatic Grenade Launcher.*



# Headquarters Squadron



*Photographer: Cpl David Olaes*  
*The Accounts Officer Lt Shaun Rogozinski*  
*acting as the team cheer leader during the*  
*Command Team Challenge 22 Aug, 2014.*



## Headquarters Squadron

*WO Scott Brown*

2014 is history for the soldiers in Headquarters Squadron (HQ Sqn). We look back with pride at the countless successes that have been achieved during this high-tempo and productive year. We are often referred to as “the soldiers behind the soldiers.” HQ Sqn continuously provided essential support capabilities for the Regiment to include cooks, supply, maintenance, transportation, medical/Chaplain services, and all other services required by the fighting troops to accomplish their mission effectively throughout the year. HQ Sqn started off the year by taking advantage of a rare opportunity. We deployed as a Squadron on Exercise COLD STEELE (10-14 March, 2014). This was not in support of anyone! This was our chance to get away for a week as a Squadron. We conducted winter adventure training at Medley Cabins on Cold Lake, with activities like ice fishing, snowmobiling, downhill skiing, building improvised shelters during the day, and got a chance to tip a few cold ones together around the fire at night. Everyone returned to Edmonton with fish stories, big heads, swollen livers, but overall refreshed. Everyone but **Capt Murray McTavish**, the Accounts Officer who figured barrel rolls were in order while his snowmobile was four feet off the ground! He walked away unscathed thankfully, but the sled was a write off.

With Exercise COLD STEELE behind us, HQ Sqn turned their sights back to our support role. We focused on Exercise STEELE TORQUE, which was the Regimental maintenance concentration and prepared to provide Combat Service Support (CSS) to the Immediate Reaction Unit (IRU) from April to October 2014. Towards the end of April, HQ Sqn headed south east to the Provost/Cadogan area to support Exercise PHALANX RAM in April. This was 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry’s Non-Combatant Evacuation Operation confirmation exercise conducted within the civilian battle space where HQ Sqn was set up quite nicely in the Cadogan Community Center. It was around this time frame that the Regimental Sergeant-Major decided HQ Sqn required some comic relief and moved **MCpl Leon Van Heerden** and **Cpl Mike “Red” VanNieuwenhuyze** from Recce Sqn, to HQ Sqn. Their countless shenanigans and trouble-making were always good for a laugh as the daily routine at times became monotonous!

HQ Sqn anxiously awaited the break from IRU and summer block leave. We supported, and participated in events such as Exercise STEELE SLING and THUNDERING RAM motorcycle rides. We provided our talented cooks and augmented soldiers of B Sqn for the Calgary Stampede Parade/Spruce Meadows Guard of Honour before everyone took a well-deserved summer break.

*Photographer: Cpl David Olaes This is your brain in HQ Sqn.*

*Former OC Headquarters Squadron Maj Michael Mallette addresses the Sqn at a BBQ prior to APS and summer block leave.*





*Photographer: Cpl David Olaes*

*They don't make them like they used to!*

*Capt Callum Smith, Capt Murray McTavish, and MCpl Hutchison retire for the evening after 1 beer.*

Upon return, HQ Sqn had an overhaul and looked significantly different at the senior leadership level. We sadly said goodbye to our Officer Commanding (OC), **Maj Michael Mallette**; Second in Command (2IC), **Capt Matt Johns**; Administration Officer (AO), **Capt Callum Smith**; Transport Officer (Tpt O), **Capt Kristian "Bob" Reiten**; Technical Quartermaster-Sergeant (TQMS), **MWO Mark Riley** (that poor French teacher!); and Transport Warrant (Tpt WO), **WO Rob Baglole**. We happily welcomed our new OC, **Maj Clayton Gardner**; 2IC, **Capt John Kim**; AO, **Capt Laurel Frizzell**; Tpt O, **Lt Matthew Hoffart**;

**TQMS, MWO Tony Mayfield**; and Tpt WO, **WO Harry Delaney**.

This was to be a slow year for HQ Sqn, "Isn't that always the case?" In spite of all the activities I listed thus far, I have not even touched on B fleet vehicle divestment, Exercise MOUNTAIN MAN, the hard work from our maintainers and the issues they had fixing/acquiring parts for the different variants of tanks the Regiment holds, Leopard 1 divestment, keeping everyone interested in Regimental Safety/Environmental Programs, the list goes on and on as Exercise STEELE SABRE 14 slowly approached.

Exercise STEELE SABRE was the exercise that would never end for HQ Sqn with the deployment running from 18 September to 10 November, 2014. With many tanks down for maintenance issues and spare parts backlogged, only one tank squadron was able to deploy to Wainwright at a time. A Sqn would be first in the breach. When they were complete, a hot swap occurred with the tanks from A to B Sqn. Recce Sqn deployed in the middle of the exercise. When B Sqn's exercise was wrapped up, A Sqn redeployed late October. HQ Sqn held fast and remained in Wainwright throughout along with RHQ. During the first week, the Sqn conducted Individual Battle Task Standards (IBTS) training. Being the first Sqn in the Regiment to fire the C16 automatic grenade launcher was definitely the highlight of the week! As we settled into a routine, our maintainers worked day and night keeping A vehicles running and gunning. **WO Harry Delaney's** motley crew in transport occasionally took a break from snaring rabbits and kept everyone topped up with fuel, and got them where they needed to be. Overall, Ex STEELE SABRE was a resounding success for all involved. It was a perfect dress rehearsal for when HQ Sqn will be expected to provide support to the Regiment and several attachments on Exercise MAPLE RESOLVE 15 in the spring of 2015 as part of the Opposing Force Battle Group.

HQ Sqn redeployed to Edmonton in order to pay our respects to our fallen comrades on Remembrance Day. The Sqn complete was not back in Edmonton until 10 November, 2014. As a result, it was not involved in providing soldiers for parades however, everyone from the Squadron spectated the ceremony at the Butter Dome before dispersing to various Legions to take part in the day with local Veterans. With Christmas on the horizon, HQ Sqn looked forward to silly season and all that time of the year brings. It has been a busy year. We will continue to be the back-bone the fighting squadrons need us to be. We will be behind the scenes, far from the glory, with our sleeves rolled up, ready for whatever is thrown our way in 2015!

*Photographer: Cpl David Olaes*  
*Cpl Brydon Townsend's attempt at ice fishing.*





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# Training





## Ex COLD STEELE

*Lt Dave Wright*

Over the week of 10 to 14 March 2014, A Squadron made their way to Gregg Cabin Recreation Area just outside of Hinton, AB in order to conduct Ex COLD STEELE 14. The intent of the exercise was to engage the Squadron in both winter and cold related training while providing some time to unwind after a long winter of maintenance-fuelled days in garrison. In order to prepare for the exercise and to qualify some members of the Squadron on Light Over Snow Vehicles (LOSV), in which classes were conducted in garrison prior to deployment.

On Monday, the Squadron loaded up buses to head to the campground and begin setup. Activities for the day included snowshoeing, hiking, and general 'exposure to cold' conditioning. Preparation also began for the recreational shooting area that occurred as background activity all week. This was spearheaded by **Cpl George "Guns" Woodland**.

Tuesday brought about the planned activities for the week with the onset of a snowmobiling run by **Lt Jamie "Live Free, Ride Hard" Brittain** who managed to run up the highest snowmobile mileage count for the week. Concurrent activities included more snowshoeing and hiking in addition to ice fishing on Mary Gregg Lake. Fishing spots were found by **Lt David "Where's the lake" Wright** and **Cpl Stephen "It's a good idea guys" Taborowski**, who to the thanks of the remainder of the fishermen, hauled the ice auger for a good hike through the bush. Although the catch for the day remained fruitless for the Squadron, those who went maintained their positivity.

On Wednesday, there were two options to partake in. More fishing was to be had further north on Jarvis Lake, and high optimism shined with a catch by Sqn 2IC **Capt James "Little Pike" Anderson**. The other half of the Squadron boarded a bus and headed to Marmot Basin on the other side of Jasper, AB for a day filled with skiing, snowboarding and chilling in the hillside chalets. It was a pleasure to watch the efforts of **Lt Joe "Onesies get babes" Monroe** bombing the slopes in his very stylish onesie. The Squadron spent the evening, in Jasper, enjoying the opportunity of a night on the town to unwind.

On the fourth day in Hinton, the Squadron had the pleasure of hosting internationally known survival instructor **Mors Kochanski** to instruct basic survival techniques, tools of the trade for wilderness survival, fire starting techniques and wilderness shelter construction. A complete wilderness shelter demo was built and one member, **Tpr James "Shelter Dweller" DeMille**, even spent the last night in Hinton sleeping in the shelter.

Friday brought up some sad spirits as the Squadron was packing up to head home. Even though many were happy to depart, the enjoyment and team bonding experienced over the past five days was priceless.

*Sgt Williams falls asleep during ice fishing*



# Annual Motorcycle Rides

*Capt Joe Monroe*

Ex STEELE SLING and Ex THUNDERING RAM were LdSH(RC) and 1 CMBG's Brigade-wide Motorcycle rides run by A Sqn, in the summer of 2014. In an exercise put together by **Capt James Anderson** and **Capt Dave Williams**, riders travelled from CFB Edmonton to Jasper AB for one night of camping, friends and open roads. Spearheaded by **Maj Eric "Morgan Freeman" Angell**, the motorcycle ride was a way for members of 1 CMBG to come together as a family and enjoy the light western air in the Rocky Mountains, both on motorcycle and by campfire. The outgoing and incoming rock stars/Brigade Commanders, **BGen Dave Anderson** and **Col Trevor Cadieu**, also partook in the exercise to discuss their handover.

*In memory of  
Sgt Ginette Gauthier*

The weather started off rather chilly as packets of riders dispatched from the Harvey Building en route to the Snaring River Campground in Jasper. Soldiers enjoyed a long, frosty trip – stopping along the way to grab coffee, warm up and have a chat. Once the mountain wall was visible, the freedom of the western army sunk in and riders enjoyed scenic views, wildlife, and the open road. Far ahead of the first packet of riders (having left earlier in the morning) SSM A, **WO Cordell Boland** had lashed Troops in A Sqn to set up camp. As riders pulled in, they parked their hogs, stretched their creaky legs, and set up tents.

Some small groups made their way into the village of Jasper for a hot meal. Some kicked their feet up by the bonfire and counted clouds. Others took to the Mountain roads to make the most of their well-earned time out of the office and this great country. Unfortunately, motor vehicle accidents happen, and **Sgt Ginette Gauthier** of 1 CMBG HQ & Sigs was killed that evening in a single-vehicle crash. The news of the accident reached the camp and RCMP cruiser lights lit up the dark wood by the Snaring River. **BGen Dave Anderson** broke the news, and the camp stood for a few minutes in silent remembrance. **Capt Joe Monroe** and **WO Cordell Boland** left the camp to go to the scene. The remainder of the evening ticked away, somber and quiet. Instead of hollering in idle-minded jest, soldiers talked together in reflection. The untimely, unexpected death of a teammate felt as wide and engulfing as the cold, dry mountain air. The gigantic rock faces stood apathetic and timeless.

The next morning, 1 CMBG broke down camp. Soldiers left for home in their packets. The light was stronger than the day before, and the sunrise was more agreeable. As groups made their way out of the Rocky Mountains, watching the rock walls shrink in their handlebar mirrors, the road stretched open once again. Some remember the evening before as living with the shock of having a fellow soldier die nearby, albeit perhaps a stranger in the Brigade. Others lost a close and dear friend at a time when friendship was meant to be strongest. The Western Army deployed on Ex STEELE SLING and Ex THUNDERING RAM to come closer together as a military family. **Sgt Ginette Gauthier** will be remembered always.





## Ex MAPLE RESOLVE Too Good At Being Bad

*Cpl Henry Chen and Cpl Andrew Cassel*

From 3 May – 3 June 2014, B Squadron LdSH(RC) deployed approximately 30 soldiers to support B Squadron 12e Régiment Blindé du Canada (12e RBC), our armoured brethren from Quebec, on Ex MAPLE RESOLVE 14 in Wainwright, Alberta. Our task was to be a part of the enemy force (COEFOR) for the exercise to assist in training members of 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group (2 CMBG) as a part of their high readiness training. The exercise began with the soldiers staying in the barracks for the first couple of days while the tanks were set up with WES gear, which enabled the tanks and soldiers to simulate combat through an elaborate laser tag style set up.

When the Troop arrived at Airfield 21 in the Wainwright Training Area we quickly got settled into our new home for the next month; the former medical station. The tankers conducted troop level training over the next couple of days, shaking off the rust and getting reacquainted with their tanks. Under the guidance of the Troop Leader, **Lt Matthew** “*Call Sign 21/24/2-whatever-number-comes-to-mind*” **Hoffart**, and **WO Chris Zubkowski** this consisted of practicing navigation, troop movement, adopting firing positions and defensive operations. Concurrently the maintainers and the other soldiers supporting the tanks were left under the supervision of **MCpl Lawrence** “*Larry*” **Thompson** to set up the camp which included a miniature golf course. After a few days of the training, we attended the 12e RBC “sports day.” This day started with donning all of our fighting gear and weapons and then kicked off with a 7 km forced march, followed by a series

*B Squadron maintainers taking a well-deserved break by their Armoured Recovery Vehicle.  
Photo by: **WO Chris Zubkowski***



*Lt Matt Hoffart, WO Chris Zubkowski, and the rest of the tank troop on arrival in Wainwright to participate in Ex MAPLE RESOLVE 14.*

*Photo by: **Capt Simon Godin**, BC B Sqn 12e RBC*





*Members of 4th Troop at the COEFOR smoker; getting better acquainted with other attachments of the Battle Group to include reconnaissance soldiers from the USA.*

*Photo by: WO Chris Zubkowski*

of activities; such as army truck pull/push, tire flips, stretcher carry, simulated grenade toss, and finally a casualty drag. The day concluded with a BBQ/smoker where we were able to meet the rest of the soldiers in this year's COEFOR Squadron. During the BBQ, many of the older members of the Troop were able to get reacquainted with friends from the other units that they hadn't seen for many years.

With the final pre-training over, Ex MAPLE RESOLVE commenced with the tanks being deployed in support of other units to stop 2 CMBG's advance. We spent the first few days stripping away at their reconnaissance forces, withdrawing at strategic points. The 2 CMBG Combat Teams were intending to have taken their

first objective in the first 24 hours. However, after approximately 110 hours, we were told to withdraw in order to give them a chance. We then deployed to one of the towns in the training area, this time to probe the other force's main defences. We successfully engaged and destroyed their trenches and again were told to cease fire to let the enemy recover. Early the next morning, the Troop deployed to delay an advancing Combat Team. The Troop successfully achieved their mission and even tricked the Combat Team into thinking there was an entire Squadron's worth of COEFOR tanks on the battlefield when in reality there were only four tanks. Afterwards we pulled into a hide and prepared our run up positions in order to endure a major attack. This final attack began with forward elements of the other force calling effective artillery fire on the hide, causing the Squadron to be pushed out earlier than expected. The Troop did their best to hold off the Combat Team for as long as possible, but ultimately the Combat Team was able to complete their advance.

On the 3 June, all B Squadron LdSH(RC) soldiers supporting Ex MAPLE RESOLVE were redeployed to Edmonton. During the trip home, the soldiers recounted their war stories with vigor until the bus started to move. Within about 10 minutes most of the soldiers were fast asleep. Although tired, everybody was glad to finally be home and be able to see their families.



**Groupement Tactique**  
**12<sup>e</sup> Régiment Blindé du Canada**  
**Ex MAPLE RESOLVE 1401**

# Regimental Individual Training

*Lt Bryce Simpson*

The 2014 training calendar included a busy schedule during which the Regiment went about the essential work of ensuring that officers and crewmen were qualified in Primary Combat Function (PCF) courses. Many of the courses conducted had been run by the unit in previous years and some were implemented for the first time within the Regiment. The individual training of Strathconas took place concurrently to the Regiment maintaining its operational commitments and carrying out Squadron level training. Regimental Training WO, **WO Jay Webb** spent his days corralling the squadrons into the ever-expanding Regimental Training Calendar, and through a great deal of hard work ensured that PCF cycles were successfully executed.

Rece Squadron conducted two serials of 25mm Turret Operator Courses (TOC), ensuring that Rece and echelon elements had well-trained gunners and commanders for Coyote and LAVIII turrets throughout the Regiment. They were also responsible for the Surveillance Operator, in addition to Coyote, LAVIII, and Bison driver courses. Rece Squadron's highlight for the year was undoubtedly the Close Quarter Combat (Basic) course run for more than forty soldiers, under the bellicose tutelage of **Sgt Ryan Vigar** and his merry team of instructors.

The Regiment conducted two cycles of tank gunnery courses (Fall and Winter), qualifying the requisite number of crew commanders, gunners, and loaders to meet the needs of the two Sabre Squadrons. The Fall period gunnery serials of Modules 1 to 4, run by A Squadron from August to September, also served the key role of qualifying PLQ qualified MCpls and Cpls prior to moving on to their Armoured Crew Commander (Tank) [ACC(T)] course. With B Squadron rolling into its high-readiness cycle, the task of training new crew commanders for the Regiment fell to A Squadron and **Sgt Matt "Barely Even Busy" Williams** developed a few gray hairs (and a possibly redder face) pulling duty as Course Warrant for all of these initiatives. The Fall ACC(T) itself was a first for the Army, as the course had never previously been exported to a field unit before. Demonstrating the ability of the Strathcona's to run this important course in-house will ensure that the Regiment will be able meet its requirements for new crew commanders with future serials.

In addition to the flashier, and more high-profile courses run during the Regimental training year, the Strathcona's were also kept busy qualifying soldiers in the other vital courses for which the unit was responsible including Leopard 2 driver, driver courses for wheeled support vehicles, C16 Automatic Grenade Launcher, and Light Over Snow Vehicle courses. In total the Regiment ran more than 35 individual courses, granting more than 400 individual qualifications both to unit members and extra-regimental personnel. The hard work and dedication of all those involved in training their fellow Strathcona's ensured that the three fighting Squadrons had qualified soldiers to deploy on the various Regimental exercises conducted throughout the year.

*A Sqn Thanksgiving deep in the Harbour, shout out to the HQ  
Sqn cooks for putting this on...fantastic cherry cobbler*



# Canadian Patrol Concentration

*MCpl Derek Murdoch and MCpl Thomas Underwood*



*Hat swap with Cpl McNair and PFC Leegard*

On September 3rd the journey to the Canadian Patrol Concentration (CPC) began with the formation of 4th Troop, Recce Sqn. Though the team was all volunteers, not just anyone could be on the team and selection was challenging for all who tried out. Selection consisted of a competitive PT test, a 20km ruck march and seven additional stands. On the last day of selection only 10 were chosen and the team was formed.

Daily training leading up to the competition consisted of three and a half hours of PT every morning, graciously curated by **MCpl Thomas 'Grandad' Hume**. Every run was timed, every

rep counted and scored. We didn't allow each other to become complacent; everyone had to continually prove they were fully committed to the team.

When training was complete and the time came to depart, the CO, RSM, and OC Recce Sqn gave the team a motivational send off before we loaded onto the bus. The team was anxious to begin. On D-day the team woke in the middle of the night to receive orders. We were ready. Once **MCpl Derek Murdoch** and **MCpl Thomas Underwood** were done with orders, annexes and planning, patrol orders were delivered and the team was ready to step off.

On 19 November at 1500hrs, the team boarded two CH-146 Griffon helicopters in order to conduct a rappel insertion into the woods to begin the mission. The patrol consisted of Partisan link ups with incompetent and clumsy local forces; which of course were subsequently injured in a minefield, spurring a casualty evacuation scenario. A Close Target Recce was the main objective of the mission and the patrol commander was able to get the vantage point 25m from the objective. Patrolling between scenarios was long and arduous punctuated by obstacle crossings and close encounters with enemy patrols. The home stretch was the longest. Our first helicopter extraction site was occupied by an overwhelming hostile force. We engaged them with live fire but to no avail; there were simply too many. We were forced to withdraw. Using fire and movement tactics we broke contact and regrouped to move to our secondary extraction site. We requested for a tactical helicopter extraction from behind enemy lines. Success! Overall the patrol crossed 46 km in -8 to -20 degrees Celsius weather.

Of all the basic soldering skills we have learned while patrolling; no one skill is more important than the mental ability to keep going, steadfastness despite difficulty, in other words...PERSEVERANCE!

