

THE STRATHCONIAN



Lord Strathcona's Horse
(Royal Canadians)

2025

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‘Pan American’

June 25 - 28, 2026

‘North American’

July 02 - 05, 2026

‘Masters’

September 09 - 13, 2026



The Strathconian

Is the annual journal of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)
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Lieutenant-Colonel A. Nitu, CD
Commanding Officer

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**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, Bearevoir, 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)



*Bearer: MWO L.B. Christopoulos,
Escorts: WO M.F.C. Collier & WO J.A. Monge
Orderly: WO T.J. McQueen*



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

MESSAGE TO LORD STRATHCONA'S HORSE (ROYAL CANADIANS)

Members of the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), families and friends.

As your Colonel-in-Chief for the past forty-eight years, I particularly wanted to send a special message, as you gather to celebrate your 125th Anniversary, to extend my warmest congratulations for a century and a quarter of exceptional Service to Canada. The Regiment has had, and will always have, its own part to play in Canada's sterling defence of Her values.

Your motto, "Perseverance," encapsulates the very essence of your origins and the vision of Lord Strathcona at the time. The Regiment's story is a legacy of excellence in service: from using guile and adaptability in your founding years in the Second Boer War, including the action of Sergeant Richardson which earned the first Victoria Cross for the Regiment, to the "do or die" spirit exemplified by fellow V.C. recipients, Captain Harvey and Lieutenant Flowerdew, in the First World War. This proud tradition of adaptability and innovation has continued through the World Wars, the Korean War, countless missions with N.A.T.O., the United Nations and in Afghanistan and continues today with the Regiment's presence in Latvia as part of the N.A.T.O. deterrent. My admiration knows no bounds for what you have achieved in these past 125 years.

None of your accomplishments would be possible without the unwavering support of families and friends. While serving in far-flung places is a challenging part of military life, the strength and fortitude of those left behind, who keep the families and communities together, is no less a formidable task. To all those who stand behind the soldiers, I can only offer my deepest appreciation. Your steadfast support ensures the strength and resilience of this magnificent Regiment.

During this occasion for celebration, our thoughts will also turn to absent friends. I know you will take a moment to honour the many Strathcona's who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Many others carry the long-term wounds of conflict. As a family, we are bound together by shared history and values, and it is our solemn duty to look after our own, as I know you all do.

It has been twenty years since you last came together to celebrate, to reflect and renew the bonds of comradeship. My sincere thanks go to all those who have organized this important and memorable reunion. Such occasions remind us of the enduring strength of our Regimental Family. Whilst I sadly cannot be there to mark the occasion alongside you, I was extremely proud, in a small way, to be able to visit those Strathcona's who were fulfilling the King's Guard detachment in London earlier this month. Today, you are all firmly in my thoughts...

I send to all Strathcona's, past and present, my heartfelt congratulations and warmest greetings.

Perseverance, Strathcona's.

CHARLES R.



Colonel of the Regiment

Colonel (Retired) Jamie Cade

2025 was a stellar year for the Regiment as we celebrated our 125th Anniversary. And celebrate we did - because Strathconas are proud of who we are, what we represent, what we achieve, and the history of excellence to which we have attained, and to which we continually aspire to surpass.

Our motto, *Perseverance*, is defined as the continued effort to achieve something despite difficulty. It is a virtue that resonates across all cultures. Historically, perseverance was closely tied to the medieval chivalric ideal of “being manly” - a concept rooted in courage, fortitude, stoicism, resilience, and the triumph of action over words. While the language is antiquated, the qualities it reflects are universal, and they are embodied every day across our entire Regimental Family.

Our story began in 1900, when the United Kingdom viewed Donald Smith’s raising of “Strathcona’s Horse” as an act of generous Canadian patriotism. The Regiment’s civilian volunteers quickly earned renown for their scouting abilities and combat skill. That spirit endured through the generations. In November 1951, during the Korean War, Strathconas Lieutenant Clifton MacDonald and Sergeant George Thwaites became among the first members of a Canadian armoured unit to be Mentioned in Dispatches - recognition of individual bravery and decisive leadership during one of many battles in which the Regiment distinguished itself.

Our legacy of service expanded with the world’s first United Nations peacekeeping mission, where the Regiment contributed to 56 Reconnaissance Squadron of the UNEF following the Suez Crisis. Decades later in Bosnia, again under the UN flag, Strathconas faced an extraordinarily difficult mission. Many returned home wounded, and acts of courage - such as those of Sergeant Tom Hoppe, who earned both the Medal of Bravery and the Meritorious Service Cross, set new benchmarks for service.

These examples are only a glimpse of the Regiment’s enduring perseverance. Today, that same resilience, flexibility, and commitment continue with operations in Latvia, the Middle East, and numerous other international missions where Strathconas consistently stand out for innovation, determination, and their ability to accomplish much with limited resources.

Our backbone – *Perseverance* – extends well beyond active operations. It is evident in the excellent execution of the Strathcona Mounted Troop’s duties as The King’s Guard; in the 80th Anniversary Battlefield Tour commemorating the Canadian Army’s campaign to liberate the Netherlands; and in the exceptional reunion of our Regimental Family during this anniversary year. None of these achievements happen by accident. They require dedicated people who care deeply about our Regiment, who take pride in its accomplishments, and who are determined to ensure that our legacy of excellence remains strong for generations to come.

I am immensely proud to be part of this Family - one united by service to country, strengthened by tradition, and defined by perseverance.

Perseverance.



1 CMBG RSM CWO W.L. King, Beth Cade, Their Honours Dr. Zaheer Lakhani and Lieutenant Governor Salma Lakhani, Comd 1 CMBG Col S. French, and Colonel Commandant Jim Lockyer.



Senior Serving Strathcona

Lieutenant-General S.R. Kelsey

Another year in the life of the Regiment has passed, and what a wild year it was. The spectacular execution of the King's Life Guard, the Regiment's return from Latvia and the triumph that was Celebration 2025! For those fortunate enough to participate in Celebration 2025, it took a village... but a village with a Mayor like **Brian Talty** and his team kicking ass!

It was a wild year in so many other ways. From *persevering* through a generational culture of 'refocused spending,' cuts and efficiency to one of growth, imagination and warfighting advantage. The change is reviving. We watched with envy how Strathconas have been *living* the shifting security landscape, *leading* on the front lines of our Brigade in Latvia, and *learning* again the value our allies place in our well-trained, well-led, and well-spirited soldiers. The return to warfighting fundamentals is welcome but sobering. Strathconas are again at the forefront of re-learning old truths about close-combat manoeuvre while mastering new ones.

In this era of increasing uncertainty, one constant remains: the strength of the Regimental family and the power of staying connected. *eNews*, *the website*, *the Newsletter* and *the Strathconian* are the tools that few Regimental families have kept alive. It takes deliberate effort. The photos and articles in this edition of the Strathconian are a reminder of the impressive number of volunteers to which our Society and Foundation Boards; Branches and Chapters; Special Project leaders and entities give so selflessly of their time. To our mobilizer-in-chief Colonel of the Regiment **Colonel (Retired) Jamie Cade, OMM, MSM, CD** as Chair, all of the Directors, Chapter and Branch Presidents and Executives, Newsletter Editors **Colonel Spike Hazleton, OMM, MSM, CD (Retired)** and **Kathy Batty**, as well as the Society Secretary, **Major Kelly Callens, CD, (Retired)** we owe a debt of gratitude. To our Commanding Officer **Lieutenant-Colonel Alex Nitu, CD** and Regimental Sergeant-Major **Chief Warrant Officer Nathan Mills, MMM, CD**, **Major Nathan Hevenor, CD** and our Strathconian Editor **Major Colin Peterson, CD** we are ever grateful for their particular devotion to ensuring the Strathconian continues.

There is one, however, that touches all facets of the way and frequency in which we stay connected. **Kathy Batty**. Kathy is an ever-present force of nature to whom all of us owe our thanks for many years of commitment to the Regimental family. She continues to be our corporate memory, our consciousness and when needed, the fire that drives the idea of a Regimental family forward. Thank you Kathy!

The pages of this edition remind us again how easy it is to be inspired by the range and scale of activities the Regiment continues to undertake. More to the point, it's the character of Strathcona soldiers, NCOs and officers. The Strathconian is ever a new lens on an old story of a Regiment. Another chance to think of absent friends, victories and ill-remembered war stories. Happy reflections to all.

Perseverance.

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Commanding Officer's Message

Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Nitu

“History doesn’t repeat itself, but it often rhymes” – Mark Twain

When I first joined the Regiment, we had just been given the task of continuously generating Tank Squadrons for deployment overseas. Now that I am CO, we have been given a new task to continuously generate Tank Squadrons for deployment overseas. Main Battle Tanks were deemed obsolete in the early 2000s, until the clear need in Kandahar revived the capability. Main Battle Tanks were deemed obsolete in the early 2020s, until the Russo-Ukrainian conflict proved their worth. If you wait long enough, everything old is new again.

I reviewed old copies of the Strathconian prior to writing this prologue. I stumbled upon the entry by then Lieutenant-Colonel Jamie Cade in 2002 when he was CO. It states “It is a completely different army now, and nowhere is the reality of high operational tempo felt more than the Regiment... We are a younger Regiment now... it emphasizes the need for intensive training in basic armour skills.”

I rest my case.

I was fortunate enough to serve on the Army Modernization Team under **Brigadier-General Marc O’Ray** prior to assuming command of the Regiment. We were given the latitude by the Army Commander to find what was deficient in the current structure/capabilities and produce a facts-based plan to get us to the “Army we need.” The value of main battle tanks became evident to the vast majority of decision makers, and this permeates the policy documents we produced such as “Inflection Point” and “Canadian Army Modernization Order.” By the summer of 2026, some of those changes will have taken place. This shows that Army Modernization has the momentum behind it, and tanks figure prominently in that effort.