*Cpl Cheng, MCpl Underwood, Tpr Kelly and Cpl MacLennan during helo rappel training.*



*MCpl Murdoch delivering patrol orders with the 3d CAV Longknife Sqn during Ex SS*



# Exercise STEELE SABRE

## From “Shiny” to “Polished”

*Lt TJ Casey*



*Photographer: Capt Cam Meikle*

*“WO Cari-Ann Barker in a Troop Hide - It's bad enough when you can see us, it's even worse when you can't!!!!”*

Exercise STEELE SABRE illustrated the Regiment's high level of performance and highlighted its ability to use flexibility under strict tests of skill and teamwork. While it was all invaluable training, from a Prince of Wales (B) Squadron perspective, the force-on-force training with Reconnaissance Squadron and being confirmed Level 4 live were definitive highlights (in addition to those heavenly shower runs). This year's Regimental exercise included live ranges (both armoured fighting vehicles and small arms); tank skills training at the crew, troop and squadron level; and special visits from both the spouses and the friends of the Regiment. Beyond enjoyable tank rides, weapons displays and square cut cookies, this exercise allowed the soldiers of Lord

Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) to hone skills and allow their new teams to raise their standing from “shiny” to “polished.”

Prince of Wales Squadron began the exercise conducting crew and fire team-level training by day and by night. For most, it offered an opportunity to become masters of the vehicles' capabilities and, more importantly, to rediscover the ferocity and aggression of a battlefield tank crew. After a short while, members were confident, expediting their crew appreciations and generating sustainable momentum for their fire teams. This chronological advance in training prepared troops for the Level 3 dry training traces, by day and by night. This saw movement conducted with speed and aggression, while maintaining stealth and adopting good, defensible positions. Aggression was not stymied by darkness, to include a tank aggressively bounding down the bluffs in the northwest section of the Wainwright training area. After being confirmed Level 3 dry, the Squadron engaged in a force-on-force battle with Reconnaissance Squadron. This embodied an advance to contact trace for Prince of Wales Squadron up against Reconnaissance Squadron in a screen line. While it has been stated that the tank squadron was much more aggressive than the opposition had anticipated, the true outcome was that all who participated received an immense amount of valuable training and experience.

Following the force-on-force training, the Squadron engaged in preparation for Level 4 live fire, by conducting Level 3 live by day and by night. The skills and methods practiced over the span of several days led each troop to feel more comfortable firing both the 120mm and 105mm guns while

*Photographer: Capt Cam Meikle*

*“Major Sandy Cooper explaining what a map is, and how to use it to make paper airplanes that can help you navigate.”*





on the move, destroying a wide variety of targets. No reduction in skill was seen at night from the day, rather some troops performed better with the cover of darkness. After confirming Level 3 live by day and by night, the focus became Level 4, including battle procedure and ROC (rehearsal of concept) talks to ensure all were playing from the same sheet of music. Level 4 live saw an advance to contact, and after destroying enemy reconnaissance elements, culminated in a hasty attack on an objective which had dug-in northeast of Buffalo Hill. With aggression and quick coordination the Fire Base was in position, raining hell on the enemy. Meanwhile, the Assault Force and the Engineers had oriented and begun breaching a complex obstacle, an anti-tank ditch. After the ditch had been breached the tanks formed up line abreast and began advancing on the objective. After 120 rounds, the Fire Base checked fire and watched triumphantly as the Assault Force rolled over the objective, solidifying its destruction.

The exercise culminated in two personal weapons ranges to include jungle lanes, and grenades. These provided soldiers the opportunity to throw live grenades and also practice shooting their C8 while on the move at pop up targets. All of this said, the chain of command was extremely pleased with the product the Squadron displayed during Exercise STEELE SABRE. While each opportunity to learn is a stepping stone, it is said that this Squadron feels like a tiger pacing in a cage, just waiting for their chance to GET SOME.

*Photographer: Capt Cam Meikle  
"MCpl Marc-André Lussier supervising Leopard C2 crews  
completing bore-sighting."*



*Photographer: Capt Cam Meikle  
"The first and only time a tank needed the  
ARV to come and help out.....I think."*



*Photographer: Capt Cam Meikle  
"Ground guides honing their Jedi Skills"*





## Exercise PHALANX RAM

*Maj Mike Mallette*

On 22 Apr 14, greeted with warm and dry spring weather, the Regiment deployed down the familiar highway toward Wainwright. This time out we would not be stopping to darken the door at Wainwright Range Control. Following months of planning and preparation, RHQ, HQ Sqn and Recce Squadron reinforced with soldiers from both A and B Sqns, were deploying to support 3 PPCLI for Ex PHALANX RAM to confirm that the Battalion was prepared to deploy to conduct Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations (NEO).

While Recce headed for Metiskow, AB in order to be the Contemporary Operating Environment Force (COEFOR), RHQ and HQ established exercise control (EXCON) in the nearby community of Cadogan. A pair of long days followed as land use agreements were finalized at over 25 parcels of privately owned land that would be used to conduct the exercise, including the hockey arena in Provost, AB that would serve as 3rd Battalion's main operating base for the next ten days. When the Battalion deployed a few days later, they brought miserable Prairie spring weather with them and much of the remainder of the exercise was spent under chilly grey skies with wet snow and rainy weather.

As the Patricia's arrived it was time to get down to the business of making their lives more miserable than they would experience on operation. Activation of 3 PPCLI for a NEO task would mean sending them to assist with the evacuation of Canadian citizens who had found themselves unable to leave an unstable region or country that had become hostile towards foreign residents. Under the plan carefully developed by Regimental Operations Officer **Capt Paul Leonard** and Battle **Capt Jack Nguyen** RHQ, HQ and Recce Squadron's goals were simple; make it as difficult as possible for 3 PPCLI to complete their task of moving civilians out of the unstable region.

As exercise designer, the Regiment had been tasked to provide challenging evacuation situations for the Patricia's focusing on delivering realistic training to test both the soldiers on the ground and commanders at all levels. Scenarios varied from the relatively benign observation by belligerent forces to daily evacuation runs overflowing with soldiers acting as evacuees. Meanwhile, two soldiers dressed up as civilians under the command of **Lt Andrew Tardiff** and **Sgt Nathan Johnston**, infiltrated the Battalion base but were apprehended stealing supplies. Much to the Battalion's disappointment, the criminals were back on the streets in no time after being handed over to the corrupt local authorities lead by 'police chief' **MCpl Mike Boodhoo**. Just when the Primary Training Audience (PTA) believed they had the situation stabilized, their service support began to dwindle as the Task Force Support Element fell through when **Captain Matt Johns** reallocated their transport assets while **WO Harry Delaney** conveniently forgot to deliver enough fuel. Finally, the exercise culminated as the Battalion was confronted by a crowd of about a hundred soldiers acting as angry local residents protesting the lack of support they had received from the 'foreign invaders'.

All mischief making aside, despite having to deal with numerous attempts to delay or derail evacuation efforts, the Patricia's managed to control the situation safely and successfully complete the evacuation. Ex PHALANX RAM provided extremely valuable training experience for 3 PPCLI giving them what we hope will be far worse than they could expect to see if deployed on an actual NEO task. The soldiers from LdSH(RC) who participated in the exercise as the local populace, insurgents or host nation security forces made everyone realize how challenging the Battalion's task could become if they were to deploy overseas.



*Cpl Joey Schijns styling  
his best Sunnyvale Trailer  
Park dining out clothes.*

# Recce Sqn Op NANOOK 2014

*Lt Michael Labrecque*

Operation NANOOK is the centerpiece of several sovereignty operations conducted annually by the Canadian Armed Forces in Canada's North and is the primary Whole of Government operation for the region. Demonstrating Canada's Arctic sovereignty is a priority area of Canada's Northern Strategy and such operations enable the CAF to showcase our ability to operate effectively in the challenging environment of Canada's North. Op NANOOK 14 was conducted in Iqaluit and York Sound from 18 to 30 August 2014 and included Search and Rescue, and Consequence Management scenarios, in close cooperation with strategic and operational mission partners.

Recce Sqn LdSH(RC) deployed on 24 August 2014 to Iqaluit for a wonderful change in temperature and air quality as a result of the legendary "dump fire" that had been burning for months prior to the Sqn's arrival. Initial lay of the ground went smoothly as the Sqn gratefully moved into heated mod tents and weather havens.

With a beautiful location looking out over Frobisher Bay in Iqaluit, ALS Ice bucket challenges became the Sqn morale boost as an almost daily occurrence with our OC, **Maj Mike Mallette**, SSM, **WO Ben Holmes**, and SQ, **WO Dwayne Barker** each participating in the icy dip with their own carefully crafted motivational statements encouraging their friends and colleagues to follow suit. Although initially it seemed like a great idea, teeth chattering and chirps began instantly and as the soldiers began to go in one by one the level of motivation drastically increased.

Following two days in Iqaluit, 3rd Troop and half of SHQ deployed to York Sound where Op NANOOK 14 moved into full swing, and after a few short lived hours on the tarmac, we hopped on a Twin Otter to join our rucksacks in York Sound. The flight in was incredible with views of polar ice caps and allowed the troops to get a unique view of the largest portion of Canadian land mass, the Arctic. Arriving late afternoon on September 20th, 3rd Troop set up its crew tents and had their first night under the stars. The next day kicked off early with a mass casualty scenario in which the Sqn was responsible to assist the RCMP and CBSA filter through over thirty non-indigenous personnel that were being indefinitely held in York Sound. The remainder of the Sqn arrived later on that day and got settled in under the northern lights and feasted on a meal of Arctic Char provided by the 1st Canadian Ranger Patrol filleted by Sgt Nate Johnston.

The following days had Recce Sqn participating in predator control patrols with the Rangers ensuring that the area surrounding the camp was free and clear of any Polar Bears. The second scenario was an environmental spill in which 1st Troop cordoned off the area and practiced their actions on environmental disaster under the watchful eye of Environment Canada. They were able to practice what they preach and quickly were able to secure the scene and prepare to hand over to the proper environmental response

*WO Bruce Ross and the Recce Sqn camp in York Sound*



*1 Troop performing a map and compass check.*



team. Throughout the Sqn's time in York Sound, Troop level training is where the real action took place. **Lt Andrew Tardiff** led 2nd Troop and members of Adm Troop in a map and compass navigational exercise along with a Canadian Ranger that allowed soldiers a chance to take in the breath taking scenery and practice their individual soldier skills. They covered over 10 km of harsh terrain ultimately running into 3rd Troop and then having a race back to the camp, in which **Lt Andrew Tardiff** and his long slender build was able to outpace the short and stocky yet much better looking **Lt Mike Labrecque**. The following day marked the beginning of the end for the Sqn as 3rd Troop departed en route back for Iqaluit. The soldiers at this point began to say their goodbye's to their new Ranger friends, polar bears and northern lights.

With all members leaving as they came into York Sound on board aircraft for the short one hour flight over the pond, 1st Troop was able to get their sea legs for the first time in known Sqn history. 1st Troop under the dream team leadership of **Lt Joe Agius** and **WO Bruce "41 Elder" Ross** partook in a day long sail from the shores of York Sound to the bay of Iqaluit and although no beer was to be seen aboard the Arctic Explorer, the trip itself was a great opportunity for the troop to spend time together telling stories and stretching their sea legs. It took a surprising turn however when the ship was pulled in to a search and rescue operation to locate a missing Ranger boat which delayed their return for over 10 hours. Luckily the boat was located and all Rangers on board were ok.

Op NANOOK 14 was a success, with Canadian Federal partners working together in a coordinated manner and served to bring the Sqn together be it beers or shivers in the Arctic water. All activities were finished by 31 August 2014 and Recce Sqn complete loaded up on the local school buses en route to the airport for their three hour flight back to Edmonton. Overall, Recce Sqn's professionalism, work ethic, and drive were noticed by all, with positive comments from the organizations we worked with throughout our time up north.





# Annual Events

# Moreuil Wood

*Capt Phil “The Doctor” Webster*

In traditional Strathcona fashion, the annual celebration and commemoration of the Battle of Moreuil Wood was a sombre, respectful, yet resplendent affair. Marked on the 17th of April 2014 the parade was overseen by the watchful (and stern) eye of the Regimental Sergeant Major, **CWO Tony Batty**, reviewed by the Regimental Colonel, **Col Derek Macaulay** and masterfully MC'd by the Assistant Adjutant, the humble author of this article.

After the parade had assembled, been reviewed and historical commentary delivered, the Regimental Colonel and Commanding Officer **LCol Paul Peyton** assembled the annual awards and honours to be distributed to members of the Regiment. Awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration (2nd Clasp) was **MWO Lloyd Clayson**, while **WO Cordell Boland**, **WO Jason Webb**, **Sgt Silvo Mancin** and **Cpl Darren Roberts** all received their CD with 1st clasp. **Capt Dave Williams** and **Cpl Justin Wry** received their Afghanistan honours, the General Campaign Star – Southwest Asia, while **Capt Ryan Lee** received an award from the American Army for his service in that same theatre.

The moment that all assembled had been waiting for came following the Honours, with the Regimental presentation of the annual awards for excellence in the line of military duty. Yearly, a soldier from each rank level is recognized for their skill and proficiency, a well-coveted honour. This year, amid high competition for these awards the following stand-out soldiers were honoured. **Sgt Davidson** was awarded the Olympic Torch Trophy, while **Sgt Yannick Cimon** was the very first recipient of the Strathcona Maintenance Award. **Cpl Cameron Davidson** was awarded the Fox Bugle, while **MCpl Keary McAtasney** received the Colonel of the Regiment's Silver Stick. The Milroy Cross belt went to **Sgt Jason Clark** and the Neatby Pace Stick to **WO Robert Baglole**. Finally, the junior officer's had voted on their choice for the top Subaltern for 2014, with the Hessian Sword being presented to **Capt Ahmad Jaradat**.

Finally, the seminal award for all the soldiers of the Regiment came, with the announcement of the Prince of Wales Trophy winner for 2013/14. This is year-long race that allows each squadron in the Regiment the chance to stand out and engage in friendly rivalry during Commanding Officer's competitions, sports days, and administrative and maintenance inspections. The results were tallied up and the parade closed out with the announcement that B Squadron would once again have the prestigious title, and would for another year hold the right of line while parading.

The departure of the Reviewing Officer saw the dismissal of the parade, and the Regiment's retirement for the day. The Officers were off to the Hotel Macdonald for the annual Moreuil Wood Mixed Mess Dinner. This night of relaxation for the Officers and their spouses and significant-others offered the Regimental family the opportunity to interact in a formal, but somewhat relaxed setting for fine-dining and revelry into the night. Ending late in the evening, your humble author was able to take the chance, along with his fellow port lovers **Lt Justin Rice** and **Capt Karl Tams**, to demonstrate the proper way to finish the toasting wine following a mess dinner. After all, Moreuil Wood is an occasion to remember our Regiment's fine history and tradition, but it's also a time to celebrate it.





BALL ♦ GREY CUP

## Lieutenant-Colonel Who? Strathcona All Ranks Dinner and Dance

*Cpl Matthew Coxall*

The All Ranks' Dinner and Dance (ARDD) 2014 was held at Schank's Pub on June 6. During the event we welcomed the new LdSH(RC) Commanding Officer, **LCol Josh Major**, and saluted the departure of the former Commanding Officer, **LCol Paul Peyton**. This year's Strathcona ARDD most certainly did not disappoint. Entering the doors to Schank's, we were greeted with Strathcona mugs, drink tickets and a shot at several prize package draw locations.

The beer was flowing, the music was loud, and everybody had a drink in their hand. We all started getting in the mood of what the ARDD is supposed to be about. We started off with a wonderful meal that sopped up any drinks that were already in our system then dove into the sweets. At alternating times throughout the night **Matt Day**, comedian extraordinaire and Master of Ceremonies for the night, started giving away the big prizes! The first one was a lavish home theatre system, which was won with a fluke mini putt shot by the Technical Quartermaster's very own, **Cpl Natalie Veilleux**. Lucky shot, **Natalie!**

As beers were going down range, the Regiment was treated to a fantastic video that had the entire Regiment giggling about who the outgoing Commanding Officer was, which closed out with an outstanding performance by our very own **Cpl Mike "Red" Van Nieuwenhuyze**. After came the speeches, with **LCol Paul Peyton** making all of us honoured to have served in the Regiment with him and reminding us that we are part of a great Strathcona family. We all cheered and carried on with more prizes. The next big prize was the Panorama Weekend trip, which was won by my girlfriend, **Amanda**. She didn't even realize she was the winner, until I heard the number on the draw ticket and choked on my beer. She was so excited she almost tripped on the stairs! The next prize was the camping package won by **Tpr Daylon Brown** from A Squadron – Jasper anyone?

We continued on with drinking, playing pool, bowling, mini putt and so much more. There were a few more speeches with someone making random appearances on the big screen, which was hilarious. We were all having a great time when the last prize was announced, the Wireless Computer Accessory Package won by Recce Squadron's **Cpl Nick Norman**. The DJ cranked the music and people started dancing and showing off their moves. Some left and others stuck it out with the younger crowd, dancing till the heart was willing but the body was sore. All in all, the night was a huge success and very well needed after yet another busy year in the legendary Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians).

### All Ranks Dinner Dance Prize Winners:

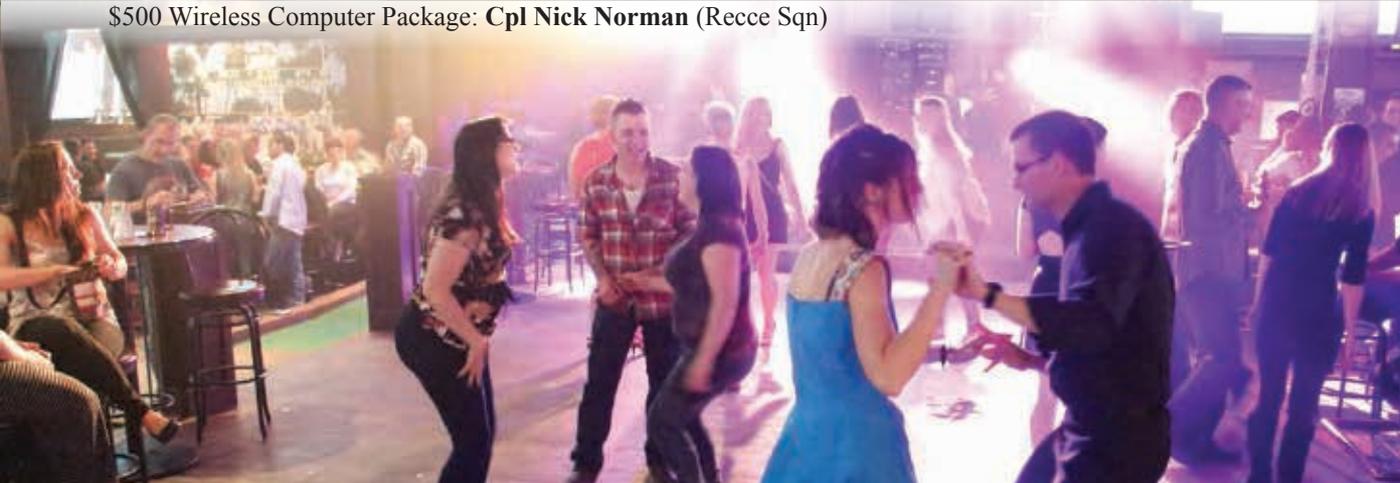
\$2000 Flight Centre Travel Voucher: **WO Louise Litwin** (RHQ)

\$2500 Camping Package: **Tpr Daylon Brown** (A Sqn)

\$3000 Home Theatre Package: **Cpl Natalie Veilleux** (HQ Sqn)

\$2000 Panorama Get Away: **Cpl Matthew Coxall** (HQ Sqn)

\$500 Wireless Computer Package: **Cpl Nick Norman** (Recce Sqn)



# Strathcona Family Day

*Lt Sean Coughlan*

Saturday, 6 September, marked the annual Strathcona Family Day. As always this event was only possible due to the substantial donations made every year to the Regimental Society. Family Day is the Regiment's way of showing appreciation to the families of the soldiers. A Squadron was responsible for the planning and coordination of events this year which consisted of contracting outside organizations as well as inter-Brigade resources. In keeping with tradition the event's activities centered on carnival style games and snacks as well as vehicle displays and the ever popular Tank and LAVIII rides. Set up for the event started earlier that morning spearheaded by **Maj Darryn Gray, Capt James Anderson, Lt Cameron Ross, WO Richard Sherren, and Sgt Gerri Davidson**, along with several volunteers from every squadron of the Regiment. Together they were able to put on an event that entertained hundreds.

This year there was a change to the roster for the dunk tank. The torch was passed from the senior leadership to the Subalterns of the Regiment, who took it with grace and even an unexpected amount of excitement as part of the "Subbies Dunk Tank". Recognition should be given to the new Signals Officer **Capt Nadir "The Otter" Masood** for taking three shifts back to back in the tank. By the end of the day the water level was getting a little low; this however did not deter **Lt Bryce "Ice Tank Challenge" Simpson**, as the tank was filled with the ice from all the closing drink stands. Needless to say the last round of the dunk tank was quite refreshing.