Our Regiment is now the stewards of this capability for the Canadian Army. We are deploying sequential Squadrons of tanks for years to come. We have done this before, not long ago in Afghanistan. I have come to depend upon the advice from my role models to ensure we succeed with keeping troop tempo manageable for them and their families. **Colonel Mark Lubiniecki**, **Division Sergeant Major Rob Clarke**, and of course the **Regimental Sergeant Major Nathan Mills** have been my trusted councilors on this journey.

We have done well as a Regiment. Both in our own right and in the eyes of others.

Perseverance.



Regimental Sergeant Major

Chief Warrant Officer Nathan Mills

This past year has once again demonstrated the strength, professionalism, and resilience of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians). Across all squadrons and functions, the Regiment has sustained a demanding operational and training tempo while continuing to meet the highest standards expected of Canada's Tank Regiment.

Whether deployed abroad in support of NATO commitments or engaged in continuous and complex training at home, Strathconas consistently delivered disciplined, capable, and adaptive performance. The Regiment generated and sustained combat-ready forces, integrated seamlessly with multinational partners, and proved its readiness to operate in challenging and evolving environments. These achievements reflect not only technical competence, but also a deep-rooted culture of accountability, teamwork, and pride in our profession of arms.

A highlight of 2025 was undoubtedly our 125th Anniversary—a milestone that reminded us of the legacy we uphold. From the Change of Command parade to the reunion dinner, and the return of the Boer War Sqn Pennant, these events showcased the strength of our regimental family and our enduring traditions. Seeing past and present Strathconas come together was a powerful reminder that while times change, our values remain constant.

Equally important has been the continued development of our people. Soldiers and leaders at every level embraced opportunities to mentor, train, and uphold the standards that define this Regiment. PCF courses included brand new troopers all the way to seasoned warrant officers receiving their first tank qualifications. The cohesion demonstrated within squadrons and across the Regimental Family speaks to the strength of our traditions and the professionalism of those who carry them forward.

The successes of this year belong to every member of the Regiment — serving, supporting, and retired — whose commitment and perseverance ensure that the Strathcona name remains synonymous with excellence. As we look ahead to 2026, we do so with confidence and purpose. The challenges will be many, but so too will the opportunities to excel. I am proud of what we have accomplished together and even more excited for what lies ahead. To every member of the Regiment—thank you for your hard work, professionalism, and unwavering commitment. You embody the spirit of the Strathconas, and it is an honour to serve alongside you.

Perseverance.





Foreword

Major Colin Peterson – Editor in Chief

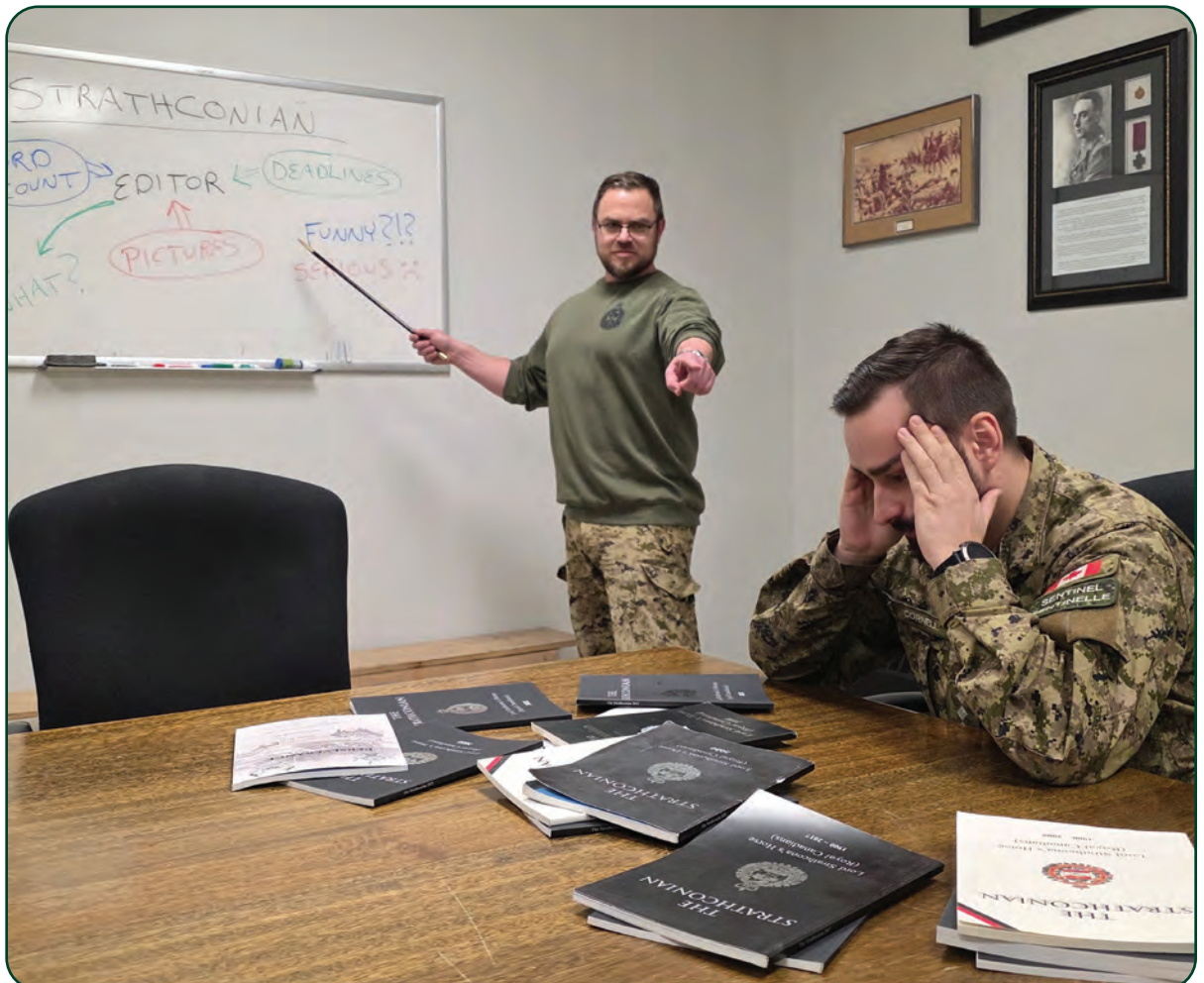
This year's Strathconian is released at a meaningful moment in our history, as over the past year we marked the 125th anniversary of our Regiment. For more than a century, generations of soldiers have served under our cap badge with distinction, carrying forward traditions forged through service at home and abroad. This milestone offers an opportunity not only to reflect on our past, but also to recognize the enduring values of and professionalism that continue to define us today.

The past year has been one of exceptional activity. Across all ranks and occupations, our soldiers have met demanding operational and training schedules with determination and resilience. From domestic tasks and collective training to individual courses and professional development, the Regiment has remained fully engaged, adapting to evolving requirements while sustaining readiness. This tempo has required significant commitment from our soldiers and their families, whose support remains essential to our success.

As this year's Strathconian demonstrates, our strength lies in our people. Their dedication ensures that, 125 years on, the Regiment remains relevant, capable, and ready for the challenges ahead. I am proud of what we have accomplished this year, and confident that we will continue to build upon this legacy in the years to come.

Perseverance.

Major Colin "Editor-in-Chief" Peterson passes his intent for the Strathconian on to Capt Rob "the REAL editor" Cornell.



Advancing to Contact

Lieutenant-Colonel Matt Johns
Deputy Director Armoured

As all members of the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps know, we are at a significant inflection point. Although all regiments, Regular and Reserve Force, are struggling with equipment and personnel challenges, Col Mathieu Dallaire, Director Armoured, has led a concerted effort to set conditions for our rapid expansion, including an aggressive plan to rearm our regiments with new capabilities. Building on previous efforts to establish forward-thinking doctrine in the Armoured Cavalry Regiment in Battle, and with the ongoing development of new courses, we have identified an opportunity to seize the initiative on modernization. This has included engagements across the Canadian Army involving the Director, our Colonel-Commandant, **Col(H) James Lockyer**, and the senior CA Armoured officer, **BGen Eric Landry**, which have positioned the RCAC at the fore and re-assert our role as the arm of decision: a Corps that is focused on firepower, mobility, and battlefield integration to FIND, SHAPE, and DEFEAT the enemy.



This plan culminates in 2040 as outlined by the Canadian Army Modernization plan. The RCAC is taking a deliberate and aggressive posture, aiming to get most of our capabilities FOC as early as 2035, including significant growth in the RCAC for the first time in a generation. The Corps intends to provide the CA with a spectrum of capabilities from high mobility light cavalry, lethal armoured cavalry, and the breaching and direct fire of our traditional armoured units. Current plans will see the Regular Force units integrate technologies such as mortars and UAS, and the integration of new soldier skills in the form of Assault Troop. Most excitingly, CA has recognized that to win on the modern battlefield, it needs more Armoured Corps, not less, resulting in planned growth to a fourth armoured regiment that should achieve full readiness in the mid-2030s. They are moving rapidly to resource the RCAC with personnel, both armoured and support trades, to grow this critical capability.

Of course, the RCAC is not merely the officers and soldiers of our regiments. We are a crew-based, manoeuvre-focused Corps that is dependent on having the best platforms to give us the edge in modern combat. Beyond the expected growth of personnel, the Corps leadership has also presented a detailed plan to recap the entire RCAC, from light cavalry up to heavy direct fire. Broadly, this will see:

Light Cavalry: The interim regrouping of TAPVs within the Defence of Canada Division to better resource our ARes crews. The next step, once ARes contributions to their new Division are clearly articulated, will be the acquisition process to equip the ARes crews with a new modular light platform with a much lower maintenance requirement and skill set necessary to operate. This platform, in the hands of our capable armoured soldiers will enable critical tasks at home and abroad.

Armoured Cavalry: The CA has acknowledged that the RCAC has a gap in mobility and lethality, and has, in principle, endorsed the evolution of two RegF regiments to a high mobility, enhanced lethality, sensor integrating armoured cavalry that will fulfill both formation-level combat reconnaissance and brigade-level close fight roles as manoeuvring or covering forces with the ability to engage and defeat armoured threats. This ongoing project is managed by **Maj Colin McNaughton** and has received significant support from CA leadership, possibly expediting it to the early 2030s or before.

Armoured Regiments: The Heavy Direct Fire Modernization project under the guidance of **Maj Callum Smith** is focused on the modernization of the current Leopard 2 fleet while concurrently identifying the next tank that will lead the CA into close combat, with delivery earmarked in the mid-2030s or before.

Ultimately, what does this mean for the Corps? The future is bright – the charge has been sounded, and your RCAC Senior Leadership has taken up the challenge. And, while we modernize our mobility and lethality, the RCAC continues to ensure that the soldiers and leaders trained today will be ready for the battles of tomorrow.



The Last Trumpet



Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron Meikle
02 December 1984 – 30 October 2025

Arriving at the Regiment in 2007, **Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron William Meikle** served at the Regiment as a Troop Leader, Battle Captain, Squadron Second in Command, and Second in Command Headquarters Squadron before commanding a Squadron at the Royal Canadian Armoured School in Gagetown New Brunswick.

Cam deployed on Operation PROTEUS, was a graduate of the United States Army Command and General Staff College as well as their School of Advanced Military Studies. Most recently, he was employed as the G5 of 6 CCSB prior to assuming his role at the Canadian Army Land Warfare Centre driving army modernization in the development of the Army's future warfare concept. In addition to his regular duties, he published regularly about military professional development and economy of force operations, hoping to broaden the professional interest of the military.

He was a close personal friend to many. He brightened the lives of everyone he knew, both personally and professionally. You could not have asked for a better friend. Cam was a proud Strathcona, and we were blessed to have him in our family. We will miss him for a very long time.



Sergeant Joseph Munroe
01 November 1990 – 10 June 2024

Sergeant Joseph John Farrell Munroe was born in Kentville, Nova Scotia, on the 1st of November 1990. Joseph enrolled in the Canadian Army on 1 September 2009 and came to the Regiment Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) in 2023 as the MSE Op for Transport Troop.

He quickly integrated himself into the team and was immensely respected by both his supervisors and subordinates. He has been noted by his coworkers as always willing to assist those in need and was extremely dedicated to his role at the Regiment.

An excellent instructor, he always took his time ensuring his students grasped all concepts and his contributions were greatly appreciated by his superiors.

He served the Canadian Armed Forces for 14 years of dedicated service in many capacities including postings to 1 Svc Bn, 41 Svc Bn, 3rd Cdn Div Training Centre, CFB Suffield, and overseas on Operation IMPACT – Kuwait in 2016.



Master Corporal Cameron Andrews
01 March 1993 – 02 August 2024

Master Corporal Cameron William John Andrews was born in Port Perry, Ontario on March 1st, 1993, the youngest child of William Andrews and Aingeal Stone, and brother of Dillon and Elora. Just before his 22nd birthday, he enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces and served with the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) in Edmonton, Alberta.

He completed one tour of duty in Latvia as a part of Operation Reassurance and when he returned, he spent time as a door gunner with the 408 Tactical Helicopter Squadron in Edmonton. On March 31st, 2023, he was posted to the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps School at CFB Gagetown in New Brunswick.

Master Corporal Andrews was known to be quick-witted and often did not miss a beat. Upon arrival at the DP1 Cell at the Armoured School he was always looking to better himself. Whether it was with cooking, getting out more often, or personal fitness, Master Corporal Andrews was always striving for success. Upon promotion to Master Corporal, he was moved into an instructor's position and taught several courses. In the time that Master Corporal Andrews was with us, he made a difference, always looking out for his coworkers, friends and subordinates/students. So shall he be remembered.



Capt Danyi Perseverance award



Cpl Worden Medal



Sgt Gross Commander 1 CMBG Commendation



CWO Mills, MCpl Thibault, LCol Gray

Background Photo: B Sqn attends a demonstration of breaching an anti-tank ditch, with AEV and MBT.

Year in Review



Maj Rogozinski diagnosing driveline issues on one of Roughneck's FAR pods.



Births and Marriages

- Cpl Solomon's** son, Clayton, was born on 3 January.
- Tpr Vanderzwaag** married Felina Vanderzwaag on 4 January in Carman, Manitoba.
- MCpl Demeulenaere III's** son was born 26 January.
- MCpl Janzen-White's** son, Huxley, was born 4 April.
- Cpl Andal** married Sarah Powers on 4 April.
- Cpl Janzen-White** son was born on 11 April.
- Capt Lee** married Seongyeon Park on 12 April.
- Tpr Dougherty** married Luke Shippit on 12 April.
- MCpl Fitzpatrick's** son, Wesley, was born on 14 April.
- Cpl Marcelli** married Britney Marcelli on 4 May.
- Cpl Bergen's** daughter, Penelope, was born on 10 May.
- Lt O'Brien** married Irina O'Brien on 10 May in Ajax, Ontario.
- Maj Simpson's** daughter, Maeve, was born on 9 July.
- Capt Vos** married Samantha Vos on 12 July in Edmonton, Alberta.
- Tpr Muldoon** married Amy Dyjur on 18 September in Edmonton, Alberta.
- Lt Hannaford** married Lokman Wong on 25 September in Perth, Ontario,
- MCpl Allman** married Samantha Scalzo on 27 September in Edmonton, Alberta.
- Tpr Ouellet-Perron's** daughter, Wave, was born on 5 October.
- Cpl Dockery** Married Candace Dockery on 11 October in Edmonton, Alberta.
- Capt Maclean** married Merissa Maclean on 18 October in Parson, British Columbia.
- Cpl Mutia** married Brooke Mutia on 25 October in Edmonton, Alberta.
- Cpl Eaton** married Ashley Eaton on 22 November in Edmonton, Alberta.

Honours and Awards

Member of the Order of Military Merit

MWO McLoughlin

Meritorious Service Cross

Col Kirstein

Medal of Bravery

WO Balfour

Meritorious Service Medal, Bar

CWO Clarke

Defence Meritorious Service Medal, First Oak Leaf Cluster (USA)

Col MacEachern
LCol McMurachy



Operational Service Medal – EXPEDITION

Cpl Worden

NATO VIGILANCE Medal

Anvil Sqn
Caesar Sqn
TF WARHORSE HQ

King Charles III's Coronation Medal

Maj Elkorzati
Maj Shumka
WO Bolzan
WO Churchill
WO Comeau
WO Gross
WO Talty
Sgt Andrews
Sgt Braconnier
Sgt Dobson
Sgt Mckenzie
Sgt McNair
Sgt Rider
MCpl Bishop
MCpl Crackle-Skulason
MCpl Genge
MCpl Hamilton
MCpl Laperriere
MCpl Lockhart
MCpl Steele
Cpl Becklund
Cpl Li
Cpl Marcelli
Cpl Dockery
Kathy Batty

Canadian Forces Decoration, First Clasp

Capt Hume
MWO Chuback
WO Romkey

Canadian Forces Decoration

Maj Peterson
Capt Perry
MCpl Blair
MCpl Loiselle
MCpl Wilson

Commander Canadian Army Commendation

Capt Hedegaard
Cpl Janzen-White
Tpr Van Horne

Commander Canadian Joint Operations Command Commendation

Maj Rogozinski
Capt Purchase
Sgt Giberson
MCpl Borne
MCpl Crackle-Skulason

3rd Canadian Division Command Team Commendation

Sgt Mckenzie
Cpl English
Cpl Kaufman
Cpl Kuypers

Commander 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group Commendation

PO1 Fields
Sgt Gross
Sgt Kibler
MCpl Hamilton
Cpl Purkiss

3rd Canadian Division Support Group Commander Commendation

Cpl Mullin

Commanding Officer's Coin

Maj Farren (British Army)
WO Davidson
WO Weir
MCpl Parsons
MCpl Rice
MCpl Van Dijk
Cpl Engelbrecht
Cpl Gillis
Cpl LaRose
Pte Maiato
Tpr Smith

Regimental Sergeant Major's Coin

MCpl Bakos
MCpl Calpito
Cpl Wynen

Colonel of the Regiment Commendation

Capt Webster
CWO (Ret'd) Mulhern
Sgt Giberson
Kathy Batty

Colonel Commandant Royal Canadian Armoured Corps Commendation

Capt Delaney
Sgt Giberson



Prince of Wales Squadron

C Squadron

Hessin Sword

Capt Snetzko

Macauley Sword

Capt Munson

Neatby Pace Stick

MWO Chuback

Milroy Cross Belt

WO Owen

Colonel of the Regiment Silver Stick

MCpl Forestall

Fox Bugle

Cpl Wesley

Ross Gear

MCpl Moore

Olympic Torch

Cpl Mylymuk

Trooper Willoughby Memorial Award

Cpl Gauthier

Hug Perseverance Award

Capt Danyi

The Hilton Fly Plaid

WO Davidson

RCAC Association Bursary

Sgt Gross



Cpl Kuypers 3 Cdn Div Comd Team Commendation



Cpl Kaufman 3 Cdn Div Comd Team Commendation



Capt Hedegaard CCA Commendation



WO Davidson CO Coin

Promotions

Maj Berube
 Maj Clubine
 Capt Bear
 Capt Bogya
 Capt Brophy
 Capt Cornell
 Capt Dennis
 Capt Gill
 Capt Lee
 Capt Johnston
 Capt Meldrum
 Capt Roberts
 Capt Sellers
 Capt Sohi
 Capt Stephen
 Capt Wiesenfeld
 Lt Crosby
 Lt Davis
 Lt Drouin
 Lt Grubber
 Lt Hannaford
 Lt Megnath
 Lt Nauss
 Lt Perrault
 Lt Rollo
 Lt Sanchez
 MWO Chuback
 MWO Kearns
 MWO Pickell
 WO Comeau
 WO Gross
 WO Martin
 WO McQueen
 WO Nieuwhof
 WO Owen
 Sgt Borne
 Sgt Braconnier
 Sgt Cooley
 Sgt Farquharson
 Sgt George
 Sgt Kimmell
 Sgt Maw
 Sgt McGuire
 Sgt Mckenzie
 Sgt Micyk
 Sgt Palmateer
 Sgt Rider
 Sgt St-Onge
 Sgt Thibault
 MCpl Addison
 MCpl Bakos
 MCpl Barry
 MCpl Brown
 MCpl Buchanan