408 Tactical Helicopter Squadron supported the event by providing a CH-146 Griffon helicopter for a vehicle display while 1 Combat Engineer Regiment provided an EOD robot, and the Base Fire Hall provided a few fire trucks, which also alleviated the requirement to fill the dunk tank with jerry cans.... The vehicle rides were able to run smoothly this year using four Leopard 2A4s from both A

and B Squadrons as well as one LAV III from Reconnaissance Squadron. Luckily for everyone the weather behaved and we had a beautiful sunny day throughout.

All in all this year's Family Day was once again a great success, showcasing the Regiment's appreciation for all the sacrifices given by the families of the soldiers. The success of this year's event will ensure that this tradition will continue for many years to come. This could only be achieved by the hard work and diligence of all the soldiers involved in the planning, preparation, and execution of the event.



*Lt Shaun "Money Bags" Rogozinski,  
Capt Ahmad "Stone Jaw" Jaradat, and  
Lt Bryce "Hipster" Simpson show off their newly made portrait.*



# No Stone Left Alone

*Capt Gerard Barabash*

The weather cooperated fully this year for the Annual No Stone Left Alone (NSLA) events held at cemeteries throughout the Capital Region on 6 November, the Thursday before Remembrance Day. The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, **Col (Ret'd) the Honourable Donald S. Ethell, OC, OMM, AOE, MSC, CD, LLD** participated in the main event at Beechmount Cemetery. He gave a personal and moving endorsement of the NSLA Foundation and challenged all of us, and in particular the students in attendance and those watching in their classrooms via live internet feed, to not only remember but to stand for and protect what we have gained through the sacrifices of others. Notable amongst other dignitaries and speakers was **BGen W.D. Eyre, MSC, CD**, Commander 3rd Canadian Division and Joint Task Force West.

Our Regiment has been a key component of NSLA since its inception in 2011. One of its stated goals is *“to create an increased awareness of our veterans’ and serving soldiers’ needs by inspiring a new generation of Canadians who recognize and respect the sacrifices and service of all our Armed Forces.”* You can tell by the expressions and the comments of the students and teachers that our presence and participation in this movement has been meaningful and inspirational for them.

Credit for all photos:

**Ms. Sara McNeill** courtesy of No Stone Left Alone Memorial Foundation





# Exercise STEELE BLACKHAT

*Capt Ali Raju*

“Write me an article about Black Hat week” demanded the Acting Regimental Second in Command **Maj Clayton Gardner**. Having gone through my usual list of excuses as to why I was clearly not suited to the task, also being reminded by Officer Commanding A squadron **Maj Darryn Gray** and his Second in Command **Capt James Anderson**, I eventually capitulated, and sat down with the tools of my trade assembled before me.

“Exercise STEELE BLACKHAT 2014,” I wrote after a while, and then, after considerable thought, I underlined it heavily. Realising I was beginning to suffer from ‘writer’s block’ I leaned back on my chair, closed my eyes, fingertips on keyboard and began to compose. ‘Unlike all other Black Hat weeks in previous years, this was the very first time when the entire Regiment gathered for a week of Regimental training activity which gave all ranks the opportunity to increase their professional expertise and knowledge in variety of fields....’ then my head lolled to one side and I began to visualize the experience.

It all began with viewing of D-Day Normandy 1944 3-D movie at Telus World of Science Edmonton. Concurrently, **MGen (retired) Tim Grant** spoke to the officers about corporate leadership during a luncheon graciously hosted by the Telus World of Science. The following day was the visit to The Military Museums and rededication of the Strathcona Gallery in Calgary. The credit for the flawless execution and planning this part of the exercise goes to Headquarters Squadron.

As part of Corps professional development, Career Manager **Maj Vince Kirstein** informed us where the Armoured Corps and personnel within it are heading. Regimental Colonel, **Col Derek Macaulay** informed us about his role on planning the future of our post command Majors and succession in general. Colonel of the

Regiment, **MGen Cameron Ross** explained the significance of being a Strathcona officer. Also, we were fortunate to have a briefing from **Mr. Yves Pelletier**, President of NAMMO Canada Inc on a variety of ammunition both for the 120mm Leopard 2 and other systems. NAMMO is a Nordic company producing small arms, medium and large calibre ammunition and missile products. The briefings were followed by Officer Syndicate discussion on defining lessons learned and key take ways from the D-Day Normandy 1944 video viewed at Telus World of Science. This resulted in discussions on intelligence preparation of the battlefield, deception, and sustainment.

Finally, the exercise came to an end with the Black Hat Mess dinner, which also served as an opportunity to say good bye to **Maj (retired) Eghtedar Manouchehri** and **CWO (retired) Doug Ross**. The Regiment dined them out with traditional style and panache. Many stories both believable and unbelievable, were shared, gifts given and the spirited evening dragged well into the night. As with any mess dinner, the subalterns were up to their usual tricks, barely held in line by the Senior Subaltern, **Capt Ahmed Jaradat** and Adjutant, **Capt Tim Day**.

Overall, the Exercise STEELE BLACKHAT 2014 was a great success. The Regiment took the opportunity to reinforce the requirement for professional development while embracing the lessons of our history, before well-deserved Christmas celebrations.



*Colonel of the Regiment, MGen Cam Ross promotes Capt Laurel Frizzell.*



# LdSH(RC) Christmas Activities

*Cpl Melissa 'The Crusher' Doyle*

The festive season of the year finally arrived and everyone came together in the Christmas spirit to attend some much deserved celebrations. Silly week started with the year's second Command team challenge. The 8 events were: the simulators; Driver & Maintenance test; Small Arms Training ranges; Weapons and Radio; Trivia; Jerry Can Race; Obstacle Course; and the Chariot race. The purpose of this activity was to show that each Squadron challenges themselves and works as a team, to give it their all in each event. The entire unit comes together and shows their support. This one day can be described in one word: teamwork. My favorite event was the Regimental Knowledge. No one will forget **Sgt Matthew Williams'** CADPAT tie. The Obstacle Course was, by far the most impressive. **Capt Jocelyn Moffat**, our new Int O, showed a lot of strength and determination navigating through the course. The day ended with speeches, beers and burgers.



*Sgt Matt 'Look into my eyes...me so pretty' Williams*

Another event LdSH(RC) is known for is the Kid's Christmas Party. Recce Sqn and all the volunteers should be very proud of themselves. The children and adults had a blast. As soon as you walked through the front door of the unit, the smell of mini doughnuts and popcorn filled the air. We started the day in B Sqn lines; there was cookie decorating, face-painting, and Santa hat decorating. For the kids brave enough to face **Cpl Richard Wagner**, there was also pictures with Santa. He did a great job playing Santa Clause, listening closely to the hyper kids and holding the crying babies for three hours. The subalterns looked amazing with their elf costumes and the gifts given were much appreciated.

Sports day this year was fantastic, with the Track Pad dominating most events. The morning began with Hockey and Broom ball. Everyone seemed happy and relaxed, enjoying a cup of coffee and a couple of great games. We all hung out at the base gym during the afternoon to watch the soccer game which was the last game that played before winners were announced. The Track Pad came out on top with the Sarcee Room coming in as a close second.

The Men's Christmas Dinner is a long standing tradition in the Canadian Armed Forces which will forever be part of silly week. This year, **LCol Josh Major** continued the tradition of switching tunics with Tpr **Emma Crackle-Skulason**, from B Sqn, who became the CO for the day. **Cpl Karen Lewis**, from HQ Sqn, had the privilege of becoming the RSM for the day by exchanging jackets with **CWO Tony Batty**. Once the tunics were switched, dinner was served. There was lots of beer, laughter and food to be shared. The dinner came to an end with the announcement that the next day was a stand down. Everyone rejoiced and left the lines.

Shortly after the Regiment's dismissal, the Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers faced off for a night of friendly competition. The Edmonton Garrison Officer's Mess was the venue for the annual "At Home" where these two groups entered into competitions of skill and knowledge. A highlight of the night is when **Lt Bryce "look at my good luck mustache scar" Simpson** met the ferocious **WO Scott "I'm gonna cut you" Brown** on the field of battle. Both live to this day... with both eyes. After hours of intense battle, the Officers conceded defeat and vowed vengeance in 2015.

*Officers win!...One to nothingish....*







*Swing and a Miss*



*Soldier's Christmas Dinner*





# Sports and Fitness





## Regimental Sports

*Capt Dan Gray*

2014 was another exceptional year for Regimental Sports with many soldiers from the Regiment and their teams demonstrating their sporting prowess. Through a continually high exercise and operational tempo, the Regimental teams did us proud through both base and Intersection leagues as well as weekly inter-Squadron sports afternoons and inter-Mess sports days.

The annual Moreuil Wood sports day, held on 16 April 2014, saw all the Squadrons pitted against each other in fierce competition for Squadron pride in broomball, hockey, and soccer. The day proved to be an excellent experience in team building and esprit de corps at the Squadron and Regimental level with A Sqn winning the top spot.

In a new twist, for the first time in a number of years, the Brigade organized Exercise TOUGH CONTENDER, the summer Brigade sports competition. With little notice, the Regiment was able to put together several competitive teams in flag football, soccer, rugby and softball and although the sports competition didn't receive the heat and light of Exercise STRONG CONTENDER, there was no less perseverance put into it by Strathcona soldiers as **MWO Iain "My ribs hurt" Fox** can attest to, earning him the First Annual "SOB" (Sacrifice Of the Body) award. Although the Regimental teams put forth an excellent effort, the teams were unfortunately eliminated by math, losing out on points for and against.

With a rough start, the winter intersection sports kicked off in November after the Regiment's return from Exercise STEELE SABRE. The Strathcona teams came into true form with a collective effort at all levels to ensure the teams were set up for success. As always, the Regiment displayed maximum participation, fielding teams for volleyball, ball hockey, basketball, soccer and multiple teams for hockey and curling.

This year saw several skilled soldiers and athletes from the Regiment not only stand out at the Regimental but also the Regional and National level. Through their own work ethic, dedication and Strathcona spirit, **Cpl Sean Collins** and **Cpl Kerry Crocker** participated in Men's Slo-Pitch Nationals in Borden, ON and **Sgt David Brister** participated in Soccer Nationals in Cold Lake, AB.

The year in Regimental sports had its usual highs and lows but overall was a great showcase of the athletic talent present within the soldiers of the Regiment. It served to increase morale, demonstrate the Regiment's abilities and build that Warrior Spirit through fierce physical competition that all Strathcona's, athletes or not, are known for.

*LCol Josh Major preparing a counter  
attack against Maj Darryn Gray*





## EX STRONG CONTENDER: Basketball & Volleyball

*Capt Joe “the flow” Monroe and MCpl Mike Baker*

In January of 2014, the major and minor units of 1 CMBG competed in a week of sports known as Ex STRONG CONTENDER. The Regiment put together teams for the following events: Ball Hockey, Indoor Soccer, Ice Hockey, Volleyball, Basketball, Curling, and the Tactical Athlete challenge (aka crossfit). Due to a busy fall training cycle, the Strathcona’s got off to a late start with team training sessions, giving the other units a fair chance of winning.

The basketball team had seen very little action prior to the competition but they performed well under the leadership of team coach **Cpl Jeremy “Dunny” Dunford**. Once the schedule was released, the team realized Ex STRONG CONTENDER would be a definite struggle as we faced the reality of playing back-to-back games late at night each day! Monday night saw the debut of the savage Arab **Capt Ahmad “Jihad” Jaradat**. Overall, the team performed well throughout the week, mainly because of **Cpl Campbell**. The team eventually lost to 1 Svc Bn, eliminating the Regiment from the basketball playoffs and ending the team’s week earlier than originally hoped.

The Strathcona’s Volleyball team was led by coach and team captain **MCpl Mike Baker**. The team started off Monday with a heart-breaking loss to 1 RCHA, but really took the fight to the heavily favoured 3 PPCLI team later that day. The next day they defeated a solid 1 CER team with a very narrow victory by only two points in the final game. Losing to 1 PPCLI later that day led the team to a final game against 1 Svc Bn which would decide our hopes for playoffs. The game led to a nail-biting, gut-wrenching third set, where our team prevailed by a mere two pints to earn a spot in the playoff against 3 PPCLI. Victory! Next, after losing to 3 PPCLI in the first round, we played 1 RCHA for the bronze, losing, and finishing fourth overall.

The Soccer team didn’t do so well. With that said, **Tpr Jesse “bulldozer” Ell** did smash a few players, earning him a yellow card in the second half. **Cpl Kyle “Aussie” Meaney** played a mean defense. **CWO Antony Batty** ensured that the referee and opposing players was “sorted out” when necessary, as well as developed the team in-tournament in lieu of actual practice.

No one knows how the Tactical fitness went except the people who did it, and everyone already knows how we did in hockey because that’s all anyone actually pays attention to anyway. Except for when Curling wins Gold, somehow, when no one was looking. After rockin’ the curling tournament with an un-contested, diabolical and violent victory, the LdSH(RC) earned themselves a spot-on gold medal. **Lt Dave “Smiles” Wright** even won employee of the month in A Sqn. Congratulations **MCpl D.P. Fisher**, **Sgt Bryson Murphy**, **Lt Dave Wright**, and **Cpl Corina Skinner**.

*Capt Dave Wright giving pointers on curling before winning Gold at STRONG CONTENDER*





## Exercise Mountain Man 2014

*Lt Darren Carter-Wright*

On 11 Sep 14, the LdSH(RC) Mountain Man team completed final checks on their canoes and marshalled at the start-line. Over the next several hours, participants experienced what the Brigade Commander, **Col Trevor "Uncle Trev" Cadieu** described as one most extreme gut checks that could be thrown at them.

A team of over 40 Strathcona's came together in early May to commence training for MM14. The strict training regime focussed on preparation for the key events: a 36 km run, a 3.2 km canoe portage, a 10 km paddle, and a 5.6 km final run. Scorching afternoons spent in the river valley tested the team's perseverance and numbers began to shrink due to training commitments and injuries. Days spent perfecting the portage had **Capt James "The Beast" Anderson** cursing the prairie winds as everyone struggled to keep their boats from blowing off their heads.

The race kicked off at a frosty 0500hrs, where participants couldn't decide whether to bundle up or strip down for the inevitable heat of the race.

**MCpl Adam "My knees exploded" Christie** was later quoted as saying "I was ready for the race to be over after the first 16km", but fueled by ginger-rage and Cytomax he persevered. The monotony of the gruelling race was broken by the cheers of Strathcona spectators spread throughout the course.

During the portage, the course was a boneyard of would-be mountain men fighting over the last of the traffic signs to prop their canoe on in order to redistribute some of the weight. This was true for many Strathconas, except for **Sgt Geoff Limbert** who was reportedly reluctant to get help taking his canoe off, stating "I am used to it". At the end of the day, for all the gimmicks, rigs, and foam padding racers attached to their canoes there was no substitute for sheer Strathcona Perseverance.

Conditions on the North Saskatchewan didn't exactly favour the racers on race day. A cold breeze and slow current did little to improve the soaking participants' situation. However, **Tpr Lukas "My Lungs Hurt" McKenzie** took the slower pace as an opportunity to satiate his craving to "punch a nail or hack a dart".

**LCol Josh "Out Front" Major** showed up to "compete not participate" and did so with a very impressive 8th place overall, passing competitors like a gazelle. The remainder trailed behind and crossed the finish line soon after, with a rewarding 100% completion for the Strathcona team.

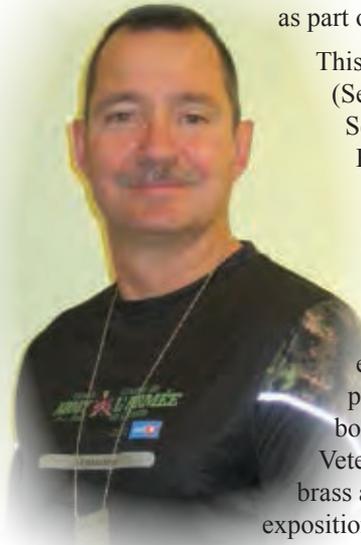




# CANADA ARMY RUN

*WO Richard Delaney*

Not so many years ago the Canada Army Run had its beginnings. It started as a shadow image of the United States Marine Corps Run and the US Army ten miler held annually in Washington D.C. With its inaugural start of 7000 participants in 2005 to its 25 000 participants in 2014, it is quickly establishing itself as not only a Canadian military tradition, but firmly entrenching its presence as part of Canadian sport and culture.



This year's Army Run was the centerpiece of the Canadian Army Weekend (Sept 19 – 21) in our nation's capital. The weekend started on Friday September 19 with a sunset ceremony being performed on Parliament Hill by two storied Canadian Infantry Regiments. The Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) and the Royal 22nd Regiment (R22eR or the "Van Doos") helped celebrate their 100 year anniversaries by expertly performing in the ceremony with great pomp and pageantry.

Saturday September 20 saw a finely crafted military display and exposition support a diverse and superbly planned and organized pre-race tent. This tent included everything from Support the Soldier booths to race sponsored registration tables to fitness related vendors and Veteran Affairs Canada representatives. Outside this tent, several military brass and pipe bands entertained the crowd from a stage centered on the exposition grounds.

Sunday September 21 (Race day) dawned fine and warm. This Strathcona [the author], while on his way to the starting blocks, saw several other Strathcona family members eager to start the race as well. Of note, **LCol Paul Peyton**, and **Col Derek Macaulay**, two former LdSH(RC) Commanding Officers were jockeying for position within the starting corral and ribbing one another the entire way to the race start line.

The start of the race was a long drawn out affair with up to 20 000 racers of various skill levels formed up in waves. The weather for the first 10 km of the 22 km course proved to be hot, humid and stifling. At the 10 km mark the sky opened up and it started to rain. Let me tell you, did it ever rain! At this point I would like to quote *Forrest Gump* for his description of the severity of the downpour. As Forrest said; *"it rained straight down sideways (both left to right and right to left), from the front and the back at the same time: and at one point, because of its power, it seemed to come up from the road to meet me as I ran!"*

This biblical rain lasted for the remainder of the race. At some points during the run I found myself mid-calf deep in rain swollen gutters while passing slower runners. My running shoes were so wet at this point my feet began to slide around inside them. To avoid a possible injury, I was forced to stop and re-tie my shoes at the 18 km mark.

At the 20 km mark, with the wind whipping and the rain still pouring, I resolved to tell my sore, aching muscles to stop complaining and put on a slight burst of speed to both stay warm and finish the race strong. As the finish line came and went, and after I had received my ID disc style completion medal from a race official, I shivered my way to the post-race reception area. At this point, wishing to bask in the post-race after-glow, I realized I had accomplished my goal of completing the race course in less than two hours (1hr 45 min). Any additional basking had to be put on hold because of the severe shivering and possibly the early onset of hypothermia kicking in.

I quickly jogged back to the hotel, took a long hot shower and spent the rest of the day reflecting on the experience that was the Canada Army Run 2014.



## Strathcona's Martial Arts Team

*Cpl Mike Partington*

In the summer of 2010, the Stables NCO, then **MCpl Jerry Peddle**, noticed that something very important was missing from the intermural sports activities taking place within LdSH(RC). What he noticed was that there was a lot of hockey, baseball, soccer and a dozen other games being played, but a complete lack of combat sports of any kind. There was no boxing, no wrestling, no judo, not even a decent “ditch fight” to be found anywhere! Being an avid martial artist of many years this troubled him deeply.

The truth is despite the massive benefits of fitness, discipline, and the imparting of the fundamental ability to defend oneself in an unarmed confrontation, combat sports have been largely left untouched within the military in the last decade. This is most likely due to the perceived individual nature of said activities, the military as a whole giving preference to sports where one plays as part of a team to enhance camaraderie. Also, there is the inherent risk of injuries that could prevent soldiers from deploying overseas, which may have caused a shying away from these more violent pastimes. However fighting is and always will be an important part of who we are as soldiers and an integral and irremovable part of our history. If one takes the time to walk through the main hallway at the Edmonton Garrison Military Fitness Center and stop to browse the many plaques representing the Military Fitness Hall of Fame it is difficult not to notice that a very significant percentage of them are indeed fighters of some variety.

Seeing this gap that needed to be filled, **MCpl Jerry Peddle** put up a memo to the Commanding Officer, then **LCol Trevor Cadieu**. With his blessing, he assembled a group of like-minded individuals with a plan to take soldiers, train them during PT hours in various martial arts, such as Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and kickboxing, and compete in tournaments in and around the Edmonton area. With mats and equipment bought by the Regiment, the team was an immediate success hosting a seminar with UFC fighter **Shane Carwin** at our building and going on to compete at several local grappling and striking tournaments that first year.