MCpl Crozier
 MCpl Dinh
 MCpl Frizzell
 MCpl Genge
 MCpl Gibson
 MCpl Headrick
 MCpl Hutchinson
 MCpl Janzen-White
 MCpl Johnson
 MCpl Kok
 MCpl Long
 MCpl Parsons
 MCpl Purkiss
 MCpl Rice
 MCpl Ripley
 MCpl Smith
 MCpl Solberg-Wells
 MCpl Sutherland
 MCpl To
 MCpl Wilkins
 MCpl Worden
 MCpl Yoo
 Cpl Andal
 Cpl Argiropoulos
 Cpl Baceda
 Cpl Bergen
 Cpl Bezanson
 Cpl Binegas
 Cpl Bischoff
 Cpl Cho
 Cpl Deagnon
 Cpl Fytopoulos
 Cpl Gibbons
 Cpl Kolenosky
 Cpl Macdonald
 Cpl Murphy
 Cpl Paha Sapa
 Cpl Savard
 Cpl Sexsmith
 Cpl Stien
 Cpl Thiessen
 Cpl Townshend
 Cpl Turner



CWO Mills, MCpl Long, LCol Gray



CWO Mills, WO Gross, LCol Gray



LCol Nitu, Sgt Farquharson, CWO Mills



LCol Nitu, WO McQueen, WO Nieuwhof, WO Comeau, CWO Mills

Regimental Roll

Colonel-in-Chief

His Majesty King Charles III

Colonel-of-the-Regiment

Col (Ret'd) Cade

Commanding Officer

LCol Nitu

Regimental Second-in-Command

Maj Hevenor

Regimental Sergeant Major

CWO Mills

Commanding Officer's Secretary

Kathy Batty

Operations Officer

Capt Hume

Adjutant

Capt Patt

Regimental Headquarters

Command/Operations Cell

Capt Tsui
Lt Hannaford
Lt Megnath
MWO Chuback
WO Burris
WO Nieuwhof
MCpl Cox
MCpl Sutherland
Cpl Macquarrie
Cpl Wesley

Regimental Orderly Room

WO Doerksen
PO2 Cunningham
Sgt Iskiw
MCpl Morris
MCpl Wilkins
Cpl Blatkewicz
Cpl Saeed
S1 Jereza
Pte(B) Kaur

Training Troop

Capt Koolman
Lt Grubber
Lt Perrault
Lt Rollo
WO Collier
WO Davidson
WO Stevenson
Sgt Farquharson
Sgt McNair
Sgt New
MCpl Price

Cpl Becklund
Cpl Finch
Cpl Mancini
Cpl Miller
Cpl Mullens
Tpr Peters
Pte (B) Neff

Signals Troop

WO Owen
Sgt Rowan
MCpl Freeman
MCpl Renneberg
Cpl Despres
Cpl Newton
Cpl Tonon

Regimental Reconnaissance Troop

Capt Sohi
WO Comeau
MCpl Hamilton
MCpl Laperriere
MCpl Rayment
MCpl Van Dijk
Cpl Banavage
Cpl Bezanson
Cpl Crouse
Cpl Deslauriers
Cpl Desaulniers
Cpl Harding
Cpl Mayer
Cpl Otolorin
Cpl Vienneau
Cpl Pietrangelo
Cpl Swan

A Squadron

Officer Commanding

Maj McHugh

Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO Mcloughlin

SHQ

Capt Keewatin
Sgt Andrews
MCpl Genge
Cpl Craig
Cpl Hodgins
Cpl Jankowitz
Cpl Marcelli
Cpl Weekes

1st Troop

Capt Roberts
WO Bolzan
Sgt Wheeler
MCpl Janzen-White
MCpl Tong
Cpl Edgson
Cpl Herron-Sampson
Cpl Rathwell
Cpl Sutcliffe
Tpr Bunnett
Tpr Vanderzwaag
Pte(B) Kane-Saunderson

2nd Troop

Capt Sellers
WO Young
MCpl Dauphinee
MCpl Young

Cpl Baceda
Cpl Beck
Cpl Buchanan
Cpl Gibbons
Cpl McLeod
Tpr Carlos
Tpr Dougherty

3rd Troop

Capt Wiesenfeld
WO Perron
Sgt Harding
MCpl Lockhart
Cpl Ginegas
Cpl McGrogan
Cpl McLeod
Cpl Nelson
Cpl Nobes
Cpl Sellman
Cpl Thiessen
Tpr Chumak

Admin Troop

Capt Smith
WO Romkey
Sgt Hooker
MCpl Fitzpatrick
MCpl Gibson
MCpl Graystone
MCpl Headrick
MCpl Loiselle
MCpl Smith
Cpl Argiropoulos
Cpl Gordon
Cpl Hunter
Cpl Klassen
Cpl Lutz
Cpl March
Cpl Occleston
Cpl Sauer
Cpl Siemens
Cpl Stien
Cpl Townshend
Cpl Turner
Cpl Yasinski
Tpr Hedges
Tpr Lawrence
Tpr Norman
Tpr Thomson
Pte(B) Duff
Pte(B) Jones
Pte(B) Wideman

B Squadron

Officer Commanding

Maj Simpson

Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO Williams

SHQ

Capt Fisher
Sgt Partridge
MCpl Morris
Cpl Auvigne
Cpl Brousseau
Cpl Garcia
Cpl Mouth

1st Troop

Capt Bogya
WO Richardson
MCpl Buchanan
Cpl English
Cpl Juan
Cpl Murray
Cpl Rodrigues De Carvalho
Cpl Smith
Tpr Kellehar
Tpr Reid
Pte(B) Mckeown

2nd Troop

Capt Brophy
WO Weir
Sgt Thibault
MCpl Clauson
Cpl Bischoff
Cpl Schmidt
Cpl Vincze
Tpr Kumar
Tpr Martin
Tpr Redcalf
Tpr Weber
Pte(B) Smits

3rd Troop

Capt Lee
WO Collier
Sgt Job
Cpl Berg
Cpl Spence
Cpl Taylor
Cpl Wesloski
Cpl Westecott
Pte(B) Andrews
Pte(B) Fortier
Pte(B) Munro
Pte(B) Warren

Admin Troop

Capt Veale
WO Ford
Sgt Suggitt
Sgt Villeneuve
Sgt Wilson
MCpl Couillard
MCpl Crackle-Skulason
MCpl Drinkell

MCpl Moore
MCpl Purkiss
MCpl Ralph
MCpl Rice
MCpl Swanson
Cpl Biskup
Cpl Demanenko, G
Cpl Demanenko, W
Cpl Ellis-Hopewell
Cpl Engelbrecht
Cpl Hoveland
Cpl Kinder-Dubreuil
Cpl Ladouceur
Cpl LaRose
Cpl Lim
Cpl Maher
Cpl Mathews
Cpl Solski
Cpl Solverson
Cpl Tikkanen
Tpr Fortin
Tpr Maningo
Tpr Pysarchuk
Tpr Roundsky
Pte(B) Arcand
Pte(B) Baronda
Pte(B) Bolduc
Pte(B) Cacho-Wolfe
Pte(B) Davies
Pte(B) Desrosiers
Pte(B) Diaz-Page
Pte(B) Duggan
Pte(B) Dulay
Pte(B) Friesen
Pte(B) Kozlik
Pte(B) MacNiven
Pte(B) Mikkelsen
Pte(B) Mohammad
Pte(B) Mortin
Pte(B) Sanregret
Pte(B) Thistle
Pte(B) Vargas

C Squadron

Officer Commanding

Maj Peterson

Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO Pickell

SHQ

Capt Coxhead
Sgt Braconnier
MCpl Nolet
Cpl Bryson
Cpl Frantz
Cpl Leblanc
Cpl McIntyre



1st Troop

Capt Cornell
 WO Schafer
 Sgt Snoek
 MCpl Ripley
 Cpl Howes
 Cpl Knutsson
 Cpl Pasternak
 Cpl Wing
 Cpl De Boer
 Pte(B) Anderson
 Pte(B) Collins-Davidson
 Pte(B) Moch

2nd Troop

Lt O'Brien
 WO Monge
 Sgt Hall
 MCpl Bakos
 Cpl Dickens
 Cpl Kelcey
 Cpl Macdonald
 Cpl Nixdorf
 Cpl Wynen
 Pte(B) Johnson
 Pte(B) Menese Synoudinou
 Pte(B) Vindevoghel

3rd Troop

Lt Nauss
 WO McQueen
 Sgt Rider
 MCpl Addison
 Cpl Amoroso
 Cpl Eaton
 Cpl Park
 Cpl Van Lune
 Tpr Morellato
 Pte(B) Cusson
 Pte(B) Htoo
 Pte(B) Patfield

4th Troop

Lt Crosby
 WO Gross
 Sgt Kimmell
 Cpl Deagnon
 Cpl McIntosh
 Cpl Vitone Mossman
 Cpl Warburton
 Tpr Johnson
 Pte(B) Chesne
 Pte(B) Muldoon
 Pte(B) O'Brien

Admin Troop

Capt Parisi
 Lt Davis
 Lt Drouin
 WO Talty
 Sgt Walsh
 MCpl Brown
 MCpl Steele
 Cpl Andrade-Meza
 Cpl Baclayo
 Cpl Briggs
 Cpl Burton
 Cpl Cho
 Cpl Chudy
 Cpl Covacci
 Cpl Dockery
 Cpl Fordham
 Cpl Grillone
 Cpl Henderson
 Cpl Jackson
 Cpl Kataquapit
 Cpl Kuypers
 Cpl MacNeill
 Cpl McBroom
 Cpl Murphy
 Cpl Mutia
 Cpl Phypers
 Cpl Savard
 Cpl Trenholm
 Cpl Williamson
 Cpl Wittman
 Cpl Young
 Tpr Heinemann
 Pte(B) Kocyigit
 Pte(B) Krauss
 Pte(B) Lutzak
 Pte(B) Mills
 Pte(B) Olson
 Pte(B) Ouellet-Perron

HQ Squadron

Officer Commanding

Major Rogozinski

Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO Murphy

SHQ/Admin

Capt Dennis
 Capt Perry
 Lt Sanchez
 Sgt Armstrong
 Sgt McKenzie
 Cpl Ross
 Tpr Borizki

Maintenance Troop

Capt Purchase
 MWO Turnell
 WO Blackburn
 Sgt Borne
 Sgt Cross
 Sgt Gaudet
 Sgt Lussier
 Sgt McGuire
 Sgt Micyk
 Sgt Palmateer
 Mcpl Bishop
 MCpl Bitcon
 MCpl Buaga
 MCpl Burke
 MS Colbert
 MCpl Dass
 MCpl Gill
 MCpl Goulet
 MCpl Lapid
 MCpl Lavoie
 MCpl Meena
 MCpl Parnell
 MCpl To
 MCpl Trottier
 MCpl Wilson
 Cpl Allen
 Cpl Breustedt
 Cpl Bristow
 Cpl Catton
 Cpl Cooke
 Cpl Cote, S
 Cpl Cote, M
 Cpl Darragh
 Cpl Davis
 Cpl Dietz
 Cpl Eades
 Cpl Edmunds
 Cpl Gedge
 Cpl Gordon
 Cpl Kim
 Cpl Kleemaier
 Cpl Leprohon-Deblois
 Cpl MacCrimmon
 Cpl Mailhot
 Cpl McLean
 Cpl McNeil
 Cpl Mylymuk
 Cpl Palfrey
 Cpl Paradeza
 Cpl Poitras
 Cpl Shenk
 Cpl Thompson
 Cpl Webber
 Pte Hoffman
 Pte Maiato
 Pte(B) Kalaranjan
 Avr (B) Wilkes



QM Troop

Capt Fairholme
 MWO Gratto
 CPO2 Urquhart
 PO1 Fields
 Sgt Cooley
 PO2 Ell
 Sgt Otis Monat
 MCpl Cruickshank
 MCpl Gong
 MCpl Hutchinson
 MCpl Middleton
 MCpl Moceton
 MCpl Robinson
 Cpl Barahona
 Cpl Chapman
 Cpl Cocker
 Cpl Fikkert
 Cpl Golding
 Cpl Kaufman
 Cpl MacDonald
 Cpl Maciel
 Cpl McGowen
 Cpl Mullin
 Cpl Paha Sapa
 Cpl Sexsmith
 Cpl Shulba
 Cpl Steeves
 Cpl Sullivan
 Cpl Sylvester
 Avr (B) Cooke
 S3 (B) Hos
 Pte(B) Rampal Kapur
 Pte(B) Taylor

Regt Support Troop

Capt Smith
 Capt Okpe
 Capt McCloy
 WO Mijares
 Sgt Wright
 MCpl Frizzell
 MCpl Parsons
 Cpl Andal
 Cpl Blanco
 Cpl Clendennin
 Cpl Elliot
 Cpl Maendel
 Cpl Redcalf
 Cpl Wiest
 Cpl Wysocki
 Pte(B) Meininger

Transport Troop

Capt Johnston
 WO Crowe
 Sgt Favreau

MCpl Allman
 MCpl Blair
 MCpl Friel
 MCpl Kelly
 MCpl Martin
 Cpl Alergo
 Cpl Bergen
 Cpl Charron
 Cpl Clarke
 Cpl Forster
 Cpl Guilderson
 Cpl Heath
 Cpl Janke
 Cpl Lang
 Cpl Melnyk
 Cpl Miguel
 Cpl Parsons
 Cpl Plamondon
 Cpl Schmidt
 Cpl Semwal
 Cpl Thomas
 Tpr Dandy
 Tpr Van Horne
 Pte(B) Starcevic
 Pte(B) O'Bryne

Strathcona Mounted Troop

Capt Stephen
 Sgt Dobson
 MCpl Duke
 MCpl Maddison
 MCpl Solberg-Wells
 MCpl Worden
 Cpl Annaert
 Cpl Braun
 Cpl Byers
 Cpl Choquette
 Cpl Currie
 Cpl Duncan
 Cpl English
 Cpl Fytopoulos
 Cpl Gauthier
 Cpl Januszewski
 Cpl LaFleur
 Cpl Lanouette
 Cpl Leis
 Cpl McDonald
 Cpl Miller
 Cpl Redhead
 Cpl Salvador
 Cpl Senff
 Cpl Taylor
 Cpl Vu
 Cpl Wilson
 Cpl Young



CWO Mills, Sgt Thibault, LCol Gray



Cpl Wynen RSM Coin



Maj Peterson MCpl Wilson CF Dec

Year in Review

January

Op REASSURANCE 25-01: **15 Dec 24 – 16 Jun 25** (RHQ, HQ (Roughnecks), and C (Caesar) Sqn deployed)

February

Ex STEELE STALLION (Maint Surge): **3-21 Feb 25** (HQ Sqn Rear Party)

Ex VIGILANT RAM (Bde CAX): **18-27 Feb 25** (RHQ Rear Party)

Ex STEELE LANCE (PCF Ranges, L2 Live): **27 Feb – 19 Mar 25** (B Sqn)

March

Moreuil Wood: **20-21 Mar 25**

April

Ex STEALTHY RAM (Bde Sniper Concentration): **22 Apr – 2 Mar 25** (60)

Regimental 15km Ruck March: **25 Mar 25**

May

Kings Life Guard, Recce: **20-23 May 25**

June

Op CADENCE: **2-30 May 25** (60 Rep)

Op REASSURANCE 25-01 Deployment: **15 Jun 25** (A (Anvil) Sqn)

Op REASSURANCE 25-01 Redeployment: **22 Jun 25**

July

Calgary Stampede and Spruce Meadows: **3-14 Jul 25** (C Sqn)

Kings Life Guard: **9-21 Jul 25** (Strathcona Mounted Troop)

125th Anniversary Week: **21-25 Jul 25**

Change of Command parade: **25 Jul 25**

August

Ex STEELE BEASTS (L4 Sim) Recce: **24-28 Aug 25**

September

Ex STEELE SABRE (PCF and L3 Ranges): **2-18 Sept 25** (All domestic Sqns)

October

Ex VIRTUAL BEAR (2 RCR CAX): **14-18 Oct 25** (B Sqn SHQ)

Ex STEELE BEASTS (L4 Sim Validation): **19-25 Oct 25** (B Sqn, RHQ)

November

No Stone Left Alone: **3-7 Nov 25** (Select Members)

Black Hat: **20-21 Nov 25** (Regt)

December

Ex STEELE RESILIENCE: **1-3 Dec 25** (Regt)

Op REASSURANCE 26-01 Deployment: **7 Dec 25** (B (Bulldog) Sqn)

Op REASSURANCE 25-02 Redeployment: **12 Dec 25** (A Sqn)

CLR







Capt Miles Smith delivers a range safety brief during Ex IRON SPEAR.



Tpr Cerro "Buffalo" Smits catching some sleep in a shell scrap during EX STEELE SABRE 25.

The Squadrons



Canuck Sqn's first official group photo.



(from left to right) Capt Cornell, Cpl Ripley, Lt Nauss at Spin for a Veteran Bike-a-thon.



WO Mark Weir and WO Colin Davidson celebrate after proving the efficacy of the .50 cal ACSV mount on the RWS on Ex STEELE SABRE 25



Capt Izaak "Pillow Hands" Koolman fires a .44 Magnum revolver on the weekend during Ex STEELE BEASTS



Regimental Headquarters

“Didn’t we just do this six months ago”

Captain Tom “Ops Overlord” Hume



WO Andrew “Jenga Master” Burris’ ops skills coming to the fore as he relaxes during Ex STEELE BEASTS

2025 was an interesting time for RHQ, and one could say that the experiences of the 3 different RHQ’s over the year, varied greatly. The year kicked off with the “Real RHQ” deployed as the Headquarters for the Multi-National Battle Group on Op REASSURANCE in Latvia, and **Lieutenant-Colonel Darren “The Last Strathcona BG CO” Gray** leading his multi-lingual team to what we’re told were many great successes, probably the greatest successes the BG has ever seen. Operations Officer V1.0, **Captain Ali “Real-Estate Mogul” Mansour** had the pleasure of “operating” amongst our many allies along with his two right hands, **Master Warrant Officer Derek “I wish I was a Roughneck” Murdoch** and **Warrant Officer Jordan “Treat it like prison” Churchill**. The

rest of the deployed RHQ did some cool stuff over there too, however most of it is not yet outside the statute of limitations to discuss them.

Concurrent to the easy task of managing a Battle Group with 10 different languages (11 if you include BG S1 **Captain Pat “excited French noises” Munger**), the “Rear Party” RHQ set to the real work of managing the remaining two thirds of the Regiment that were left behind. There was certainly not a “coup d’état”, but one of the first acts of the verbose and silver-haired Acting CO, **Major Nathan “uncrowned King of Strathconas / Field Marshall / Ol’ Hev” Hevenor**, was to seize the accounts office by force and implement a new form of money management called “Strathconomics” thereby ensuring the SWAG peddling financial independence of the Regiment for years to come. Through what should have been a chaotic and tumultuous six months, forever Adjutant, **Captain Dale “redacted” Patt** kept things stable and boring (like all administration should be) but it would not have been possible without the endless energy and aid of the great **Warrant Officer Sue “all the secrets” Coupal**. Operations Officer Lite, **Captain Keary “Ops by Oops” McAtasney**, enjoyed this period of time so much that he jumped on the first possible opportunity to flee the country with his family to the rocky state of Colorado. This skeleton crew ensured that lights stayed on while they prepared and deployed another tank squadron to Latvia with about half the support.