Over the next few years the team would lose funding and their coach to a Wainwright posting. But that wouldn't stop them from continuing to fight locally and winning medals and trophies that can still be seen in the display cases throughout the halls of the Harvey Building today.

Now, after a brief and well-earned break from training for field deployments and training courses, the team is gearing up for another exciting season of competition! Consisting primarily of personnel from B Squadron and coached by **Cpl Mike Partington** and **Cpl Jered Pollard** joining us from 1 Field Ambulance. The team, having been granted permission to train three days a week again, is preparing for the Submission Series grappling tournament as well as more tournaments to come throughout the year. As always, we welcome soldiers from all Squadrons within the Regiment to come out and train with us Monday and Wednesday mornings for PT and Sports afternoon Thursdays. Spirits are high and with luck we'll be able to bring even more esteem and victories back home to the Regiment this year.

*Photos by: Lt Erica Young*

*Top-Cpl Michael Partington showing off his hard-earned shiner.*

*Left-Cpl Michael Partington demonstrating how to escape from*

*Cpl Justin Green's favourite move.*





## Strathcona's Taekwondo (TKD)

*Capt John Kim, Head Coach*



The 2012 edition of “*The Strathconian*” featured an article on TKD at the Regiment for the first time, which has since been a permanent edition to the Regimental Annual, and for good reasons. Not only is a Strathcona the Head Coach of the Garrison TKD Team, but four other members currently on Regimental strength are active members: **Maj Clayton Gardner**, Officer Commanding Headquarters Squadron; **Capt James Anderson**, Second-in-Command A Squadron; **Capt Ali Raju**, Regimental Liaison Officer; **Cpl Alex Aguila**, Rider in the Strathcona Mounted Troop and **Cfn Seymour**, HQ Sqn. Members of the Regiment train up to three times a week after garrison work hours at the base gym. This year will also see **Sgt Yannick Cimon**, Headquarters Squadron, join the ranks as an Assistant Instructor.

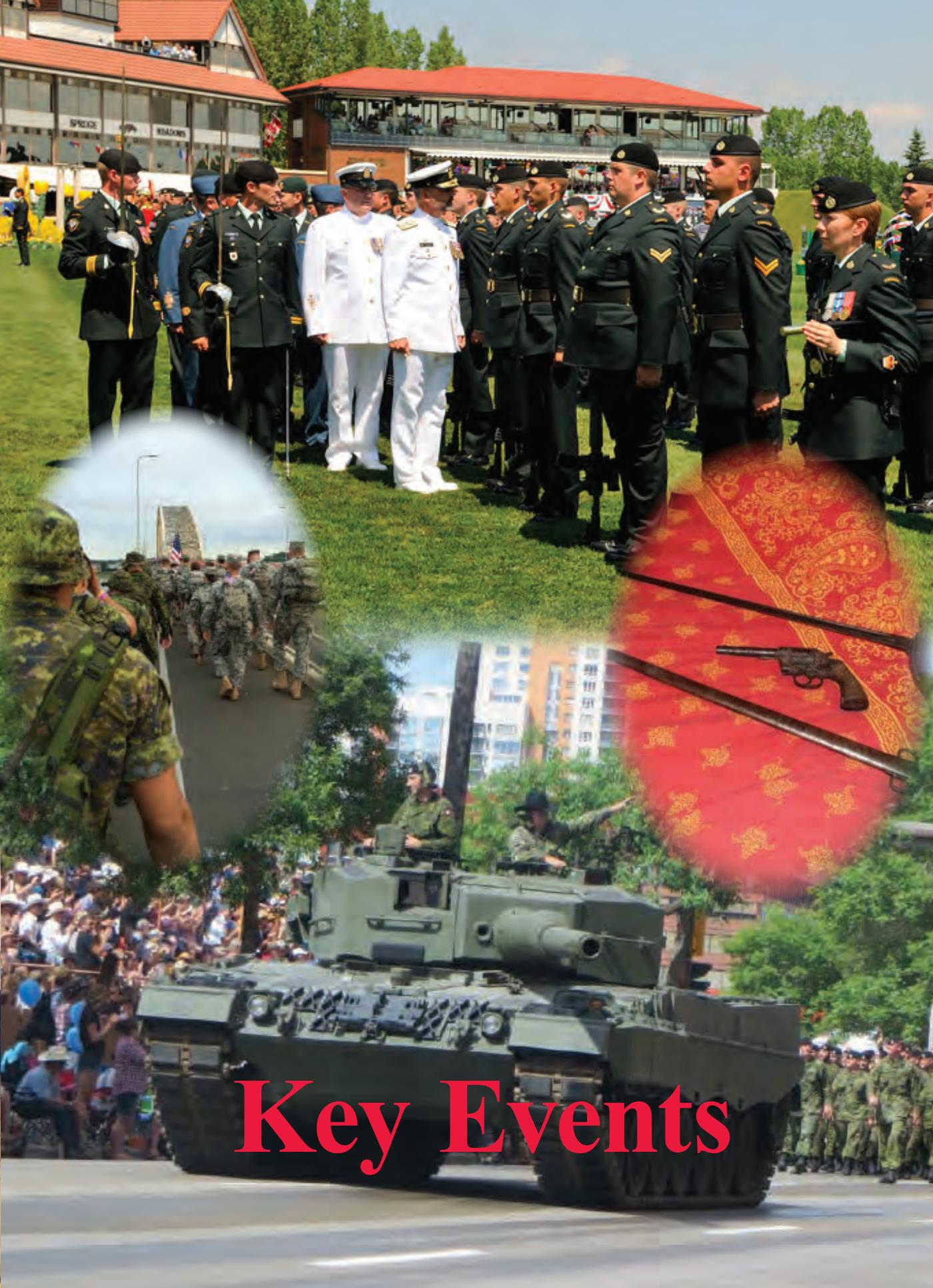
Since the team's inception in 2012, the TKD Team has become the largest individual sport team on the base which boasts a healthy strength of 20 members from across all units in 3rd Canadian Division. The team is proud to have produced the Garrison Male Athlete of the Year for the 2012/2013 season and has been the recipient of the Base Team of the Year for the third consecutive year. For this 2014/2015 season, the team was the recipient of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Individual Sport Team of the Year, a huge accomplishment for the base, for which the Strathcona's on the team have further added to the great reputation this Regiment holds within the Brigade.

*Sgt Cimon is our newest instructor to the team*

Given the great successes of the Strathcona's and TKD at the Regiment and base, the team looks forward to another challenging and rewarding sports season in 2015. Given the popularity of TKD within 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, one of the Head Coach's goal will be to feature TKD as a demonstration sport in the annual Exercise STRONG and TOUGH CONTENDER series in the near future, a weeklong Brigade-led sports event designed to bolster morale and cohesion within the Brigade.

*Capt Dave Anderson, Cpl Alex Aguila, Maj Clayton Gardener and Capt Ali Raju striking the pose after class*





# Key Events

# Regimental Change of Command

*Lt Bryce Simpson*



On June 12th, 2014 the Regiment once again marked the passage of time with a change of command parade. More than 350 parading soldiers, 40 vehicles and a large audience from both the military and civilian community gathered to say farewell to one Commanding Officer and to welcome another.

Thursday's parade topped off a week of events as **LCol Paul Peyton** passed command of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) to the Regiment's 53rd Commanding Officer, **LCol Josh Major**.

**LCol Peyton** assumed command of the Regiment in 2012 and led the Strathcona's through a busy training and operational period. While serving under **LCol Peyton's** leadership, Strathcona soldiers deployed on numerous field exercises, responded to the Southern Alberta flooding in 2013 as part of Op LENTUS, sent personnel overseas on the final rotations to Afghanistan as part of Op ATTENTION, and conducted high readiness training. Other highlights for the outgoing Commanding Officer included serving as the Battle Group commander for the Combat Team Commander's Course in 2013, reminding the rest of the Army that cavalry officers bring a unique and effective approach to this role. **LCol Peyton** believed strongly that his Regiment should work hard and play hard, which was reflected in the many extra-curricular events, sports days, parties and other social events which received his enthusiastic support during his tenure.

As fortunate as the Strathcona's were to have **LCol Peyton's** leadership, the Regiment is happy to welcome **LCol Major** as their new Commanding Officer. **LCol Major's** prior service was largely with the 12e Régiment blindé du Canada, where he served with great distinction. He served as a Reconnaissance and Assault Troop Leader, deployed to Bosnia on Op PALLADIUM as Recce Squadron Liaison Officer prior to teaching at the Royal Canadian Armour Corps School. He deployed to Afghanistan on Op ATHENA twice, first in 2006 as Reconnaissance Squadron Second-in-Command and again in 2009 as Chief of Operations for Joint Task Force – Afghanistan for which he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal. After re-badging in January 2014, **LCol Major** keenly prepared himself to take the reins of the only tank regiment in the Army. During the incoming Commanding Officer's first address to his Regiment on parade, he recalled being asked how it felt to be a 12e RBC officer taking command of the Strathcona's; his response was that he was not a 12e RBC officer, but a proud Strathcona.





The Change of Command parade itself was a considerable success, and was well attended by the Strathcona Family, community leaders, and VIPs including the Colonel of the Regiment **MGen (Ret'd) Cameron Ross**, the Senior Serving Armoured Officer **MGen Steve Bowes**, the Colonel Commandant of the RCAC **BGen (Ret'd) Darrell Dean**, Commander 1 CMBG and Reviewing Officer, **BGen David Anderson**, and the Director of Armour **Col Steve Kelsey**. The presence of the Strathcona Mounted Troop ensured that the Regiment's unique cavalry traditions were on display for the event. The Regimental Guidon was paraded, before being ceremoniously passed from **LCol Peyton** to **LCol Major** through the Colonel of the Regiment, symbolizing the transition of command. After assuming command, **LCol Major** mounted his

Leopard 2A4M and led the Regiment in a roll past consisting of Leopard 2s, Coyotes, LAV IIIs, and support vehicles. Following the advance in review order, a troop of Leopard C2s performed a feu de joie from the embankment overlooking the parade square. **LCol Peyton** then departed the parade square in style, commanding a Leopard 2A4M at high speed prior to the departure of the dignitaries and the dismissal of the parade.

**LCol Peyton's** skill and leadership will be missed by the officers and soldiers who had the privilege to serve under him, but the Regiment is eagerly looking forward to working with **LCol Major** whose experience is sure to be an asset to the Regiment in what will assuredly be another busy time in the history of the Strathcona's.



# Calgary Stampede and Spruce Meadows A Kaleidoscope of Firsts

*Cpl Mackenzie MacLeod*

My first week as one of the newest members of the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) was marked with excitement that can be best described as a whirlwind. Little did I know I would be starting my career with the Prince of Wales Squadron (B Sqn) and about to embark on history in the making!

My first few hours were marked by hasty in-clearance into the base followed with my introduction to the Squadron Sergeant-Major (SSM) of B Sqn, **MWO Kevin King**. He greeted me as we walked quickly into his office. He asked, "do you have DEUs?" I told him I did. He quickly looked down at his watch and directed me to the B Sqn Squadron Quartermaster Sergeant where I was, without further delay, to draw a rifle and fall in for parade practice. Moments later I was a member of the 100 Soldier Guard of Honour who would, in only a few short days, proudly represent the Regiment.

I recall eagerly trying to learn the Feu de Joie as I had not, until that day, performed a drill movement more intricate than a present arms! Each day to follow was entirely devoted to drill practice in preparation for the upcoming Spruce Meadows parade and our kick off to the Calgary Stampede.

Our first afternoon in the city of Calgary was spent enjoying the Military Museum and given the opportunity to take in our Regimental History. The displays were exceptional and the Regimental Museum offered a wealth of documented history!

Finally the time had arrived, the morning we had been so diligently preparing for; the opening of the Calgary Stampede and the Spruce Meadows Parade! Never had I been a part of something so much bigger than myself. The streets were lined with thousands of proud Canadians clapping and cheering as we marched passed in column. The children laughed and shouted as the tank drove past! With the energy in the air and the massive support shown as the 100 Soldier Guard marched past the many people lining the streets, I could not help but smile and feel proud.

Spruce Meadows surprised me! What an elaborate and sophisticated arrangement of disciplined horses, well turned out soldiers, the Guidon proudly on display, telescreens, pipes and drums and a patriotic and captive audience! Again, I had never been a part of something so spectacular!

We marched into place, the drill was sharp and the crisp precise sound of the Feu de Joie drew applause and excitement from the crowd. This was a fantastic weekend marked by many firsts for me. I could not have imagined a greater way to begin my career with the Regiment. Never have I been so swept up in such a patriotic frenzy. Literally, looking back, my first two weeks felt like a kaleidoscope of firsts and a celebration of my dream of wearing the LdSH(RC) cap badge.

*Photo by: Maj Cooper*

*100 soldier guard marching in the Calgary Stampede Parade  
high-fiving the crowd as they showed their support for the troops.*



# Without the Past, the Present has no Future

*Capt Joseph Monroe*

After sitting with **Padre Robert Greene** at the Officer's mess in the spring of 2014 and listening to his Second World War stories about rolling through Europe and fighting the Germans, I was extremely proud of the Canadian liberation of the Netherlands. The intimate details of his advance and the relations with the Dutch gave me a strong curiosity about our Army's identity, legacy and connection to the Netherlands. Although pictures of dozens of Dutch women huddling around Canadian tankers proved quite alluring, I made out to go to the Canadian and Commonwealth War Memorials in the Netherlands to learn about our role in this battle. After seeing the old photos of Padre Greene's tour, I wanted to visit the greatest generation of Canadians where they lay: buried in the fields of Europe.

B Squadron went down to the Calgary Stampede to participate in both the Parade and as a 100-soldier Honour Guard for Spruce Meadows. This was an excellent, jammy go where the whole city and Spruce Meadows crowd cheered for us. There is nothing better than to be a Canadian and a Strathcona, so I felt fantastic on my red-eye flight. When I landed in Nijmegen, the Netherlands, where the 4-day march would be taking place in one week, it felt even better to be Canadian. The Dutch students I was couch surfing with wouldn't let me work off the jet lag, and instead began to celebrate that they had their own Canadian Soldier, speaking in Dutch tongues and pushing drinks. Canadians love Canada, but the Dutch really love Canada. It was as if I was being rewarded for the good deeds Padre Greene and his peers had earned.

The next morning I borrowed my friend Leineke's rusty, decrepit old bicycle and creaked my way some 20km South of Nijmegen to the Groesbeek Memorial (pronounced Whose-Bake) a Canadian War Memorial and Cemetery recommended to me by members of the 1st Christian Reformed Church in Edmonton (a Dutch church). It took a long time to get there because of the flat tires, rusty gears and awkward construction of the bike, but I didn't mind. It was a particularly Dutch experience to bicycle through the mild countryside in a sprinkle of rain. Once away from town there were few people, and along the way I stopped to confirm my route with a Dutch man of about 80 years. I quickly learned he spoke no English, and in an old, rough Dutch accent at that. I was wearing a Canadian Shirt, and although I couldn't understand anything he said, he smiled and tried to give directions in Dutch. I wish I could have asked if he knew Padre Greene from way back.

As I creaked up to the brass gates at the Groesbeek War Memorial, I felt ashamed. I felt ashamed that I was not in uniform, that I did not bring any band or guard, and that I had been for years scarcely grateful for the fields of sacrifice that lay before me. There were over 1000 Canadians at this one memorial. And this was but one of hundreds of scattered cemeteries and memorials in one country. The sheer magnitude of this and absolute quiet overwhelmed me. For how many years have they been here, still? How many



  
Ter gelegenheid van het 100-jarig bestaan van  
LORD STRATHCONA'S HORSE (ROYAL CANADIANS)  
het regiment dat Nunspeet bevrijdde op 19 april 1945

Without the past, the present has no future  
Sans le passé, le présent n'a pas d'avenir  
Zonder verleden heeft het heden geen toekomst



years had they each lost with their families? I walked to the gate and lifted the handle, the metal worn down from touch.

So many names, and so young. Many Regiments I was unfamiliar with. I finally came across the Strathcona's. Trooper. Trooper. Corporal. Sergeant. Trooper. Captain. Some of the graves read comments from their families. Airmen. Artillerymen. More Strathcona's. I couldn't help but think of our own troops back at the Regiment. Further, in a foreign country, though one grateful and allied to us, I could not help but feel at a loss for Canada. These Canadians so far from their own soil. These were not Dutchmen, or Germans in the ground, but Canadians.

Over the next 4 weeks I would visit many memorials, cemeteries, and sites significant to Canada in the Netherlands. Some of them were huge, pristine and an honor to Dutch tenacity – such as the memorial in Holten. Others were very tiny and tucked away in the forest, like the small grave lots on the Dutch islands. The last memorial I visited was in a place called Nunspeet (pronounced None-su-peat). Here the Strathconas alone are given credit for the liberation of this whole town, and each year they honour our Regiment and give thanks to their freedom and to those Strathconas who sacrificed themselves for the free world. On the front is written a phrase: Without the past, the present has no future.

The Dutch are a very friendly people who are used to mingling and meeting new people. Their lifestyle is quirky, compact, honest, consistent, quiet and easy-going. They are not aggressive, wild, or glamorous. In comparison, the Canadians, their liberators, are seen as wild, courageous, tough, friendly, and simple minded. We don't appear particularly modern, metropolitan, creative, or pushy. But they do not remember us as **Padre Robert Greene** does. The 1940's are fading away as time passes, and the young people there do not appreciate the magnitude or intensity that their elders experienced. The same is true of our youth, inevitably more so as time passes. In my mind, the best way to touch back in time and thank the Canadians of yesterday for the freedom we have is to visit them. See a well-kept grassy field full of their gravestones, read the words left to them by their families, and thank them in the land where they fell.



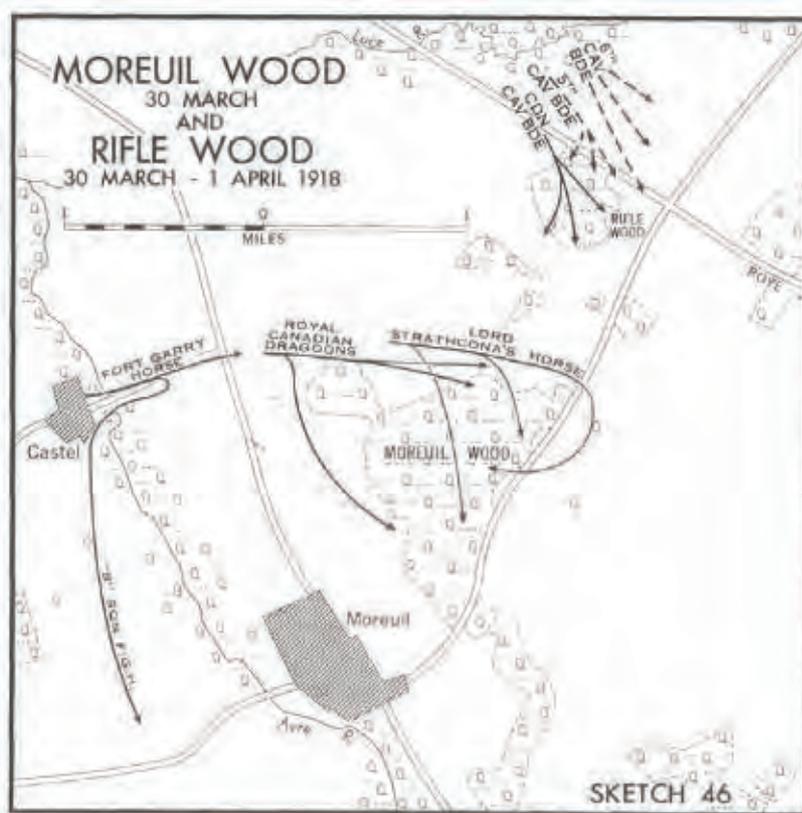
*Capt Reade Gravesite*





## A Connection in Time: From the Past to the Present

*Maj Fred Hayward*



The opportunity to go back in time and touch your roots, to see where you have come from, to see where your history started, where your values originated from, and then have the chance to link that history and heritage to the present; is an amazing feeling that I hope every Strathcona will have the opportunity to experience. I was honoured and privileged this year to have the good fortune to do so. On a sunny day in September, I was able to trace our Regiment's battle in Moreuil Wood. I was fortunate enough to spend the day walking my way from the line of departure right through the objectives.

At the end of the day as I worked my way back to the town of Moreuil, I came across a Commonwealth cemetery, with the graves of unknown Strathcona soldiers. It made me pause and think what his life was like and is the Regiment the same now as it was then? I believe that these Strathconas would find the Strathconas of today kindred comrades who continue to carry on the traditions of mission, men, mare, and self while never leaving a fallen comrade or ever giving up.