Now on to the third and certainly not lightest RHQ of 2025. With a minimum weigh-in of 200lbs, the new Heavy Operations and Training team was the first to change over, just ahead of the weird and awkward two-week period of “two dads” leading up to the



The RSM attempts to distract Capt “Face for Radio” Koolman from sending injects during Ex STEELE BEASTS



WO Sue Coupal fires her last tank round before retirement during ex STEELE SABRE 25. L-R: WO Sue Coupal, CWO Nathan Mills, WO Mark Weir, WO James MacDonald, Capt Izaak Koolman

Regimental Change of Command. With the new CO, **Lieutenant-Colonel Alex “Big Cheese” Nitu** holding the reins, the first order of business was to re-establish a foothold in the United States, from which we could conduct the long-missed Ex STEELE BEASTS. After much debate and a good dose of luck, we fell into that opportunity at Fort Benning, Georgia, but that was only where the work began. Due to a wake of what some may call “dragoonery” and unpaid bills left behind by another unnamed Armoured Regiment, RHQ launched a charm campaign armed with Canadiana and cold hard cash to win over our southern allies. Though menacing in stature, Operations **Warrant Officer Andrew “my arms are bigger than my mid-life crisis car” Burris** worked tirelessly to maintain good relations (along with his PRs) while Training Officer, **Captain Izaak “Man-Kool” Koolman** orchestrated wild, crocodile-related plans to test the mettle of the next deploying squadron as well as the patience of some locals.

Somewhere in this second half of 2025, RHQ found the time to deploy to Wainwright in support of B Squadron’s level 3 validation. Though Regimental Gunnery **Warrant Officer Colin “New Harry” Davidson** stole the show with the excellent execution of the level 3 live ranges, RHQ also squeezed in a little navigation training for the Signals Troop under **Warrant Officer Trevor “3 ranks in 1” Owen**, who proved that he could indeed do the jobs of both his superiors. There was also time for the Regimental Recce Troop (Six Zero), mostly led by **Captain Zorawar “we are the PTA” Sohi**, to get in what would be the last bit of Reconnaissance training before being absorbed during an actual coup d’état by the Training Troop.

2025 will be one to remember for RHQ and that is largely because we are going to keep repeating the majority of it over and over again, until we finally get it right.



22A opens fire during Ex STEELE SABRE 25



A Squadron Parts Well Known

Captain David Sellers

It's a quiet, cold November night at the Adazi Military Base, and you've spent the last 14 hours on your feet. Whether moving various nations' vehicles, standing sentry at a gate, or straining your vocal cords over the radio, you've had a long day ensuring the multinational IRON SPEAR ranges go off without a hitch. It's one of many such days to come over the next week, and although you're only just beginning to feel the blood flow back into your toes, you're contented to lie down for some well-earned rest... Then the fire alarm goes off. To Strathconas, such is life — in these parts well known.

As with all deployments, Anvil Squadron began the year and the journey to Latvia with a few stipulations. The Squadron needed to be validated on its weapons and TTPs, intake some fresh reservists, complete some key training, attend some riveting briefs and appointments, and tell the doctor that we've been eating an apple a day for well over a year.

After **Warrant Officer Dave** “*Rubber Ducky Wrangler*” **Young** got all the ducks in a row, the Squadron headed out to the range to validate on our small arms. We welcomed our reservist augmentees, introduced them to Regimental life, and despite our best efforts, failed to bully **Corporal Thomas** “*Paul Walker*” **Weetman** into a component transfer. **Master Corporal Mattison** “*Ginger*” **Smith** and **Corporal Colten** “*Chin Beard*” **Siemens** led us all through Combat First Aid. They supplemented their lessons with a viewing of ‘Warfare’, which proved a remarkably good training tool to evaluate the delivery of first aid in a combat scenario. Before we knew it, we were encroaching on that last month in Canada, trying furiously to finalize remaining appointments and get the Squadron out the door and onto the plane. With the administrative hurdle finally behind us, we parted ways for a few short weeks, went back to our families, and tried to convince our significant others that this was still a good idea. Some members proved more persuasive than others.

Anvil Squadron arrived in theatre in June with excitement and warm weather for the Regiment's fifth iteration of hot bunking in our biannual home away from home. After a few days of taking in the balmy Baltic sun,



Tpr Ashley Dougherty captured moments before falling off a tank.



(From right to left), Cpl Roan March, Cpl Shawn Nobes, and WO Steve Perron meeting The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada.

enjoying some brutalist architecture, and handing over the vehicles and stores, we were left on our own in this tiny slice of the world.

It didn't take long for things to get real. While Russia continued to posture toward crossing the Baltic borders, the Multinational Battlegroup postured to cross the base's North gate and bring violence to the training area. Within days of arriving, we were heading up to zero the tank fleet. Within weeks, we were deploying to the field for consistent exercises over the next two and a half months. All the while, **Sergeant Paul** “*Skipper*” **Cross** and the maintenance team



Cpl Leo McLeod, captured shortly before smelling too much cordite.

kept the tanks constantly ready and rolling for the next tasks.

We started shaking off the rust during Exercise FORGE with some imposed refresher lessons on fixing popped track. With our tanking legs back under us, we faced Exercises STRIKE and SHIELD, where we would hone our skills in offensive and defensive operations. After attempting to fit the whole Squadron in our designated 200m patch of woodline, we realized that perhaps we were not the main characters of this deployment. Or so we thought, until Exercise OAK RESOLVE, when the Squadron led the Battlegroup in the battle of the Puska. For a brief and glorious 30 minutes, **Sergeant Andrew “aim here!” Dauphinee** commanded the Battlegroup’s only remaining breaching asset. Meanwhile, **Master Corporal Joe “Gucci flip flops” Trottier** achieved the rare

honour of recovering at least one vehicle from every nation in the Battlegroup. All was not quiet on the Western front, where a detached 3 Troop held the line. With the infantry unable to recover the mobility-killed tanks, their crews got a taste of the final scene from ‘Fury’.

Finally, came IRON SPEAR, the Anvil Squadron-led, coordinated, planned, executed, and Brigade-credited multinational gunnery competition. The Squadron successfully navigated countless national caveats and ammo constraints, showing our dedication to interoperability and multinational cohesion.

With the exercises concluded, and our time liberated, the Squadron was able to bask in the slowly diminishing daylight hours. Between the saunas and fresh sardines, caked mud and dining hall cakes, promotions and “paldies,” the year hasn’t always been easy, but it has been a treat. Perhaps not one you’d throw in your lunch box every day, but a nutritious, nostalgic snack that makes the cut once every 12 months.

“I love the smell of fresh cleaned Toi-Toi in the morning. Smells like victory... One day this vigilance is gonna end...”



Sgt Andrew Dauphinee and Tpr Cody Baceda run in the colours during BALTIC WARRIOR.



B Squadron

Captain Griffin Brophy



Left to right Tpr Brett “Where’s the boot” Bischoff, Cpl Seth “Waldo” Wesloski, Tpr Dylan “Divorced Dad” Reid pose as the PDA burns during ranges on EX STEELE SABRE 25

2025 was a year full of significant milestones for B Squadron of Lord Strathcona’s Horse (Royal Canadians), as they prepared for deployment on Operation REASSURANCE Roto 26-01 in December.

The year began with the Squadron’s first Primary Combat Function (PCF) serials, a semi-annual initiative to certify soldiers on various platforms and weapons systems. This was essential, as many new members had yet to be qualified in their respective roles. Courses ran during this cycle included Leopard 2 Driver, Loader, Gunner, and Crew Commander, as well as TLAV RWS, ACSV RWS, and ARV RWS.

While soldiers were participating in classroom instruction in garrison, planning was underway for the associated field exercise, **Exercise STEELE LANCE 25** (Ex SL 25), scheduled to start in late February through March in Wainwright. This exercise was designed to complete live-fire ranges and driving components required for qualification. For seasoned soldiers, deploying to Wainwright in the middle of an Alberta winter might have evoked memories of frigid nights and uncomfortable hours perched on buckets. For many of B Squadron’s newer members, it was their first major field exercise—a formative experience and an opportunity for leadership to assess how troops would perform under challenging conditions.

Although the primary focus remained on completing PCF courses rather than full Squadron-level training, Ex SL 25 served as a valuable litmus test for future exercises. The exercise was a success, thanks to the adaptability of the soldiers and their willingness to tackle last-minute tasks without complaint, despite the harsh environment.

Upon returning to the Regiment, B Squadron participated in the annual **Moreuil Wood Parade**, commemorating a historic battle in the unit’s lineage. This was followed by a well-earned spring break to close out the fiscal year.

From April to June, the Squadron experienced a brief reprieve from its high operational tempo. Focus shifted to planning the next major exercise, **Exercise STEELE SABRE 25** (Ex SS 25), and conducting pre-deployment training (PDT) ranges, including C8, C22, and gas hut. These efforts aimed to conserve valuable time during the busy fall schedule.

During this period, B Squadron welcomed its new Officer Commanding, **Major Bryce “Reading List” Simpson**, who would lead the sub-unit during its upcoming deployment to Latvia. The summer block leave ran from late June to mid-July, offering a short break before the most



Maj Bryce “Reading List” Simpson addressing B Sqn after completing EX STEELE BEASTS at sim center in Fort Benning, GA.



Lt Griffin “should’ve used slick stick” Brophy RSO’s for Leopard 2 ranges during EX STEELE LANCE 25.

deployment. This experience proved invaluable, as soldiers learned to live, work, and function in environments similar to those they could encounter overseas.

Throughout the exercise, troop and squadron cohesion strengthened as soldiers refined individual skills and synchronized troop-level standard operating procedures. The exercise culminated in B Squadron’s successful validation on Level 3 live-fire ranges, conducted both during the day and at night—an opportunity to demonstrate their readiness and tactical proficiency.

Upon returning to garrison at the end of September, the Squadron immediately transitioned into the remaining PDT to ensure operational readiness. The Squadron participated in **Exercise INTREPIDUS RAM**, a 21-kilometre ruck march around CFB Edmonton, led by 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group (1 CMBG), designed to build physical endurance and resilience across the formation.

Shortly thereafter, B Squadron’s fighting troops and headquarters deployed to **Fort Benning, Georgia**, for a week-long virtual exercise using American M1 Abrams simulators. Dubbed **Exercise STEELE BEASTS** (Ex SB), the training allowed the Squadron to conduct tactical exercises at a scale not feasible in Canada. From defensive operations to advance-to-contact drills, the sub-unit practiced manoeuvring, engaging, and defeating enemy forces as a cohesive team.

Each day involved battle procedure cycles, from the Officer Commanding down to individual crew commanders. The exercise proved to be a resounding success, significantly enhancing the Squadron’s capabilities and boosting confidence ahead of deployment.

With Ex SB concluded, pre-deployment leave was just around the corner. The final weeks were spent finalizing administrative tasks and ensuring all preparations were complete. As December approached, B Squadron stood ready—trained, tested, and united—for their mission on **Operation REASSURANCE Roto 26-01**.

demanding stretch of the year began.

July marked the **125th Anniversary of the Regiment**, coinciding with the **Change of Command Parade**. The event was a resounding success, as soldiers from across the Regiment gathered on the parade square to honour its storied history and bid farewell to outgoing Commanding Officer **Lieutenant-Colonel Darryn Gray**, while welcoming **Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Nitu** as the new CO.

Following the celebrations, B Squadron resumed operations with another PCF cycle in August, revisiting many of the previously taught courses. However, the focus of Ex SS 25 differed from Ex SL 25, shifting towards Level 3 live-fire ranges and troop-level training.

The Squadron deployed to the field in early September, with the exercise divided into three phases: PCF ranges, troop training, and final validation. The austere conditions challenged crews to operate with minimal equipment, simulating the realities of vehicle-based living during



WO Mark “Muzzy” Weir uses high tech military grade equipment to observe range activities as FPO on EX STEELE LANCE 25.



C Squadron

Lieutenant Mackenzie “Big Mac” Nauss

This year marked a period of tempo, transition, and tradition for C Squadron, reflecting its sustained commitment to excellence throughout a demanding operational cycle. With Caesar Squadron deployed on Op REASSURANCE at the outset of 2024, C Squadron at home maintained an intense schedule of public duties and training, ultimately shaping its new identity as Canuck Squadron.

The year opened with Caesar Squadron’s deployment on Op REASSURANCE, where its adaptability, professionalism, and operational competence were tested in a multinational environment. The Squadron’s return in June closed a significant chapter and transitioned seamlessly into a summer defined by ceremonial commitments and high-profile public engagements.

C Squadron supported major provincial events, including the Calgary Stampede and the North American Tournament at Spruce Meadows, where members displayed unmistakable Strathcona pride and upheld the highest standards of dress and deportment. These engagements strengthened the Regiment’s public presence and reinforced its reputation for professionalism and heritage.

These commitments flowed directly into preparations for the 125th Anniversary of the Regiment, a milestone marked with pageantry, historical reflection, and the collective pride of generations of Strathconas. Members from across Canada gathered to celebrate the Regiment’s storied history, and once again C Squadron played a key supporting role, demonstrating discipline, precision, and unwavering regimental spirit.

As summer concluded, the Squadron returned its focus to an operational mindset—balancing its own pre-deployment preparations while supporting B Squadron’s IBTS during STEELE SABRE 25. C Squadron executed a series of ranges and training serials designed to ensure B Squadron achieved maximum readiness ahead of their rapid approach to Op REASSURANCE. It was during this phase of high tempo and intense training support that C Squadron earned its new and proudly adopted title: **Canuck Squadron**—a name that reflects its evolving identity and the dedication of its soldiers.



Capt Cornell getting a good stretch in before the Bde 20km Ruck.



C sqn’s D&M course chuggin’ along as efficiently as they can.

With the new name came renewed purpose. Another rotation on Op REASSURANCE was on the horizon, and Canuck Squadron quickly settled into a demanding rhythm of courses, instructor duties, and troop-level development. Long days at the Trapper building were spent tirelessly preparing tanks for the PCF cycle and the upcoming Ex STEELE LANCE. The Squadron’s steady progression and focused preparation underscored its readiness to take on the high-readiness tasks and operational challenges looming in the months ahead.

From deployment to celebration, from ranges to readiness, this past year witnessed the evolution of C Squadron into Canuck Squadron—a title earned through grit, professionalism, and relentless commitment. As the Squadron looks toward the challenges of the coming year, it stands ready to meet them with the same determination and excellence that defined its journey through 2025.

Headquarters Squadron

Captain Nicolas Dennis



WO Crowe dreaming of HLTA while in Latvia.

It was a busy year for Headquarters Squadron, full of unique challenges and personnel changes. Split between overseas and Canada, HQ Sqn had the pleasure of supporting Task Force WARHORSE during Op REASSURANCE 25-01 and assisting with the force generation of three sabre squadrons for deployment overseas.

While a large portion of the Squadron was deployed on Op REASSURANCE 25-01, operations continued in Canada as usual. Headed by **Major Andre “just keeping the seat warm folks” Berube**, **Master Warrant Officer Laki “When am I going back to Latvia?” Christopoulos**, **Captain Steph “I have an idea” Clubine**, and **Captain Shawn “Here on paper only” Suresh**, HQ stayed busy with activities such as the 125th Anniversary, the King’s Life Guard in the United Kingdom, and Ex STEELE LANCE 25. HQ Sqn had their hands full.

Regimental Support Troop (RST) spent the year keeping the Regiment entertained, hydrated, and looking sharp. Their first big event was Ex STEELE GILMORE, a golf tournament where scorecards were optional and whispers of “I would have went pro if it wasn’t for my back injury” were plenty. From designing merch to hauling coolers and trophies, they kept the chaos organized. Then came the 125th Regimental Anniversary and Change of Command, where they turned fundraising and product sales into a full-scale operation. Shirts, patches, flags, all of it brought together by the team. If there was fun to be had this year, RST was there.

The year was one marked by change at the Regimental Museum. Long time volunteers **Dani Sanchez**, **Sum Ming**, **Karen Hong**, and **Jordan Strate** moved on to new and better things. Long serving curator, **Captain Phil “I was here when they opened” Webster**, was posted out to Ottawa. After 3 decades of service to the Museum, **Sergeant Todd Giberson** was deaccessioned from the collection. Big shoes to fill for the new team as **Captain Sheldon “casual parking attendant” Smith** came in as the new curator. Beyond providing displays for the 125 celebrations, the Museum partnered with the University of Calgary to provide artifacts for the display of the wartime works of Sir Alfred Munnings, the famous equestrian artist that followed Cavalry Battalions through the First World War.

Strathcona Mounted Troop (SMT) had one of their busiest years in history with the mounting of the King’s Life Guard in the United Kingdom and the 125th Anniversary celebration on top of their regularly planned ride season. Led by **Captain Tom Lauterbacher** and **Warrant Officer Liam Talty**, SMT left the comforts of their own stables for a trip across the pond, to guard our King. After a successful handover from the Household Cavalry, SMT turned heads and wowed onlookers as they paraded through London. The Troop made quite an impression on the people of London and His Majesty The King himself, who they had the honour of meeting in Windsor Castle. They had little rest, as upon their return to Canada preparation began for the Change of



Cpl Maendel working the 125th booth like a seasoned businessman, turning Regimental pride into revenue (RST)



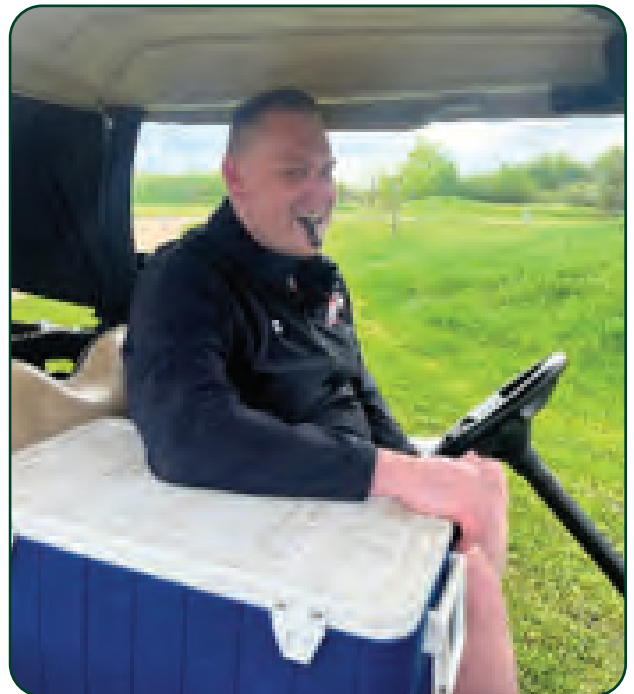
Command Parade and celebration of the Regiment's 125th Anniversary. Shortly afterwards, **Captain Chelsea Stephen** and **Sergeant Gregory Dobson** took the reins as the Troop Leader and Troop Warrant Officer fresh off their post-deployment leave. Starting from a gallop, the Troop had a fantastic ride season and finished off the year with a Basic Equine Riders Course (BERC) for all the fresh talent now working at the stables.