This opportunity was made possible due to my task as a planner at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) from 5 May to 6 September 2014. SHAPE is the Headquarters of Allied Command Operations (ACO), one of NATO's two strategic military commands. It is located at Casteau, north of the Belgian city of Mons. Canada deployed staff officers to this headquarters as part of Canada's Operation REASSURANCE contribution and our primary responsibility was to develop contingency plans in light of Russia's actions in the Ukraine.



# Nijmegen 2014

*Cpl McNair*

In an effort to improve their soldier's ability to march and carry weight for long distances, the Dutch military started the Four Days Marches. Since July 15, 1909 when the marches began, this annual event has gained the interest and participation of military contingents, emergency services and civilians from over 50 countries.

Canada's contribution included 14 teams of 11 participants each with support staff, all from Reserve and Regular Force units from across the nation. Of those 14 teams, the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) provided one team from each Battalion in celebration of their Regiment's centennial year. I was fortunate enough to be invited to join the 1 PPCLI team. All participants were required to complete a minimum of 500 km of weight loaded marches as well as two 40 km marches conducted on consecutive days prior to departure for Nijmegen.

The 1st Battalion PPCLI began team selection and training in the middle of February 2014. Training started with short, weighted load marches alternating in distances of 10 and 15 kilometres with an increase added each week. An average distance of 800 - 900 km was travelled by each member of the team while they worked towards departure for Nijmegen, Netherlands. All Participants became very familiar with ALL of the Edmonton river valley trails, where the majority of training was done.

The team departed for Europe on 10 July, 2014, five days before the event, leaving a bit of time for stops along the way. The team arrived in Lille, France late in the evening on the 11th with enough time to have a quick beer before bed. Early the morning of the 12th the contingent departed towards Nijmegen. Stops were made at several First World War memorials along the road to Nijmegen to honour the fallen with memorial ceremonies at each. In France, the contingent visited the Vimy Ridge memorial in Arras before crossing the border into Belgium. The contingent then visited The German War Cemetery in





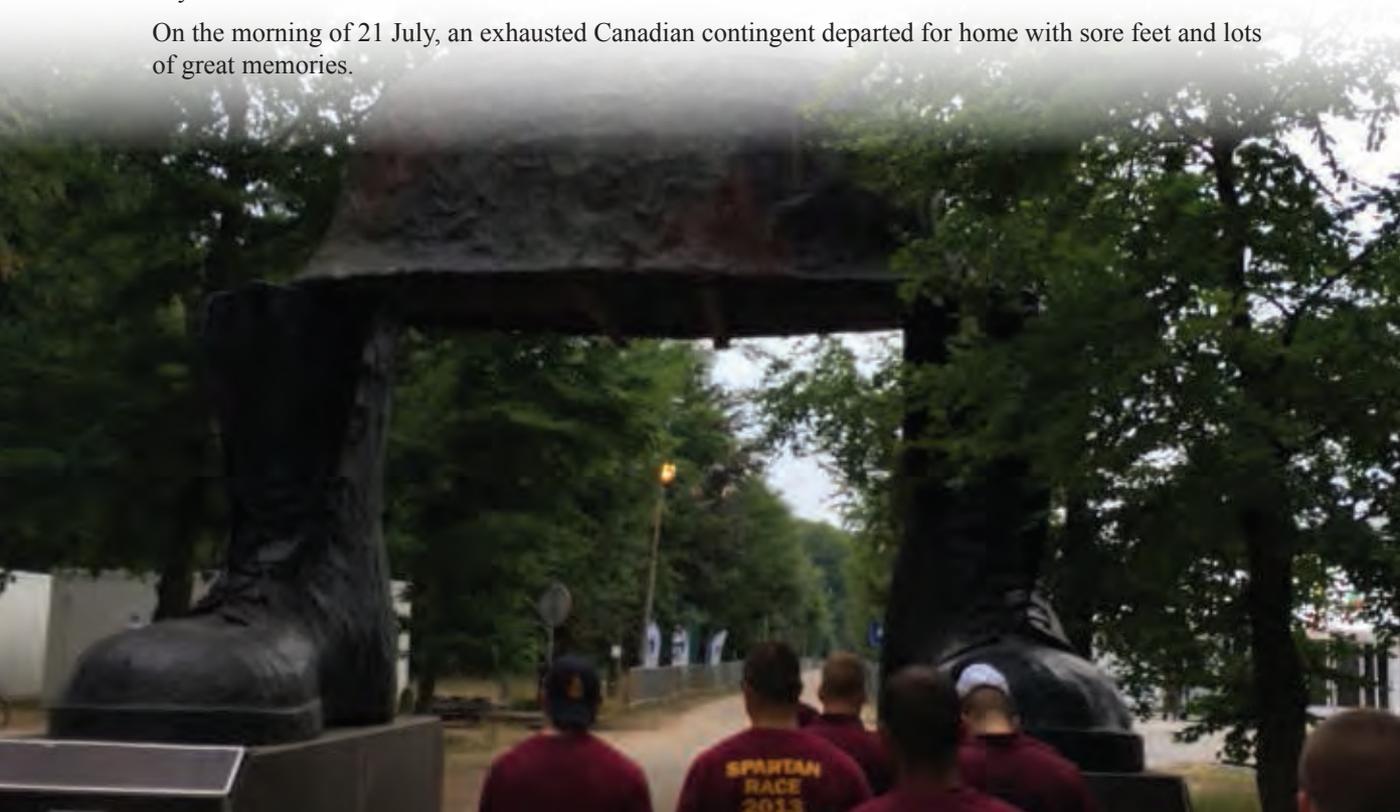
Langemark before paying our respects at Essex Farm Cemetery and the Menin Gate Memorial to the missing in Ypres, Belgium. After enjoying some Belgium night life, the 1 PPCLI team negotiated the streets of the foreign town and made their way to the military barracks to rest for the night. The next morning our travel concluded upon arrival to Camp Heumensord in Nijmegen.

The next couple of days allowed the team to get settled into their accommodations and mentally prepare for the coming marches. The mess food was good; however, there was also the option to enjoy fresh baked pizza and beer while connecting with military participants from all over the world.

On 15 July 2014, the Marches began. For 4 days we clover leafed the city of Nijmegen. Over 40 plus kms per day, while visiting country roads and small towns all along the way. Spectators filled the streets of the communities and the country side, offering cheers, local treats, hugs and hydration for the entire 4 days; this ensured morale was high and our minds were off the persistent pain. As the temperature rose into the high 30's towards the last half of the event, locals were happy to cool the participants off with super soakers and hoses. On the third day of the Marches, the Canadian contingent stopped and paid respect to the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery with a Memorial Ceremony to remember the over 2300 fallen Canadian soldiers who died fighting to liberate the Netherlands during the Second World War. The last day of the Marches was concluded with all but one member of the entire Canadian contingent completing the Marches.

On the Morning of the 19th, the contingent departed for the military barracks in Eindhoven, Netherlands where the last days were spent recovering... for most. The 1 PPCLI team used this opportunity to explore some more of what the Netherlands had to offer. Amsterdam seemed the most fitting choice, but not before a stop in Arnhem to see where the famous Operation Market Garden was conducted by the British 1st Airborne Division. With only a night and a day in Amsterdam, the team ensured not to waste any time.

On the morning of 21 July, an exhausted Canadian contingent departed for home with sore feet and lots of great memories.



# A Strathcona at the 2014 NATO Summit

*Sgt Conway Eady*

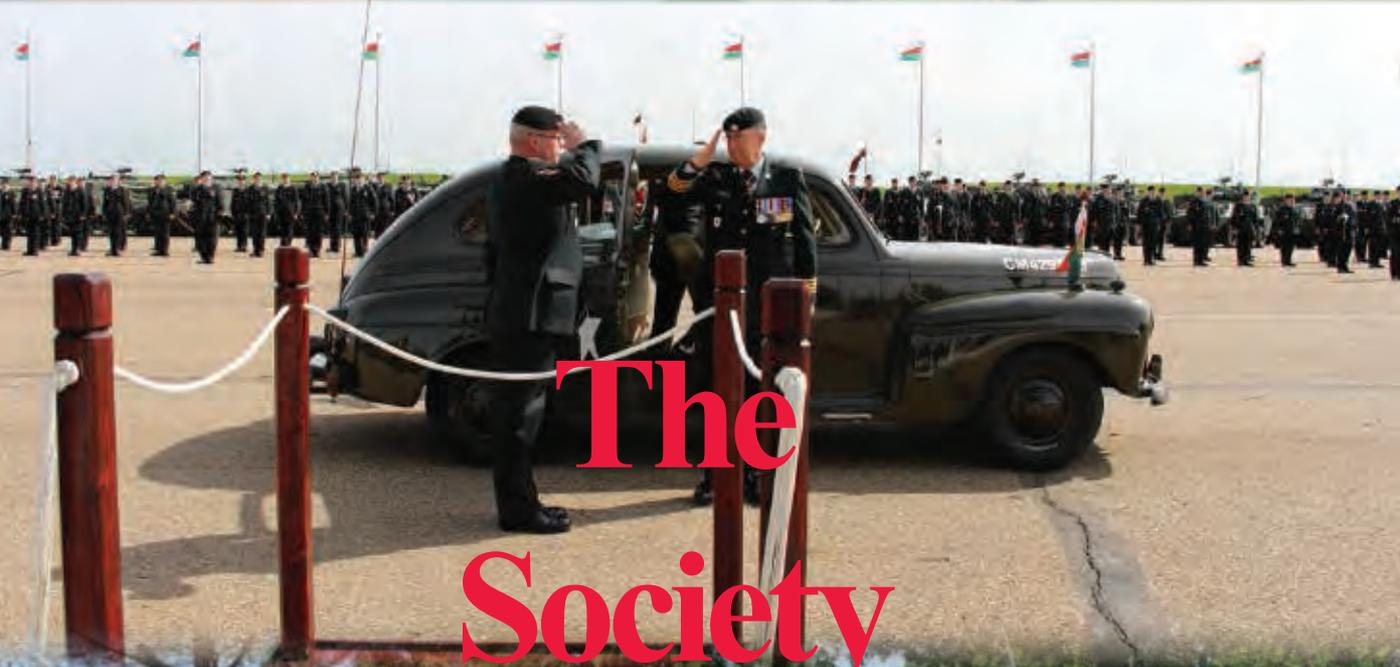
After a nine-hour flight, I finally touched down in London, England. Two trains later and I was at the Defence Academy in Swindon, England. The first day, the other NATO representatives and I practiced drill. We had to ensure all were synchronized as soldiers from Canada and a soldier from Jordan may differ regarding drill movements. I think it was my outstanding drill that dictated me and Mr. Croatia (No one had names. You where Mr. Where ever you came from) lead the parade. I know it wasn't because both our countries started with the letter C. It took no time before everyone's drill was on the same page. Before we knew it, we were done. Time for a little meet and greet.

The next day was the opening day of the 2014 NATO Summit in Newport, Wales. We jumped aboard a bus at 0800hrs to make the two-hour bus ride. Everyone had to be there for 1300hrs. It was nice to see how the Canadian and the British Armies shared a dedication to timings. One good thing about being at the Celtic Manor Resort early was that we got to see a lot of VIP's enter the resort. We stood and drank instant coffee and watched several leaders from around the world walk in with their entourages. Then out of nowhere comes Mr. Czech Republic. He looks at me and says, "Hey Mr. Canada, who's coming from your country, **Wayne Gretzky** or **Eric Lindros**? Ha, ha, ha!" Seriously? **Eric Lindros**! Needless to say the hockey-loving countries and I got along just fine. Once we got the word to form up, things started to sink in. All I could think about was how honoured I was to be there representing Canada on the world stage. Then, I started hearing a voice in my head. It was **RSM Tony Batty** saying "*Do not screw this up!*"

As soon as the doors opened and we stepped off, the cameras started to flash. It was a feeling like no other. I could feel the power in the room as I marched past **President Obama** and **Prime Minister Cameron**. The entire ceremony was about six minutes. It felt like 20 seconds! As soon as the ceremony was over, we got back on the bus and headed back to England. Five hours later, I was heading back to London to jump on a plane. The joke was Mr. Canada flew half way around the world for a 6 minute parade. It was worth every minute! It was a great experience and to represent Canada on the world stage and was something I'll cherish forever.







# The Society



# Strathcona Mounted Troop

## A Season to Remember

*Capt Brandon Frizzell*

The 2014 Ride Season for the Strathcona Mounted Troop (SMT) proved to be yet another extremely successful season. As per tradition, the Troop took part in every major Spruce Meadows tournament to include the National, the Continental, the Canada 1, the North American and, of course, the world renowned Masters. In addition, SMT continued to tour around Western Canada spreading our own Strathcona brand of cavalry heritage in over 19 Musical Rides and numerous parades including the annual Stampede Parade and K-Days Parade.

Our season started off with our annual VIP Appreciation Ride at the SMT Stables where the ride was anything but routine, setting the standard for the season. **Sgt Paul** *"let's bring the scouts"* **Kruhlak** decided it would be fitting to inject some members of the Steele Scouts in our first ride having them take part in both the charge and canter past. Much to their dismay, their mounts simply couldn't keep up with the SMT horses.

One of the season's most memorable rides was our first ride at the new Agrium Building on Stampede Park. SMT was the first mounted performance of its type to be showcased in the new building as part of its grand opening celebrations on 21 Jun 14. We performed in the Agrium a second time during the Calgary Stampede where we rode for a packed house.



SMT once again made the long trip out to Abbotsford, BC where we put our musical ride on display for 4 days at their annual Abbotsford Agrifair. Some members of the Troop including **Cpl Curtis** *"I don't need any water"* **Paquette** found out the hard way why drinking water before and after rides is truly important. This hard reality really sank in when he had to make the walk of shame out of the Abbotsford Regional Hospital in nothing but his Strathcona Boots and a blue hospital gown (sorry ladies, no pictures). Once back from Abbotsford, the Troop barely had a chance to reload before riding once again at the 1 CMBG Military Heritage Day and again at Bar-U Ranch the very next day. Both rides went incredibly well and allowed many friends and family members of the Troop to see our hard work in action.

After a few more local rides and a well-deserved opportunity for rest and refit, the Troop returned once more to Spruce Meadows for the Masters Tournament. As many have heard, the tournament did not start off as anyone could have imagined. The Troop woke up on the first day of the tournament to knee deep snow and broken trees lining every route and path throughout Spruce Meadows. Armed with chainsaws, shovels and bobcats, the Troop quickly pulled together and set about helping Spruce Meadows recover from the terrible storm. We worked well into the evening alongside CANA employees and the Rocky View Fire Department to clear downed trees along every major access route around the International Riding Arena. Through the combined efforts of everyone involved, Spruce Meadows was able to begin running competitions with only a single day's delay. The Troop's hard work and dedication throughout the ride season truly earned them and the Regiment the utmost respect and admiration of many.



# Historical Vehicle Troop

*Cpl Shaun Sullivan*



CATHERINE

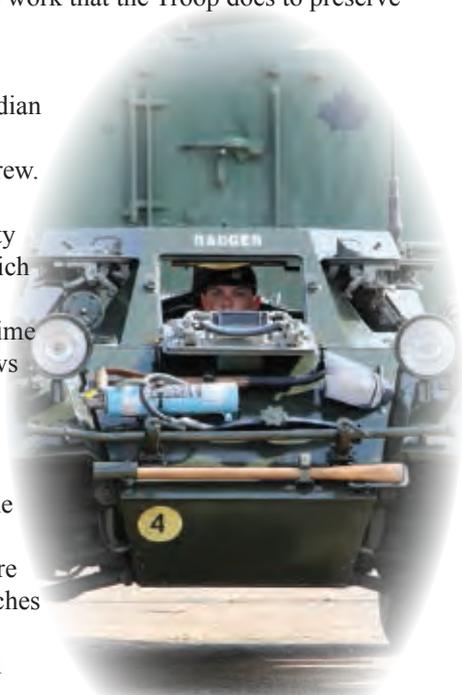
The Regimental Historical Vehicle Troop (HVT) had another busy year as we attempted to attend as many venues as possible in order to promote our history and inform the public of its importance. The biggest event of the year occurred early on when HVT was invited to attend the Alberta Arms and Cartridge Collectors Association (AACCA) during the Easter long weekend. The Troop was there from 18-20 April and had a lot of interest from the public that was interested in the significance of the Troop. Being at a venue where nearly 10 000 attendees were present was a strong start to the year and we look forward to attending the event next year. The AACCA, it is an excellent opportunity to present the proud history of the Regiment to the public in a manner that they will never see anywhere else. Not many can say that they have had the opportunity to experience seeing a functioning Sherman tank.

The next task for HVT was the 3rd Canadian Division Re-badging Parade for the Troop with “*Catherine*,” our beloved Sherman tank, to act as a backdrop for the ceremony. With the help of our ardent supporters, we also had all of our Ferret scout cars in top running condition for the parade. This avoided a repeat of the Sherwood Park Ferret break down of 2013, where one of our cars became an impromptu obstacle during the parade. Yes, these vehicles are temperamental.

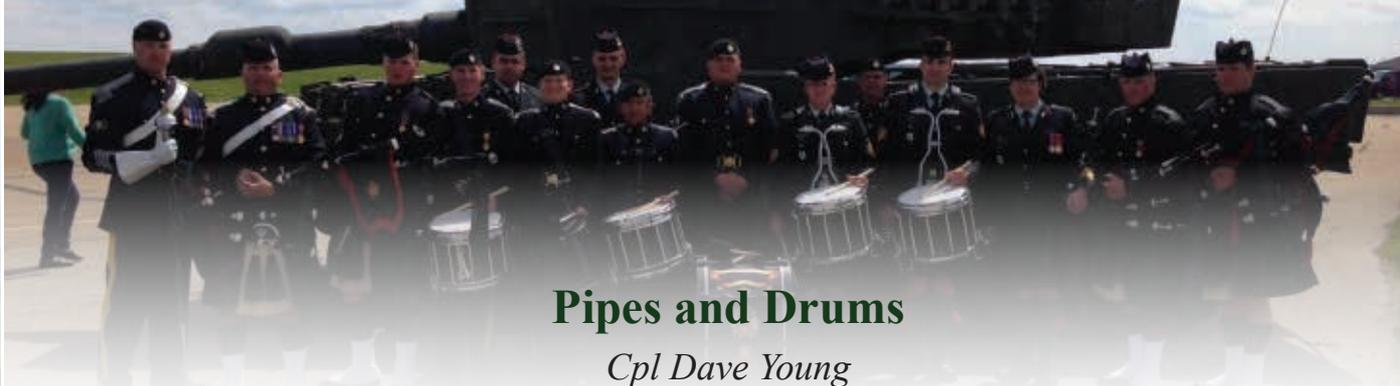
After the Change of Command Parade, the Troop was invited to the Edmonton Canadian Historical Arms Show (CHAS) 21-22 June. The Troop provided the Sherman tank and a Ferret scout car for the two day event where, most notably, the Troop was able to interact with the public and give a tour of the Sherman to actor **Adam Baldwin**. He enjoyed the tour and was impressed by the work that the Troop does to preserve Canadian history.

Shortly afterwards, the Troop bid farewell to the Troop Leader, **Capt Kristian Reiten**, who was posted out to greener pastures at 3rd Canadian Division Support Group. We welcomed the new Troop Leader, **Lt Matthew Hoffart**, and hope that he is able to deal with this motley crew. Next, as part of the Canada Day parade, the Troop went to Sherwood Park with a vehicle and historical small arms display. The interactivity of the displays meant that there were always large crowds present which kept the Troop busy for the entire event. Sunburnt but content, the parade was a success for all members of the Troop. There was little time to rest however, as HVT promptly journeyed south to Spruce Meadows with the rest of the Regiment on the 4th of July, 2014.

Not to be lost amongst all the other activities, HVT was always kept busy by the Brigade and the Regiment for small tasks to show off the impressive collection of LdSH(RC) history that HVT keeps alive. The year was busy for HVT with attending new events and old events as well, none of which would have been possible if it wasn't for the entire Troop volunteering their spare time to swing hammers and turn wrenches to keep the vehicle fleet running. Without all of that hard work, HVT would not have been such a success at any of the events. HVT would like to thank **MCpl Ryan Pasuta**, **MCpl Guillaume Vallerand**, **Cpl Roger Larcher Pelland**, **Cpl Paul Nicholson**, **Cpl Billy Goodwin** and **Cpl William “Billy Fish” Clendennin** for their expertise and generous time.



*Cpl Brown showing off his driving skills in a Ferret*



## Pipes and Drums

*Cpl Dave Young*

The Strathcona's Pipes & Drums had another busy year in 2014. Numerous practices lead by our Pipe Sgt, **MCpl Colin Davidson**, both at the Regiment and on our off time at the Kingsway Legion. We always strive to find time to practice, but training obligations come first, so after a break to go on spring exercise we were back into the swing of things. These tasks typically involve our presence at funerals, weddings, and other events; but whatever the venue, it helps increase the visibility of both the Regiment, and our Pipes & Drums.

After the spring exercise was over, it was time for the Moreuil Wood Parade, marking the third anniversary of the bands triumphant return in 2011. We played inspections tunes along with the Royal Canadian Artillery Band. This was a big day for the band and its individual members, with **MCpl Cam Davidson** being promoted and also awarded the Fox Bugle, given to the top corporal in the regiment. Lead Tip **Sgt Kerry McAtasney** was also promoted.

The summer put us front and center at the regimental change of command parade under the guidance of Drum Major **Sgt Conway Eady**, where we played for the inspection and roll past, again alongside the Royal Canadian Artillery Band. Then it was off to Calgary again for the Calgary Stampede parade. The Regiment had provided a 100 man honour guard and the band provided exceptional musical accompaniment. This was again a great gig and a reminder that it's better to be in the band.

In August the band took part in welcoming triathletes from around the world by leading the opening ceremony parade through downtown Edmonton. Thousands applauded as we marched through the streets.

Autumn brought one of the bands most visible gigs to date. On October 10th the 1984 Edmonton Oilers were celebrating the 30th anniversary of their winning the team's first Stanley Cup. The band, combined with a number of other bands from the Edmonton area, played as the 1984 Oilers and Lord Stanley's Cup walked into Rexall Place. The crowds roared as we marched up the center of the rink and spread out along the sides as the Mudmen prepared to play. To the untrained eye it may appear as if the masses were cheering for the '84 Stanley Cup winners, but we know they were there to see the LdSH(RC) Pipes & Drums.

November brought us around to Remembrance Day, an opportunity to for the band to honor all those who came before us. We performed at the Kingsway Legion, playing as groups came into the building following the ceremony at the cenotaph. We joined with the RCMP and EPS bands to play entertainment pieces for the crowds in attendance.

2014 has been another great year for the Lord Strathcona's Horse Pipes and Drums, with improvements made through each practice, and confidence gained at each show. We look forward to another full year in 2015, and hope to recruit more pipers and drummers and play more and bigger gigs.





# The Regimental Museum

*WO Ted MacLeod*

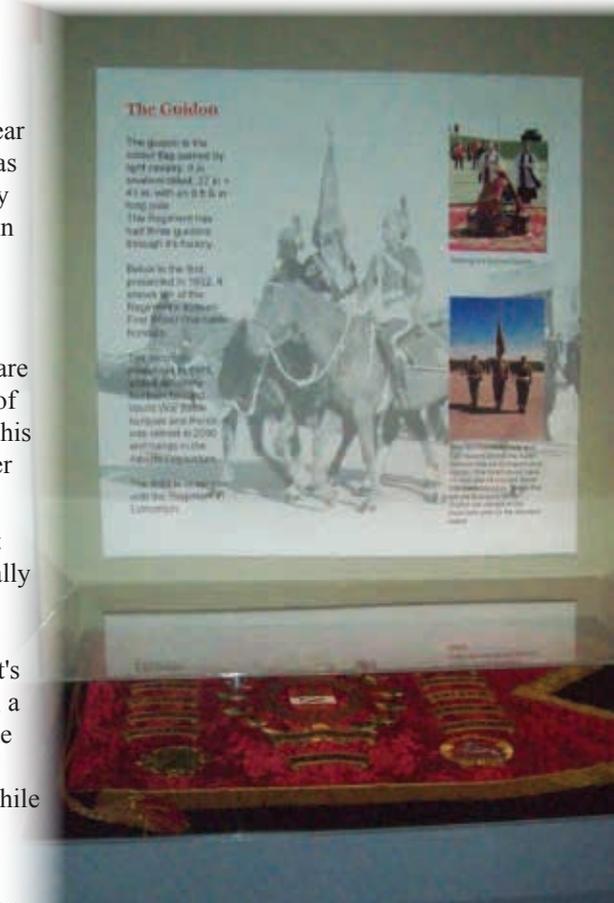
The gallery renovations started in 2008 were completed this year with a rededication ceremony on 26 Nov. Over 175 Strathconas and friends of the Regiment gathered at the museum in Calgary turning the rededication into a mini reunion; and, I dare say, fun was had by all.

The gallery now boasts a properly spaced timeline with appropriate percentages of area devoted to all eras up to and including Afghanistan. The final phases, completed this year, are the Cold War displays which now include full-scale dioramas of Ferret and Lynx; equipment familiar to all who served during this stressful historic period (was it stressful or was that just another excuse to drink heavily?).

The most labour intensive part of the final phases was, without doubt, the construction of the Lynx diorama. There were literally hundreds of hours labour spent designing, cutting, fitting and installing all the myriad number of parts required to construct the near perfect "wooden" Lynx. Looking at the final product it's hard to remember it started as little more than a pile of lumber, a can of Bondo, and half a clue. Thanks must be expressed to the volunteers who's hundreds of hours of effort made it possible, namely **Mr Ken Raychert**, and **Mr Keith (Slider) Welch**. While all this went on, the gallery was ably hosted by our "front end" volunteer **John Bacon**. Thanks for your patience John.

Perhaps less sexy but at least equally important, the preservation and conservation of the artifact and archival collections continued under the watchful eye of **Sgt Todd Giberson**. We thank our preservation volunteers **Mr Jim Adams** in the collection area and **Ms Myra Adamec** in the archives.

Finally, it's time to announce that 2015 will be the last year I have the privilege to curate our family's history. Thank-you to all the older Strathconas who helped in my education, patiently watching over me as one would an emotionally challenged nephew, all the Commanding Officers, 2IC's, and Regimental Sergeants Major who put up with my hair-brained schemes, and the staff at The Military Museums who endured the occasionally blunt contributions to communal planning sessions.





## Strathcona Regimental Association (Atlantic Branch)

*Maj Danny Hone (Ret'd)*

The Atlantic Branch of the Regimental Association is the new kid on the block as far as Regimental Associations go, and as such we've just begun to come together. Although we have an Executive Committee and a Constitution-By law and have had two very successful golf tournaments since our inception, we need to continue to move forward in order to ensure that this organization continues to grow and be relevant for its members. The annual "Melfa River Classic", which takes place in the month of June, has proven to be a great venue for the Old Guard and currently serving members to get together and discuss the differences between conducting tank maintenance on Centurions and Leopard 2A6M's. There are always some war stories to share and the ability to partake in a beverage while chatting about the old days is always a good reason to get together. This past year, the golf game was followed up with a BBQ at the A4 Annex of the WO and Sgt's Mess where the trophy and various prizes were presented. **Capt Rich Lund** and his father **LCol (Ret'd) Joe Lund** were both in attendance, and it was nice to see some multigenerational Regimental ties being reinforced.

Since its inception, the Atlantic Branch has been working to keep in touch with all those who have been kind enough to provide some form of contact information, whether it is an e-mail address or a telephone number. We recently set up a Facebook page for the Atlantic Branch, and although there's not much to report other than the weather and the occasional beer call, it's a start. Keeping this group together and continuing to foster cohesion and morale is one of the main goals of the branch. We will continue to work together to make the Atlantic Branch all that it can be. Another of the highlights for our branch is the annual Moreuil Wood get-together at the Armour School. In the past, there have been issues with the distribution of the event information, but we hope to rectify this problem with the Facebook page.

The current president, **Maj (Ret'd) Rob Stoney** has done a great job of ensuring that we follow the constitution and conduct our meetings on schedule, and by the time this article goes to print, he will likely have handed off this task to his replacement who is yet to be determined. He has indicated that he would be willing to stay on in another capacity, and we welcome his continued support. As always, **Capt Chris Kitching** has continued to volunteer a great deal of his personal time and effort to ensure that all activities come off without a hitch. For anyone interested in the Atlantic Branch, or to watch a short video we posted which highlights the superior skill level of our golfers, feel free to 'like' us on Facebook.

**Henry Ford** is quoted to have said "*Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; and working together is success.*"

*Melfa River Golf Day - presentation to top team*





# Extra Regimentally Employed





## Comme un poisson hors de l'eau Like a fish out of water, Strathcona's in Quebec

*Capt Matthew Shumka*

Continuing our ever expanding presence within the CAF, the Regiment has made moves east. Under the watchful eye of the Canadian Defence Academy in Kingston, a handful of Strathconas are enjoying EREs at the Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School (CFLRS) and the Royal Military College (RMC) St-Jean, both in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec.

Taking a step back to our roots, specifically basic recruit training, this past year at CFLRS was extremely busy as we churned out 3,009 new recruit and officer cadets, four serials of PLQ residencies, and over 5,000 Canadian Armed Forces Junior Officer Development qualifications. With a revolving door of grad parades, and VIP and dignitary visits, the Strathconas in Quebec continued to lead from the front, this time impacting future generation across all three elements.

Following the 2014 posting season we welcomed several new Strathconas and their families to our small community. After a brief stop in Gagetown to top his Tank Crew Commander Course (0003) **MCpl Philippe Chevalier** landed a CBRN instructor position for new recruits while **Sgts Joel Ribert** and **James Hamilton** became BMQ section commanders joining fellow Strathconas **Sgt Jesse Paterson** and **Capt Matthew Shumka** in the training divisions.

Elsewhere in the Montréal area, specifically the Farnham training area, **MCpl Harvey De Roy** and **Cpls David Aubé** and **Alex Vachon** were employed in support rolls providing realism to CFLRS field training, while **Sgt Yannick Guilbeault** helped maintain the norm through his work in Standards.

At RMC St-Jean, **MWO Leigh Taylor** continued to mentor future Sr NCOs at the Chief Warrant Officer Onside Profession of Arms Institute facilitating SLP and ALP candidates.

Despite the high operational tempos of both institutions, and although only consisting of ten Strathconas of mixed ranks, an unofficial Quebec Chapter of the Strathcona Association was formed to ensure that the Regimental Family stuck together. 2014 was another whirlwind year and 2015 appears to have more in store.

Signing off from la belle-province,

*Sgt Yannick Guilbeault reflects during the Remembrance Day ceremony in Farnham.*



*Sgt Joel "You can't see me" Ribert demonstrating his outstanding recce skills and use of camouflage.*





## Strathcona's in Gagetown

*Capt Stephan Wawrzyn*

Another year comes and goes in the land of Gage, where the training area gets smaller and smaller and the winter seemingly longer and longer. In the New Year, the Strathcona contingent returned to heavily represent the instructor cadre for the Leopard 2 training at the School, teaching the next generation of Armoured Corps leadership the art form of the tank troop in battle. Strathcona's such as **Capt Paul** *"This Halon tastes bad"* **Stachow**, **Sgt Ed** *"Sir, are we really oriented to the trace?"* **Morley**, and **Sgt Derek** *"Old man toast"* **Charette** ensured that the Regiment's new young officers understood how awesome it is to be a tanker.

Following the summer training cycle, the School en-masse worked to get the behemoth, known to the Army as Ex WORTHINGTON CHALLENGE, off the ground and into a top-shelf competition. High praise was garnered from all competitors and guests for "the show" known to others as the D&M Skills stand ran by **Sgt Larry** *"Oregano Dealer"* **Leaman**, where flaming cars (and faces) provided an interesting challenge for all. Unfortunately, as all reigns must come to an end, we said goodbye to the RCACS RSM **CWO Walter Laughlin** who deservedly took on the role and responsibilities of the Corps RSM. Before that, **Sgt Patrick** *"Will the real RSM please stand up"* **Gordon** made his thoughts on the lack of appreciation for the departing RSM known at the MCpl's training Mess Dinner, where a detailed two-part summary of his several "good dude" traits and "doing the business" credentials made sure EVERYONE remembered the RSM's Change of Appointment.

Often forgotten and under-appreciated, us poor souls stuck in WTP recognize those brave Standards Squadron soldiers who maintain the standard in the face of adversity (TDOs, good-idea fairies, fresh-faced Crse Os, etc). PowerPoint warriors such as **MWO Dan** *"I'm too old for this [REDACTED]"* **Goodwin**, **Sgt Keith** *"Puppets are a valid training tool"* **Hodgson** and **Sgt Ryan** *"VEHCASREP to follow"* **Ogston**, we salute you! Not to be outdone, the Strathcona representation at the Tactics School like **Maj Dan Hone** and **Capt Clyde Penny** work to forge the next generation of Army leadership in the hot, hot fires of VBS and JCATS. As posting season 2015 rolls onto the horizon, all of us in the Gagetown area want to remind you this place really is a wonderful posting full of magic and adventure.



*The C Sqn DP1 course staff members, **Capt Phil Buckingham**, **WO Greg Moon**, **MCpl Curtis Romkey** and **MCpl Riley Cook** deliver their rendition of "My Boy Willie" at the Soldier's Appreciation dinner.*



# Strathcona's in Wainwright

*Capt Evan Wiome*

*Wainwright: 6300 people, five liquor stores, two McDonalds, zero book stores!*

Welcome to Wainwright, the Strathcona's home away from home. The numerous LdSH(RC) personnel posted to Wainwright are nested in all corners of the base or strategically placed.

So let's start with the Canadian Manoeuvre Training Centre (CMTC), where the LdSH(RC) occupy numerous important jobs. Administration issues? Go see the CMTC G1, **Maj Dave Cronk**. Do you need MILCOTs for your fall training? Talk to **Capt Steve Van Muyen** at G3 Ops. So you have a vast amount of information that's disorganized and impossible to use? The CMTC Information Management Officer, **Capt Stu King**, will sort it out in a heartbeat. Need assistance with exercise planning? **Capt Nathan Bugg** in the G5 shop can help you. Need nefarious evil-doers to add realism to your training? **Maj Al Wong** and his troops (**MCpl Andrei Icala**, **Cpl Serge Poitras**, **Cpl Adam Foisy**, **Cpl Dave McKinnon**, **Cpl Thomas Farquharson**, **Cpl Jonathon Hansen**, **Cpl Thomas Hayes** and **Cpl Matthew Jesse**) are more than willing to cause havoc wherever and whenever the need arises. Need to reserve a piece of the training area so range control doesn't turn you away at the gate? **MCpl Rob Smith** is the man to see. Need people to coach and mentor you while you're training? The LdSH(RC) Observer Controller Trainers (OCTs) have you covered with **MWO Marcel Chenier**, **WO Ken Shiells** and **WO Mike Bolger**. Are you nervous about talking with the media? Former Strathcona **Capt Graham Kallos**, the CMTC Public Affairs Officer, can give you all the appropriate media response lines to any question.

Moving on to the individual training world, the Strathcona's at 3rd Canadian Division Training Centre (3CDTC) will make it work for you. Starting with OC Administration Coy **Maj Fred Hayward** and the Individual Training WO, **WO Gene Garland** the Strathcona's are well represented in the 3CDTC Headquarters. Then there is **MWO Tom Falls** who is "giving'er" until the Army forces him to retire. When it comes to course staff and instructors, there are plenty of Black Hatters to meet the demand with **WO Mike Koestlmaier**, **WO Jason Pargeter**, **Sgt Tony Oake**, **Sgt James Doucette**, **Sgt Ryan Torney**, **MCpl David Lahay**, **MCpl David Brown**, **MCpl David (Hatrack) Royes**, **MCpl Jason Loykowski**, **MCpl Kerrie Jesse**, and **MCpl Gordon Carnevale** there to ensure that students pass their exams and are cold, wet, tired and miserable when it comes time to head out into the training area for an exercise.

And it doesn't end there folks. How could we overlook the dedicated Strathcona's who toil for Wainwright Garrison? Do you need parking lots or access to any of the infrastructure on base? The Base Ops Sgt, **Sgt Mike McGarity** is the holder of the keys to what you need. Need something that you forgot to bring with you from Edmonton? **Cpl Kevin Ferguson** and **Cpl Michael Ebaghetti** at Base Kitting probably have what you're looking for. And if you're sitting on Range 16 doing radio checks with Range Control at 0200hrs, the friendly voice on the other end of the radio is probably a Strathcona, with **Cpl Andrew Elms**, **Cpl Aden Bellegarde** and **Cpl Joseph Booth** occupying the radio operator spots at Range Control.

Last but certainly not least, when he's not busy running the Wainwright IPSC, **Captain Ed McGowan**, with his trusty sidekick **Sgt Jerry Peddle**, is ensuring that everyone's morale remains high as the purveyor of the finest saloon that Wainwright has to offer.

Add it all up folks, and the forty LdSH(RC) members who are posted to Wainwright make a contribution that is much greater than their numbers.

*CMTC Strathconas in the Theatre*



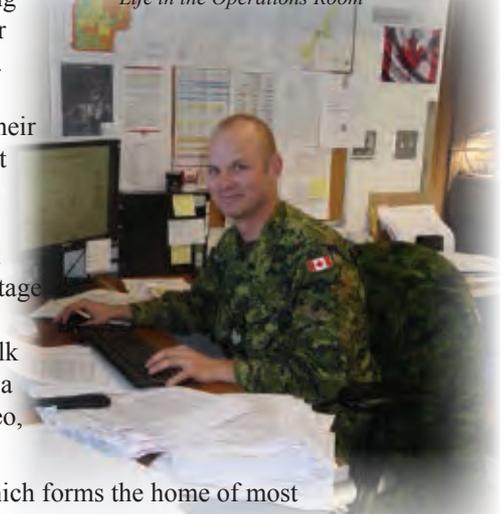


## The Strathconas of CFB Suffield

*Capt Chris Whalley and MCpl Hugh Hayes*

The past year has been filled with a number of activities and multiple challenges for the Strathconas of CFB Suffield. British Army Training Unit Suffield (BATUS) continued their operations, but expanded their focus to include new weapons systems and a wider training audience. The training year saw four large BATUS PRAIRIE STORM serials completed, with over 5000 British soldiers successfully completing their combined arms training for the year. Defence Research Development Canada – Suffield Research Centre (DRDC) continued to fulfill their mandate through two large exercises and multiple trials, providing Canada and its NATO partners with advanced scientific and technical research, as well as world-class training opportunities. Taking advantage of space in the operations calendar, units of the Primary Reserve conducted nine exercises of varying size and intensity. Finally, the Elk Herd Reduction Program continued into its third year. Coupled with a busy social calendar filled with events such as the 2014 Ralston Rodeo, there was no shortage of work.

*MCpl Hugh Hayes getting Accustomed to Life in the Operations Room*



Working tirelessly to support all these activities is Range Control, which forms the home of most Strathconas posted to CFB Suffield. The Field Operations Section (FOS) includes several Strathconas, who form the veteran core of that organization, including **MCpl Chris Oliver**, **Cpl Matthew Sebo**, **Cpl Shane Brough** and **Cpl Trevor McQueen**. Working long hours in support of multiple Range Users through the provision of firefighting support and routine patrolling, the steadfast efforts of these soldiers has not gone unnoticed, as they have won praise from both the Base Commander and BATUS Commander on multiple occasions.

Coordinating the actions of the multitude of agencies which use the Training Area is the responsibility of the Range Control Operations Room. **MCpl Hugh Hayes** and **Cpl Kyle Dunphy** transitioned from the FOS to join **Cpl Dale Cyrenne** in keeping a watchful eye on all Range Users. Maintaining focus in the Operations Room can be a challenge at the best of times, but as a testament to their professionalism and skill, the members of this section consistently exceeded expectations.

**CWO Richard Stacey** joined the team this year, taking over as the Base RSM. He joined **Capt Chris Whalley** in Base HQ, who took on the roles of G3 Operations and G3 Training, while retaining some of his Range Control Officer responsibilities, providing truth to the rumour that he does not actually sleep.

CFB Suffield continues to provide its Strathcona contingent with a fast tempo and unique challenges. However, the soldiers of the Regiment posted to the “Forgotten Corner” continue to embody Perseverance, never failing to rise to, and overcome, each challenge placed before them.

*CWO Richard Stacey receives the RSM's pacestick from CFB Suffield Base Commander LCol Sean Hackett*



# 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group Headquarters Everything is Awesome!

*Maj Peter Beitz*

Most are unaware of this common fact, but when a new 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group Headquarters (HQ 1 CMBG) staff member reports for duty, he or she is handed the “instructions.” These instructions are a critical component of the HQ 1 CMBG daily work (and life) routine, which all must follow and obey:

Step 1 – Breath

Step 2 – Say: “Good morning, Edmonton!”

Step 3 – Jumping Jacks

Step 4 – Shower

Step 5 – Shave your face, brush your teeth, and comb your hair...

By step 12, all HQ staff can be seen walking in to work singing the HQ 1 CMBG theme song (blaring over the PA system): “Everything is awesome! Everything is cool when you’re part of a team! Everything is awesome....”

This past summer, HQ 1 CMBG said farewell to two outstanding and fantastic Strathconas - **Maj Victor “you can call me Fred” Hayward** and **Maj Al “The Special” Wong**. On their way out the door, a cup of water spilled on their uniforms and out popped six mogwais... which later transformed into Strathconas. In no particular order of importance and seniority, these new Strathconas to the HQ team included: **Col Trevor “laugh at my jokes during the CUB or you’re fired” Cadieu**, **CWO Bill “I can’t believe they’re still paying me” Crabb**, **Maj Dave MacIntyre**, **Maj Peter Beitz**, **Capt Mapp Johns**, and **Capt Callum Smith**.

And of course we can’t forget about the HQ continuity, **Capt Gordon “has anyone seen my red stapler?” Elliott**, who has been serving with the brigade headquarters for over 20 years now.

The G3 branch is micromanaged supervised by **Maj Dave “I Move Electrons Around” MacIntyre**, who is rocking life in his cubicle. A laser pointer away is **Capt Mapp “Don Juan Electron” Johns**, who spends most of his days doing Tai Chi in cyberspace (when not busy measuring out a 16 ½ km route for the HQ 13 km ruck march). Across from **Mapp** is **Capt Callum “I Move Vehicles Around” Smith** who, concurrent to randomly scattering all the brigade vehicles around, managed to build a Tetris console from Microsoft Excel.

Finally, **Maj Peter “I Move Paper Around” Beitz** can be found hiding in the G1 branch stapling random pieces of paper together... with the red stapler he stole from **Gord**.



*The Brigade G3, Maj Dave MacIntyre, explains the rules of Snakes and Ladders to the Brigade Commander, Col Trevor Cadieu, and the Brigade Sergeant-Major, CWO Bill Crabb.*

*Capt Callum Smith is still looking for the dice.*



## The Few, the Proud, the Strathconas of 3rd Canadian Division Headquarters

*Maj Mike Rogers*

Contrary to popular belief, there are indeed ERE Strathconas in Edmonton who are not posted to 3rd Canadian Division Support Group Headquarters! Though only a small contingent of eight, we have managed to insert ourselves into almost every Branch of 3rd Canadian Division Headquarters (3Cdn Div HQ) - the artist formerly known as Land Forces Western Area Headquarters - adding some cavalry panache to an otherwise unruly mob of paper-pushers.

2014 saw the move of the Headquarters in August from Greisbach to its new digs in Building 700 on base, spearheaded in large part by **MWO Brian Speck**. The move didn't come a minute too soon, what with the leaky roofs, mice falling out of the rafters, and goose invasions). It also brings us a little closer to the mother ship and affords more opportunities to share a beer in the mess with our brethren. 2014 also witnessed the departure of two Strathconas from our midst - **LCol Trevor Gosselin** has left the G1 position and set forth to greener pastures, pursuing a new career in Calgary, while **Capt Mike Timms** has been returned to the Regiment following a short (and hopefully effective) regimen of staff duties at the Headquarters.

3 Cdn Div HQ welcomes the return of **Maj Kelly Callens**, who will join **MWO Speck** in the G7 Branch to try his hand at messing around with infantry establishments and fighting vehicle allocations. **Capt Shaun McGuinness** and **Capt Liz England** continue the trench-to-trench fighting in the G1 shop, desperately trying to keep the rest of the Branch up to the Strathcona standards set by their former G1. **Maj Brian Roach** (yes, he's still here) has dug into a stage 5 defensive position in the G9 Branch, steering the Division's Influence Activity capabilities, that capacity everyone wants but no one really understands, for probably far too long. **Maj Mike Rogers** is a recent Strathcona addition to the G5 Branch following a year as the Div G33. And of course **Maj Chris Quinlan**, who can only dream of the glory of serving in a Headquarters Branch, has remained the Chief of Staff Coordinator for another year, cracking the whip to keep all those non-Strathcona staffers in line.

Although life at 3 Cdn Div HQ is far from manoeuvring tanks across the rolling prairies, there are always opportunities for the excitement and glamour associated with engaging in capability development boards, personnel retention strategy meetings, and (wait for it) business continuity planning working groups! And though we may all pine for the days we served with the Regiment, whenever we feel nostalgic we can always swing by **Sgt Owen Knott's** desk in the G3 shop - we're guaranteed an extended guided tour down memory lane! And now that we reside so close the Regimental lines, these (mostly) old Strathconas of 3 Cdn Div HQ will have plenty of opportunities to swing by for more recent news from the Regiment.



## Strathconas in 3rd Canadian Division Support Group

*Capt Marshall Douglas*

In a wild attempt to improve upon last year's 3rd Canadian Division Support Group (3 CDSG) Situation Report, I have purposely avoided the following extremely amusing, but nevertheless irrelevant subjects: giant fruit bats, dinosaurs, and information management. I would attempt to explain what 3 CDSG does and how we are organized; however, I am confident the Strathconian Editor-in-Chief does not want pages 119 pages of this year's edition filled with interesting flow-charts, maps, and Venn diagrams about 3 CDSG. Suffice to say, the 'S' in 3 CDSG may not actually stand for 'Support'.

3 CDSG spans the entire 3rd Canadian Division/Joint Task Force West area of operations providing the essential institutional support for training and operations of all divisional formations and units. So, without encroaching on the Strathcona's in Shilo, Suffield, and Wainwright articles I will focus on the rather large population of 3 CDSG Strathconas in Edmonton.

Despite significant manning issues, **Capt Rob Swainsbury**, supported by a motley crew of Strathconas including **Sgt Tyler Baldwin**, and **Cpls Adam Hurley** and **Francine Riopelle**, provided excellent Range Control and Lecture Training Facility support to all units training in Edmonton.

One cannot simply visit the Operations Services branch cubicle farm, located in the shiny new Gault Building, without encountering a smattering of Strathcona's. **Majs Scott Shrubbs** and **Stephen Wright** toil away as the Deputy Chief Operations and Range and Training Area Management respectively. **Cpts Kristian 'Bob' Reiten** and **Marshall Douglas** oversee administration and operations as the branch Administration Officer and G3 Operations. Newly arrived to 3 CDSG (and in the early stages of figuring out the 3 CDSG organization) is **MWO Tod Hopkin**. As an aside, we are all still attempting to figure out 3 CDSG after transformation from 1 Area Support Group. I would be remiss if I did not mention our outgoing Chief Operations, **LCol Scott Long**, who retired this past summer.

Inside the 3 CDSG command suite, **Capt Allan Dwyer** coordinates the Deputy Commander's wide ranging requirements as the Chief of Staff Coord. Across the command suite office sits **Capt Karl Tams**, Commander 3 CDSG Personal Assistant, who has become accustomed to 'only' five-kilometer runs.

On the Personnel Services side of the 3 CDSG house, **LCol Mark Connolly** and **Maj Chris Nolan** oversee an eclectic array of responsibilities including but certainly not limited to Foods & Quarters, PSP, Advance and Basic Training List, and the base Orderly Room.

3 CDSG is a mix between the banal and chaotic; always forgotten in the background of operations and training. Without a doubt, the 'sexiest' of all army formations, all while providing the key institutional support the fighting forces need and deserve.

## NATO LAND COMMAND HQ - Turkey

*Maj Islam M. Elkorazati*

On the opposite corner of NATO from Canada, the very south east corner in fact, on the Aegean coast of Turkey lays the city of Izmir. Legend has it that it was founded by Alexander the Great as Smyrna. Here, NATO has had a HQ of one form or another for the last six decades. Late in the fall of 2012, as a result of a streamlining of the NATO organizational structure, Allied Land Command HQ was established, taking over the infrastructure from Air Command South and replacing two previous Land Commands elsewhere in Europe. It reached Full Operating Capacity (FOC) on 9 December 2014. It was during the



last phase of the road to FOC that I was posted to the position of Coordination Officer of the G6 in July 2014. During the fall period the HQ, among numerous other tasks, conducted Battle staff training and a validation exercise in the United States Joint Multinational Training Centre in Grafenwoer, an American base in Bavaria, Germany. Although this may sound glamorous, I missed the H-huts in Petersville, Gagetown and I really missed our Regimental cooks.

I am sure that some of you reading this did a double take at the position title. Not what one might think of as a normal position for an Armour Officer in the G6. The skills acquired over the years however in the Regiment and the Corps are a great fit, coordinating the activities of signalers and civilians in a multinational HQ. Actually most of the coordination officers in the HQ are combat arms officers, three of which are Canadian. Luckily, I am not bogged down by the binary code of signalers from across the Alliance and I have actually begun to be able to translate their technical knowledge into common military language while coordinating their tasks. I work for an American Officer, **Col Paul Romagnoli** and am assisted well by two Senior NCOs **Senior Master Sgt Goksel Demirzen** (Turkey) and **Master Sgt Kevin Williams** (US).

This position offers a great opportunity for valuable contribution in the workings of the LANDCOM HQ and

its role as the single HQ for land forces in NATO including the refocusing of the Alliance in the post Afghanistan reality. Major Joint Operations plus (MJO+) is the name of the game. This deployable HQ would act as the command of three multinational Corps in a NATO Joint Operation. During peace time, it conducts combat readiness evaluations, support of high readiness Corps in Europe and links in with NATO partners and aspiring nations while reporting to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Belgium.

The Canadian contingent here is ten strong and is only one of 28 nations represented in the HQ. **Col Jacques O'keefe**, an engineer, is our senior representative with **Command Sergeant Major Dan Moyer** in the command group advising LANDCOM's US Commander **Lt Gen John Nicholson**. Although a small percentage of the personnel in this HQ, we are definitely able to punch above our weight. The last six months has been a great experience, and I look forward to the adventure for the remainder of the three year posting, while interacting with our Allies in NATO from 28 different countries. It's like I'm back in any major Canadian city... minus the weather.

As one should always take stock of what one has learned, here are a few lessons learned in the last few months so far:

- Where Izmir is? Seriously folks, there is more than Istanbul in this country...
- Coffee is a ritual. No Tim Horton's drive throughs here.
- Cultural clichés are not fiction.
- Insulation in a house is a luxury.
- If a technician says he will come on Monday morning to repair something, he will probably - show up on Wednesday; if you're lucky, the same week.
- When English is not a "native language" there is no such thing as a quick meeting. If you finish in an hour, then you are lucky.
- Military bases in most countries, with few exceptions, are not located in locations that people willingly go.
- Accommodations in Petersville in Gagetown are actually well planned with conveniently located toilets. Seriously, H huts are well designed for those emergencies in the middle of a winter night.

# Op CROCODILE

*Maj Mike Onieu*

When the CO asked “can you go to Africa next month” I expected a trip to South Africa, ostensibly to represent him at some event. Wrong. Pre-deployment training started in Kingston a few days later for Op CROCODILE, Canada’s contribution to the UN mission in Congo (MONUSCO). The mission is the UN’s largest and features a Force Intervention Brigade which, with a specific mandate for offensive operations, is a UN first. For the next 6.5 months I served in the G5 branch of MONUSCO’s Force HQ, doing campaign planning and developing operations for the 20,000 troops in theatre, and sweating a lot.

The Democratic Republic of Congo is a beautiful country ravaged by conflict and poverty despite its wealth of natural resources. By any and all metrics, the Congo ranks near the bottom. With reputations like ‘worst country in the world, rape capital of the world, home of Ebola, birthplace of AIDS, and Heart of Darkness; Congo is not a popular tourist destination. I lived with 6 other Canadians in “Canada House,” a rented pad in Goma (which, when I Googled it, came up as the most dangerous city on earth). A series of active volcanoes loom over the town of perhaps one million. Much of the city was destroyed in 2002 during the last major eruption and the roads remain covered in lava to this day. Goma occasionally gets overrun by rebels or displaced people fleeing genocides (or volcanoes). It is flanked to the south by Lake Tanganyika, which contains toxic gases that kill about 100 people per year, i.e. swim at your own risk. We congregated at home most evenings for relatively safe food, semi-consistent hot water and generator-supplied power. The living conditions were pretty good, all things considered, and our quarters were absolutely luxurious by any army standard.

Most of my work time was spent in an inferior, leaky version of an ATCO trailer doing operational estimates and plans. Planning is not the most glamorous job in the army but it was challenging and rewarding to do planning at a level that is not possible within the CAF. Planning was complicated by the absence of a designated planning model for UN operations, particularly offensive operations, and the differing experience levels and backgrounds of the planners. Unstated national caveats on the employment of troops were a major constraint, and plans were revised frequently to accommodate the face saving custom in some cultures of saying “yes” while meaning “no.” The reward, in part, was to achieve a cohesive planning team which was the center of activity in the HQ. Let’s move on – more than three lines about planning can cause drowsiness.

I was fortunate to work for a British officer who appreciated the importance of getting out on the ground. I got to some interesting places in Congo with names like the Triangle of Death (more of a rhomboid, actually), mainly by dodgy Soviet helicopters. The Heart of Darkness had not been on my list of places to go, but I learned a lot and gained a new perspective on the challenges of multinational operations in a UN context. Every day in Africa deepened my already significant appreciation of being Canadian. There is, by any account, a lot more work to be done in Congo but I was pleased and proud to play a tiny part in the effort.



## Extra Regimentally Employed

Col	Cade J.	Canadian Defence Attache Mexico	Maj	MacEachern E.G.	US Army School of Advanced Military Studies
Col	Cadiou T.J.	1 CMBG	Maj	MacIntyre A.D.	1 CMBG
Col	Demers P.P.J.	CF Language School	Maj	McEwen J.R.F.	CFB Kingston
Col	Hazleton C.M.	Canadian Defence Attaché Rome	Maj	McKenzie R.D.	HQ 3 (UK) Division
Col	Kelsey S.R.	CFC Toronto	Maj	Nolan C.O.	3 CDSB
Col	Macaulay D.A.	3 CDSG Edm	Maj	Quinlan C.J.	3 Cdn Div
LCol	Adams C.R.	CA HQ	Maj	Rogers M.D.	3 Cdn Div
LCol	Cochrane J.L.	JTFC/LFCA HQ	Maj	Senft D.J.	MARPAC HQ Esquimalt
LCol	Connolly M.A.	3 CDSB Edm	Maj	Shrubb S.J.	3 CDSG
LCol	Gifford S.W.	US Army Training and Doctrine Command	Maj	Volstad M.C.	1 CRPG
LCol	McKinnon D.B.	CJOC HQ	Maj	Wong A.S.H.	CMTC
LCol	Padvaiskas E.T.	OP CROCODILE	Maj	Wright S.R.	3 CDSG Edm
LCol	Parsons D.R.	C Prog/VCDS	Maj	Young C.J.	CFB Kingston
LCol	Peyton P.J.	CA HQ	Capt	Bentley M.D.R.L.	VCDS
LCol	Pickell P.G.	CACSC	Capt	Boates J.S.	RCACS
LCol	Rankin R.C.	CFB Kingston	Capt	Brown J.W.	CANSOFCOM
LCol	Steward R.T.	South Korea	Capt	Buckingham P.A.	RCACS
Maj	Angell E.D.	CFC Toronto	Capt	Bugg N.B.	CMTC
Maj	Barnett M.A.	SHAPE Belgium	Capt	Daley J.A.	BCD
Maj	Batty T.A.	Tac Sch	Capt	Douglas M.R.N	3 CDSG
Maj	Beitz P.D.	1 CMBG	Capt	Dullege M.C.	RCACS
Maj	Bromley D.R.	CFB Kingston	Capt	Dunn L.A.	DLR
Maj	Callens K.I.	3 Can Div	Capt	Elliott G.R.	1 CMBG
Maj	Chenette D.J.	CA HQ	Capt	Hevenor N.R.B.	3 CDSB Edm
Maj	Chiasson R.P.	JTFN Yellowknife	Capt	Johns M.D.C.	1 CMBG
Maj	Corbett B.D.	CF INTCOM NDHQ	Capt	Johnson B.S.	DLR
Maj	Cronk D.R.	CMTC	Capt	Kaye M.A.	RCACS
Maj	Deatcher W.S.	NDHQ	Capt	Kenny A.M.	3 Cdn Div
Maj	Dyck G.A.	CFB Kingston	Capt	Kerek W.M.	BCR
Maj	Elkorazati I. M.	CFSU Europe	Capt	King S.A.	CMTC
Maj	Fifield C.S.	CADTC HQ	Capt	Lacroix T.A.	DGLEPM
Maj	Froess M.D.	CFB Kingston	Capt	Lee R.	3 CDSG Lang Sch
Maj	Frost-Kell E.J.S.	CADTC HQ	Capt	Lewis O.T.	FGH
Maj	Grodzinski J.R.	CFB Kingston	Capt	Lund R.I.	RCACS
Maj	Hayward V.F.	3 Cdn Div TC	Capt	MacInnis M.J.	Halifax Rifles
Maj	Holmes S.W.	NDHQ	Capt	MacKillop S.D.	SALH
Maj	Hone D.A.	Tac Sch	Capt	MacLean S.C.	NORAD
Maj	Hunter J.R.	IPSC Gagetown	Capt	McGowan E.D.	JPSU/IPSC Wainwright
Maj	Jared E.G.	NDHQ	Capt	McGuinness S.J.	3 Cdn Div
Maj	Kirstein V.G.	D Mil C 3-3	Capt	McHugh T.R.	3 CDSG Lang Sch
Maj	Lakatos M.A.	DLR	Capt	McLean C.D.	3 CDSG Lang Sch
Maj	Lubiniecki M.	CA HQ	Capt	McMurachy M.A.	CFB Borden
			Capt	McTavish M.	KOCR
			Capt	Miller J.L.E.E.	RMC
			Capt	Morison D.G.	RCSU Central Det North Bay
			Capt	Nguyen J.	2d Stryker Bde Cbt Tm
			Capt	Pano M.G.	RCACS
			Capt	Penney C.S.	Tac Sch
			Capt	Pett T.D.	CFSU E
			Capt	Piekenbrock Z.H.	CMTC
			Capt	Prince C.E.J.	3 CDSB Edm
			Capt	Reiten K.A.	3 CDSG
			Capt	Rickard J.N.	CFB Kingston
			Capt	Salter J.J.	Sask D

Capt Selberg M.E.	3 CDSG Lang Sch	Sgt Goobie J.A.	RCACS
Capt Shumka M.R.	CFLRS	Sgt Goodyear S.W.	5 Cdn Div TC
Capt Smith C.T.	1 CMBG	Sgt Gordon P.W.	RCACS
Capt Stachow P.F.	RCACS	Sgt Gratto M.A.L.	RCACS
Capt Swainsbury R.J.	3 CDSB	Sgt Guilbeault Y.D.	CFLRS
Capt Tams K.D.	3 CDSG	Sgt Hamilton J.B.	CFLRS
Capt Tapp L.B.	RCACS	Sgt Hawes J.C.	CFRC Halifax
Capt Vahal V.	DLR	Sgt Headrick D.W.C	3 Can Div
Capt Van Muyen S.R.	CMTC	Sgt Helliwell J.M.	RCACS
Capt Walters D.R.	CTC	Sgt Hodgson K.E.	RCACS
Capt Wawrzyn S.S.	RCACS	Sgt Hornby C.G.	IPSC Gagetown
Capt Webster P.J.	1 MP Regt	Sgt Ives P.B.	RCACS
Capt Whalley C.D.	CFB Suffield	Sgt Kauenhofen F.K.	CFSPDB
Capt White C.G.	CFSSAT	Sgt Knott O.W	3 Cdn Div
Capt Wiome E.J.	CMTC	Sgt Lang J.J.K.	5 CDSG
Lt Brittain J.M.D.	RCACS	Sgt Leaman L.W.	RCACS
CWO Bamford G.	5 CDSG	Sgt Lee E.A.	3 CDSB Edm-Det/Gar Wx
CWO Crabb W.J.	1 CMBG	Sgt McDougall C.W.	BCD
CWO Laughlin W.A.	5 CDSG	Sgt McGarity M.D.	3 CDSB Edm-Det/Gar Wx
CWO Ramsay J.	JFC Brunssum	Sgt Morley E.	RCACS
CWO Stacey R.	CFB Suffield	Sgt Oake A.D.	3 CDSB Edm-Det/Gar Wx
MWO Chenier M.A.R.	CMTC	Sgt Ogston R.J.A.	RCACS
MWO Clarke R.J.	CA HQ	Sgt Parsons S.M.	RCACS
MWO Hall D.W.	CFB Kingston	Sgt Paterson J.D.	CFLRS
MWO Holland T.C.	RCACS	Sgt Peddle J.G.	3 Cdn Div TC
MWO Screen S.R.	CFB Borden	Sgt Pickell E.J.	RCACS
MWO Taylor L.M.	RMC St. Jean	Sgt Reid N.A.	CFB Borden
WO Bolger M.P.	JPSU Edmonton	Sgt Ribert J.J.	CFRLS
WO Boulter G.F.	RCACS	Sgt Rushton R.J.	RCACS
WO Christopoulos L.B.	Peace Support Training Centre	Sgt Sebo R.G.	CFRS Calgary (Edm)
WO Clarke J.C.	FGH	Sgt Thompson S.D.	1 CRPG
WO Connaught S.M.	JPSU	Sgt Torney R.M.	3 CDSB Edm-Det/Gar Wx
WO Denson M.I.	KOCR	Sgt Trenholm J.E.	CFRC Edm
WO Encinas L.E.	SALH	MCpl Carnevale G.C.	CMTC
WO Flanagan S.D.	PEIR	MCpl Chevalier P.A.C.	CFLRS
WO Hill L.R.	DLR	MCpl Desjardins J.E.	5 Cdn Div TC
WO Koestlmaier M.P.	3 Cdn Div TC	MCpl Harvey De Roy E.	CFLRS
WO Levis R.M.	RCACS	MCpl Hayes H.A.	CFB Suffield
WO Likely R.G.K.	RCACS	MCpl Icala A.L.	CMTC
WO MacNeill M.C.	BCR	MCpl Jesse K.	3 CDSB Edm-Det/Gar Wx
WO McGregor J.I.	RCACS	MCpl Johnson J.A.	QYR
WO Miller N.C.	RCACS	MCpl Lahay D.W.	3 CDSB Edm-Det/Gar Wx
WO Mills N.	Op IMPACT	MCpl Livingstone T.J.	CFB Meaford
WO Moon G.C.	RCACS	MCpl MacFarlane N.J.C.	CFB Trenton
WO Pociuk A.A.	Sask D	MCpl Mousseau J.E.	JPSU
WO Romanuik E.E.	BCD	MCpl Oliver C.R.J.	CFB Suffield
WO Shiells K.A.	CMTC	MCpl Poitras S.	CMTC
WO Stanistreet T.J.	408 Sqn	MCpl Romkey D.C.E.	RCACS
WO Thomas R.W.	3 CDSG Lang Sch	MCpl Royes D.D.	3 CDSB Edm-Det/Gar Wx
WO Troop L.J.	1 CRPG	MCpl Scott T.	JPSU
WO Young R.C.	5 Cdn Div TC	MCpl Smith R.W.	CMTC
Sgt Baker G.I.	IPSC Edmonton	MCpl St Aubin J.A.J.	CFB Kingston
Sgt Baldwin T.	3 CDSG Edm	MCpl Stewart C.M.	CFB Trenton
Sgt Barsotta D.G.	CFB Kingston	MCpl Usher A.J.	CFS Leitrum
Sgt Bulmer C.J.	RCACS	MCpl Walsh P.W.	RCACS
Sgt Burris F.L.	JPSU	Cpl Anderson S.T.	RCACS
Sgt Chatzikirou D.N.	CFB Borden	Cpl Aube D.G.J.	CFLRS
Sgt Craig M.W.D.	5 CDTC	Cpl Bernard R.J.	RCACS
Sgt Doucette J.F.	3 Cdn Div TC	Cpl Bertin Y.	5 CDSG
		Cpl Bishop K.H.	RCACS

Cpl Booth J.J.J.	3 CDSB Edm-Det/Gar Wx	Tpr Houle R.P.A.	RCACS
Cpl Brough S.	CFB Suffield	Tpr Mireault S.	RCACS
Cpl Brown D.L.M.	CMTC	Tpr Munro J.	RCACS
Cpl Brunskill M.	RCACS	Tpr Price B.	RCACS
Cpl Cook R.T.	RCACS	Tpr St-Onge B.	RCACS
Cpl Cotie A.J.	5 Cdn Div TC	Tpr Wilson J.	RCACS
Cpl Currie M.A.	CFB Trenton		
Cpl Cyrenne D.R.	CFB Suffield		
Cpl Dunphy K.	CFB Suffield		
Cpl Dupuis L.E.L.	RCACS		
Cpl Ellis T.W.	RCACS		
Cpl Ferguson K.	3 Cdn Div TC		
Cpl Francis G.A.	RCACS		
Cpl Graves J.A.	RCACS		
Cpl Gross S.C.	RCACS		
Cpl Hansen J.D.	3 CDSB Edm-Det/Gar Wx		
Cpl Hansen S.R.	RCACS		
Cpl Hayes T.P.	CMTC		
Cpl Hoyt G.S.	RCACS		
Cpl Hurley A.J.	3 CDSG		
Cpl Jesse M.R.	CMTC		
Cpl Jobin C.Y.	RCACS		
Cpl Jones W.D.	RCACS		
Cpl Lajoie J.D.J.	JPSU		
Cpl Lang I.	RCACS		
Cpl MacIsaac R.S.	RCACS		
Cpl MacKinnon S.D.	RCACS		
Cpl Martone	RCACS		
Cpl McKinnon D.J.	CMTC		
Cpl McQueen T.J.	CFB Suffield		
Cpl Mekhail S.Y.	CFC		
Cpl Mosher T.R.	RCACS		
Cpl Mountford R.T.	5 CDSB		
Cpl Murray R.W.	RCACS		
Cpl Myers L.B.	RCACS		
Cpl Parsons A.N.	RCACS		
Cpl Picardal G.	RCACS		
Cpl Ringuette L.L.	RCACS		
Cpl Riopelle F.L.	3 CDSG Edm		
Cpl Salazar E.M.	CMTC		
Cpl Sebo M.D.	CFB Suffield		
Cpl Seppenwoolde J.W.	CFB Trenton		
Cpl Shwetz S.H.D.	RCACS		
Cpl Sirois M.M.R.	4 Cdn Div TC		
Cpl Smith P.J.	RCACS		
Cpl Steeves D.	RCACS		
Cpl Stevenson D.E.	RCACS		
Cpl Stevenson J.P.	RCACS		
Cpl Strong S.S.	RCACS		
Cpl Sturgess	RCACS		
Cpl Sundelin C.R.	RCACS		
Cpl Thomas S.G.	RCACS		
Cpl Tremblett M.	JPSU Edm		
Cpl Vachon A.M.	CFLRS		
Cpl Vaillancourt B.L.	RCACS		
Cpl Van Kleef C.L.	RCACS		
Cpl Woodland G.A.	JPSU		
Cpl York K.J.	RCACS		
Tpr Evers W.J.	RCACS		
Tpr Fabischek N.F.	RCACS		
Tpr Gallo D.	RCACS		



# Mess Life



# The Mariner Room

*Lt Cam Ross*

As it always has, the Mariner Room has maintained its status as the beating heart of the social lives of the Regiment's Officers. This year, this organization has continued to bring us closer together and to reinforce Regimental esprit de corps.

On September 5th, our Regiment hosted a business luncheon, which was an amazing success. After some mingling in the Edmonton Garrison Officers Mess (EGOM), our guests were wowed by a musical ride from our own Strathcona Mounted Troop before being brought back in to the mess for a delicious meal. The lunch was attended by notable figures such as **Bart West** and his wife, **Steven Walton** and **Garrett Turta** from the Fairmont Hotel MacDonald, to name a few. Of course, our business luncheon, despite being by far the most extravagant and luxurious, was not the only one where Strathcona Officers demonstrated their hosting abilities. In fact, the Regiment has continued its tradition of attending all business luncheons, proudly displaying the Strathcona red and green colours and our much lauded collection of silver.

This was perhaps greatest seen during the Officer's Meet and Greet hosted at MKT. Here, the officers of the Regiment took the time outside of work to not only meet with each other but to socialize with the wives and significant others of their fellow officers. This event brought together those who had worked together for years, as well as a host of new subaltern officers to mingle in a less formal setting. The President of the Mess Committee, **Maj Sandy Cooper** organized the event with the help of his new Mess Secretary **Lt Dave Jung**, but it was **Capt Dave "Footloose" Williams** who showed his peers that, contrary to popular belief, that whiskey does make for better coordination – at least when you're dancing.

As the 2014 year came to an end, the Mariner Room and its affiliated officers and associates prepared for one of the largest events of the year, affectionately known as "Black Hat Week," which occurred from the 24th to the 28th of November. This series of events included a number of professional development opportunities, such as the rededication of the Military Museum and a Mess Dinner. It allowed several opportunities for us subbies to further demonstrate our hosting abilities to great leaders of the Regiment and military community to include our own Colonel of the Regiment, **MGen (Ret'd) Cam Ross** (not to be confused with the strapping young officer with a suspiciously similar name serving as his aide-de-camp, at least for most of his visit).



*Capt John Kim correcting the subalterns behavior after this disgraceful lack of table manners while eating in the Mariner Room. Lt Shaun Rogozinski...pinky finger out when you are sipping out of your glass.*

*Photo taken by: Capt Meikle  
The Captain pips are so old-school the whole dinner was in black-and-white*





## The Sarcee Room

*WO Rob Englehart*

2014 as usual was a busy year that has flown by. I would like to start by congratulating SSM Recce, **MWO Iain Fox** for winning the first Sacrifice the Body (SOB) trophy. This trophy will be awarded to anyone on a Regimental sports team during a 1CMBG sports event that sacrifices their body to win the game for the Regiment. This year during Ex TOUGH CONTENDER **MWO Iain Fox** broke three ribs and punctured a lung playing soccer, showing everyone in the Brigade he will do whatever it takes to stop the ball from going in the net.



The Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the Sarcee Room kicked off our Mess Activities this year with a candlelight dinner in February to thank our spouses and significant others for all their support. Although not necessarily the best Dinner for a single guy to be PMC for **WO Ben Holmes** pulled it off with ease. We celebrated our Moreuil Wood Mess Dinner on the 17th of April. As usual our cooks under the guidance of Chief Cook **WO Alain Doucet** made a simple roast beef dinner as per the Cook Sergeants Menu book from 1917, and turned it into a top quality meal. Although no easy feat, the PMC for the Dinner **WO Steve Churchill** was able to keep the shenanigans to a minimum and the dinner on track. Again this year the Moreuil Wood parade and dinner took place on the same the same day, making the evening a little more relaxed since no one was going to be up early and on parade the following morning. In March we hosted the Officers for the joint Melfa River Mess dinner, where I learned the valuable lesson as PMC not try to introduce the head table of fifteen by memory after a few drinks prior. We finished off our Sarcee Room functions this year with a Retirement Dinner for **MWO Tom Falls**; it was a relaxed dinner with attendance from all ranks, retirees and civilians from Ontario to British Columbia.

In closing we wish to welcome all new and returning members of the Sarcee Room and to all those who have retired "All the Best." For those posted out hopefully you will not be gone long and we look forward to your return.



## Green Point Lounge

*MCpl Foster*

As always the past year has been a busy one for the Master Corporals of the Regiment and the Green Point Lounge. 2014 welcomed many new members to the GPL, we also said farewell to many good soldiers from our mess. The year started off with our Annual Mess meeting which saw a newly elected mess committee, landing some very heavy responsibilities in the capable hands of **MCpl's Tom Hume, Nick Patterson, and Leon Van Heerden.**

This year we saw the inception of the first Annual Master Corporals "Half Deck" Euchre Tournament. The event was organized by **MCpl Tom "Kitbombulus" Hume.** Eight teams of all ranks battled it out for the grand prize of being the first to win the tournament and get their names put on the Half Deck Trophy, a prize which was graciously designed and built by **MCpl Nathan "Euchred" Ramage.**

2014 also saw the return of the Annual Master Corporals Golf Tournament. Hosted by Hunter's Green Golf Club, the tournament was expertly organized by **MCpl Leon "#Trainforchange" Van Heerden** and **MCpl Wallace Churchill.** All ranks enjoyed the event, especially the company of the Beer Hunter Calendar girls who graced us with their charm and delicious Captain Morgan Rum (donated to our tournament by the Beer Hunter). The event couldn't have gone off any better. The weather was beautiful, the door prizes plentiful and the meal at the end would have satisfied a giant! To top it all off the GPL Raised \$1248.75 for the Soldier On Fund.



This past year saw many of our members on course, either teaching or instructing on one of the courses CTC Gagetown de-centralized. Taught between CFB Wainwright and Edmonton Garrison, the in-house courses kept the GPL full during lunchtime. This allowed the candidates to keep up with Regimental news and activities such as the Command Team Challenge. We also had members in Yellowknife, NWT and Resolute Bay, NU on Advanced Winter Warfare to represent

the Regiment and of course, the GPL.

The Green Point Lounge would like to congratulate the entire Strathcona Canadian Patrolling Competition team on their Bronze medal finish at the 2014 concentration. We are proud to call two of them members of the GPL; Team 1C, **MCpl Derek "Steele" Murdoch** and team 21C, **MCpl Tom Underwood.** Congratulations on placing as the top 1 CMBG team!

*"MCpl is a working rank." MCpl Hodgins pulls his gun through with his crew on Ex. Steele Sabre. Taken by Cpl Olaes.*





## Track Pad

### *Cpl Romeo Kabongo and Cpl Jan Makula*

As we look back on 2014 it was another eventful and busy, but successful year. From the various exercises, like Ex STEELE SABRE, Ex MAPLE RESOLVE and the notorious Ex COLD STEELE (the latter being the authors' personal favourite!). We had the opportunity to let loose as if we were civilians on holiday playing in the snow. The Track Pad had another successful year in the silly week sports tournament where we reminded the Green Point Lounge (GPL) that we are still the force to be reckoned with. Hockey, need I say more? As ever we had to say goodbye to a few Track Pad members due to release, postings and promotions, bolstering the ranks of the GPL.

A few of us decided to brave the other side and try their luck with long hair and beards. **Cpl Brad Priddle**, **Cpl Colin Roselle**, **Cpl Arya Geidhi**, **Cpl Benson Stewart** and **Cpl John Fraumeni** just to mention a few. Some of us also were called upon to experience the world outside the Regiment in places such as Wainwright, Gagetown and other bases. Among those are **Cpl's Kyle York**, **Tristan Mosher** and **Keon Bishop**.

The GPL acquired some of our best talent after we molded them in our own image, including our PMC **MCpl Alex Kent**. Some of the other super soldiers to get the call up were **MCpl Mitch Croxall**, **MCpl Richard Ford**, **MCpl Lance Banman**, and **MCpl Colin Clare**. We are excited to see them advance as new commanders however on the pitch and the ice we will treat them as the enemy.

As ever we received a batch of new blood, and we would like to welcome them to the Track Pad and the Regimental family. We promise not to send you searching for too much headlight fluid or boxes of grid squares. We can't promise that we won't mess with you, keep your head up budz!

We are looking forward to the challenges of 2015 and we hope to make it every bit as memorable as 2014. We hope to have more activities such as the 2014 Winter Olympics screening, and continue to support the daily lunch time family feud shenanigans. The past year was a very successful year for the Track Pad and we hope to expand on that and make us the mess to be envied throughout the Regiment. Thanks for all your hard work and don't forget, never ever EVER lose to the GPL!



*Cpl Gaona on the march during Ex COLD STEELE*



*Right: Cpl Bondy waits for his turn at the Road Wheel Bench Press*



## Subbie's Corner

*Lt Matthew Hoffart & Capt Ahmad Jaradat*

Another year is coming to a close for the Subaltern Officers (Subbie's) of LdSH(RC) and with that is the usual and desperate last minute scramble to get this segment of the Strathconian written. Our fearless leader and Senior Subaltern, **Capt Ahmad "Jihad" Jaradat** has remained calm despite all of the pressure, mainly due to his inspirational leadership abilities to delegate (the writing of this article) and disappear (probably to nap).

No different than many other years, there was a fresh batch of Subbie's arriving at the Regiment in August eager to do their jobs. And like every other year all of the Subbie's pursued excellence and proved themselves with a significant number of individual and group achievements. Here are some of the more notable examples...

There is no better way to indoctrinate new Officers than over beers at the Edmonton Garrison Officers Mess (EGOM) where we prove how we earned our fearsome reputation of owning the Mess every time we show up. Later into the night the EGOM underground fight club was fired up with two new Subalterns who were eager to prove themselves, **Lt Sean "a pirouette is an awesome fight move" Coughlan** and **Lt Cam "shitty Cam" Ross**, going head to head. Despite an excellent display of grace, poise, and acrobatics **Lt Sean "I'm a ballerina" Coughlan** was no match for his opponent and the result of the bout saw him wearing a leg cast in the field for the next few months.

Charitable as always, a number of us participated in the Sonic 1km charity run to support at risk youth in order to give back to the community. It was quickly realized the world-famous professor/archaeologist/adventurer **Dr. Indiana "Nazi-puncher" Jones** would have made an excellent Strathcona Officer and it was only fitting that he became the theme of our team. With a replica of the Ark of the Covenant built

*Capt Shaun "Moses" Rogozinski, and Lt Matt "I hate everyone" Hoffart, helping Capt Dave "Puke and Rally" Wright up to his house after a long night of drinking during subbies carolling.*





Selfie taken by: **Col Cadieu**  
 “#YOLO...Lt **Erica Young**’s triumphant speech at the Brigade Mess Dinner; followed by **Col Trevor Cadieu**’s decision on the best unit...  
 Umm, **Erica** can no longer be with us tonight...”

brisk winter day it was obvious to us all that both he and **RSM Tony Batty** were elated by our initiative and hard work on the Combat Service Support Herd (CSSH). We can only assume it is a matter of time that the final approvals from higher come down authorizing the wide spread usage of donkey carts and other pack animals in conventional operations.

Preceding the annual Christmas festivities was the Regimental Blackhat week when the entire Regiment participated in a series of professional development activities. Closing off this week was a Mess Dinner for all of the officers where the PMC, **Maj Sandy “Sit Down” Cooper**, found himself with some extra time on his hands after his Vice PMC **Lt Cam “smashy-drink” Ross** relieved him of some of his responsibilities in managing the itinerary for the evening. As the night grew long **Lt’s Bryce “I’m on the Chive” Simpson**, **Sean “C/S Three Piece” Coughlan**, and **Mike “short round” Labreque** ensured everyone made it home safe by being the absolute last to leave the EGOM, even after the bar staff, letting themselves out after sunrise the following morning to a round of applause by the wedding setup that was occurring the next morning.

and the team dressed as an assortment of characters from the films, we clearly set the standard for the event. Perhaps most importantly an elixir sprung forth from the Ark during and after the race, keeping the team properly hydrated with beer giving the team the strength and endurance to defeat the other teams.

Always hard at work many of us often try to better not just ourselves and the Regiment, but the Army as a whole. Never was this more evident than the efforts of **Capt Joe “Feather” Monroe** and **Capt David “I Majored in Music” Wright** and the endless hours of planning that they did to solve the problem posed by a massive divestment of our support vehicles. With the CO, **LCol Paul “fantastic and outstanding” Peyton** in the audience, we briefed him on a viable alternative to all those complex-maintenance-intensive-costly army vehicles. After a short ride in a cart pulled by a donkey (the Medium Pack Mule Hooved or MPMH) on a

**Capt Ahmad “Jihad” Jaradat**, **Capt Shaun “Wait he’s actually not Moses” Rogozinski**, and **Capt Stephen “kitty-cat back” Couture** posing for a selfie during our tradition subbies coffee break.















## LORD STRATHCONA'S HORSE (ROYAL CANADIANS) REGIMENTAL SOCIETY

### ORIGIN AND OBJECTIVES OF THE LdSH(RC) REGIMENTAL SOCIETY:



In 1974, the need for an organization dedicated to the preservation of the history and traditions of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) Regiment was realized when the Regimental Society was formed. Today, the Society has grown into a large charitable organization with the especially important duty of providing support programs to the Regiment's soldiers, and to their families.



### FAMILY SUPPORT

We are committed to mitigating the stress of military service on families to the greatest extent possible through family oriented events.

- Family Day Events
- Deployed Family Support
- Child Care Services
- Referral and Family Counseling Services



### REGIMENTAL HERITAGE

Our history is very important in recognizing who we were and who we have become. The Regimental Society enriches our heritage and supports our future through several unique initiatives.

- Strathcona Ceremonial Mounted Troop
- The Historical Vehicle Troop
- Strathcona Museums
- Strathcona Pipes and Drums Band

### THE STRATHCONIAN



### THE STRATHCONIAN

First produced in 1914, the Strathconian is the Regiment's yearbook. It is produced through the financial support of the Society. Strathconas and Friends of the Regiment worldwide cherish this journal of the exploits and life of the Regiment.

- Recognizing Regimental accomplishments
- Remembering the year's events
- Keeping all members informed of activities
- Spreading awareness of the Regiment

**HOW TO DONATE:** *Cheque:* Payable to Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) Regimental Society, c/o Regimental Accounts Office, PO Box 10500 Stn Forces, Edmonton, AB T5J 4J5

*Credit Card or Paypal:* Visit [strathconas.ca](http://strathconas.ca), and click "How you can Help" for more information

**Serving Members can donate through pay allotment to Y006**

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