Overseas, Headquarters Squadron took on different a shape to meet the demands of the Multinational Battle Group Latvia. Known as C/S 8, Roughnecks, **Major Shaun "PMC is my primary duty" Rogozinski** and **Master Warrant Officer Bryson "Jingle Pants" Murphy**, had the task of wrangling **Captain Leon "want me to burn them boss" van Heerden** while also providing Combat Service Support to a multinational organization of over one thousand soldiers. **Captain Larissa "I'd rather be doing jujitsu" Bear** quickly became familiar with the joys of international administration as the Sqn AO, while **Master Warrant Officer Kyle "I'm just the pinky finger" Chuback** as the CQMS and his chinchies waged their own war in the shacks of Adazi. **Captain Colin "Yes, the whole fleet is grounded again" Munson** and **Master Warrant Officer James "*technically grounded, I got a fix" Denvir** led the Maint Platoon overseas, dealing with parts shortages, mixed vehicle fleets, and constant grounding faults, while still finding time to enjoy the occasional trip to the beach. **Captain Shawn "Sauna Club" Meldrum** and **Warrant Officer Kevin "international cat wrangler" Crowe** spent their time overseas running emergency supply demands through the Latvian countryside, mostly avoiding trees and soft shouldered roads. The QM, **Captain Joannie "LPO is not the solution" Latulippe** did her best to educate the Battle Group on how international financing is supposed to work, with mixed results.

Upon returning to Canada, HQ Sqn leadership was reshuffled and quickly began preparing for Ex STEELE LANCE 25, with the bulk of the Squadron deploying to Wainwright in support of B Squadron's validation training. The overseas team assumed control of Headquarters Sqn, with the addition of **Captain Emma "New Horizons" Perry** as Sqn 2IC, **Captain Nic "where is the 2IC" Dennis** as the AO, and **Captain McCausland "Nightmare" Johnston** as Transport Troop Leader. **Master Warrant Officer Jarrit "Tex" Turnell** completed his temporary duty as Maint Troop Leader and handed over to **Captain Tyler "It's in the Briefing Note" Purchase** to experience the joys of maintaining a MBT fleet in the field. **Captain Charlie "LPO is the solution" Fairholme** bravely led the QM Troop in coordinating with a deployed 1 Svc Bn Forward Support Group.

Maintenance Troop, with many members fresh off deployment, fought hard to keep the tanks rolling throughout Ex STEELE SABRE 25. Maintenance never sleeps, and work could be heard all night long throughout the Regimental Biv. This year also marked the official opening of the Regional Maintenance Centre (RMC) under the Long-Term Sustainment Contract (LTSC). This facility provides essential support to the Leopard 2 fleet, and the Troop has worked closely with the RMC to develop their capability to sustain the Leopard fleet.

Throughout 2025, HQ Squadron played a vital role in ensuring the Regiment was well sustained and mission capable, both at home and abroad. Whether supporting operations abroad or enabling the validation of A and B Squadron for deployment, the Squadron consistently delivered reliable, professional support under demanding conditions. This unwavering commitment ensured continuity, resilience, and operational effectiveness across the Regiment. As the year concludes, HQ Squadron's efforts stand as a testament to the dedication and quiet excellence that underpin the Regiment's success.



MCpl Frizzell proving that golf carts, coolers, and cigars are the true keys to tournament success at Ex STEELE GILMORE. (RST)



MWO Kyle "Chewie" Chuback intimidating the Ops Calendar in C/S 0 during Ex STEELE SABRE



Cpl Michael "where's Randy's?" English showing off his tank



Cpl MacQuarrie gets some light reading in as he warms up by the fire.



Post OAK RESOLVE Cpl Blaine "Gimme ARV Driver" Sellman and Cpl Mathew "Nelly" Nelson celebrate end ex despite their tank going down 5 minutes beforehand



Operations & Training



Op REASSURANCE – Caesar Squadron

Captain Alex “Third Most Italian” Neshcov

Op REASSURANCE: defend Latvia, deter Russian aggression, eat all the Latvians’ pizza and train to maintain readiness while developing partnerships with our NATO allies. Caesar Squadron, deploying under Task Force Warhorse, was privileged to work as part of a Strathcona-led Battlegroup on Roto 25-01. This brought an enhanced understanding and ... tolerance? ... of Caesar Squadron’s “unique” response on parade; “C-C-C-C-C-C *devolve into monkey noises*.”

While our puzzled allies struggled to come to grips their new simian partners, the Squadron worked hard during all the Battlegroup’s major exercises to improve their skills. Under **Major Steve “Piano Man” Couture** and **Master Warrant Officer Rob “Thunderbird 1” Kearns**, breaching was a particular focus for the Squadron. This focus on breaching proved invaluable during Level 5 live-fire ranges (Ex SHARP), where Caesar worked closely with “Wrangler” Company from 2 PPCLI and Spanish engineers from “Castor” Company to achieve validation. **Sergeant Barry “My PARs are wrong again?” Gaudet** and his maintenance team worked hard in the background to ensure all tanks were available for Ex OAK RESOLVE.

Ex OAK RESOLVE saw **Corporals Tylor “Snack” Pasternak** and **Troy “Did it just come off again?” Janke** pour their Monsters onto the sprocket of CFR 72324 “Cooked” in a bid for the track to stay on, though their efforts were sadly in vain. **Master Corporal Chris “Prisoner of War” Steele** went missing on the second last day – we could only find a shovel, a roll of toilet paper, and single unspent cartridge in his last known location. Finally, **Sergeant Phoenix “Lone Survivor” Rider** and her crew dueled the nefarious Swedish enemy in an act worthy of remembrance. She would later participate in Ex VERBOOM with **Sergeant Richard “Cockapoo” Paquette**, demonstrating the use of Canadian breaching implements to an international audience.

Garison life saw **Warrant Officer Gregory “Gorlami” Dobson** toil away in the Ops cell, while **Sergeant Gabe “Not very Gorlami” Houde** took on the critical task of squaring away the Squadron’s HLTA paperwork. The Squadron was fortunate to move into a new hostel halfway through the Roto, leaving behind the “trailer park” that had been home since the arrival of Canadian tanks in Latvia. Caesar played a key role in planning and staffing the bi-annual international gunnery competition that takes place in Latvia, Ex IRON SPEAR. **Captains Woesal “57-1” Dorjee** and **Chelsea “57-2” Stephen** did their best as team captains, but in the end, victory went to the Polish “Black Devils.”

Regrettably, it is impossible in the word count allocated for this article to highlight by name all the amazing soldiers and NCOs of Caesar Squadron and their contributions to our success. Handover to Anvil Squadron in June 2025 saw Caesar return to Canada full of memories and foundational experience that will surely be of great benefit as the Regiment continues to generate squadrons for service on Op REASSURANCE.



T51 with Swedish and Polish crews following multinational tank range.



Op REASSURANCE - TF WARHORSE HQ

Sergeant Mitchell McKenzie

The deployment of a Battlegroup Headquarters to Latvia marked a significant contribution by the Regiment to NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence mission, reinforcing collective defense and demonstrating the Strathcona commitment to our NATO allies. TF Warhorse HQ, headed by **Lieutenant-Colonel Darryn "Dagger in my Belt" Gray** and **Chief Warrant Officer Nathan "Shoot them in the face" Mills**, led, coordinated and supported key multinational training events, built strong interoperability with allied nations and maintained readiness to deter aggression all done with an added Strathcona flair.

The rotation commenced with a "thorough" handover from the Van Doos who had just completed a sunny tour of the Baltics and were eager to get back to Valcartier. Headquarters staff were introduced to their partners from many different nations, including a petite DCO from Spain with an abundance of dash and cunning, An Ops O from Italy with a penchant for fine wine and hard techno music, and a Training O that could always fall back on a career as a personal trainer.

The first order of business was to validate all the sub-units on a level 5 range. This event was significant in that it was the first time a range of that size had been completed in the Adazi Training area. Weeks of hard work by **Master Warrant Officer Derek "Sick Flow" Murdoch** enabled the validation of a permanent new austere range in the Adazi Training area that was justly named "Steele Range".

Over the course of the deployment, over exercises Shield, Strike, Crystal Arrow and Iron Spear, our Duty Officers, Ops Staff, and 9Tac continued to evolve and refine our skills. TF Warhorse HQ proved themselves as a capable team, able to manage dispersed operations across a wide and complex battlespace, responding to rapid enemy actions and coordinating counter-manoevres.

A standout moment during Ex CRYSTAL ARROW, 9Tac came under enemy contact on the front lawn of a retirement home. As **Sergeant Jason "One Last Breath" Comeau** laid down withering 25mm cover fire, **CWO Mills**, **Sergeant McKenzie**, **Corporal Colton "Bologna Tugboat" Despres** and our two Spanish companions led a dismounted frontal assault through the flower garden of the retirement home and were able to destroy two dismounted Latvian 84mm teams. I was noted for yelling "Sorry!" as I stomped through the tulips, engaging the enemy. The Spanish team said that it was the most Canadian section attack that they had ever witnessed.

Overall, the deployment represented a successful and impactful contribution to the alliance. Through disciplined leadership, meaningful cooperation, and a series of demanding exercises, TF Warhorse Headquarters reinforced Canada's reputation as a reliable and capable NATO partner in the defense of Europe.



CS OA living rough



Op REASSURANCE – Anvil Squadron

Captain Brad “Perma-Detached” Wiesenfeld

It was a warm, swamp-level-humid day when Anvil Squadron rolled into Latvia on 15 June 2025. C Squadron, already halfway packed, looked absolutely thrilled to see their replacements. After a very efficient handover, Anvil hit the ground sprinting: zeroing tanks and small arms, kit checks, academics, and the usual “welcome to the theatre” starter pack.

We paused briefly for Canada Day, where troops enjoyed party games and successfully convinced a few overly trusting Subbies to volunteer for the dunk tank. It was “accidentally” broken when **Corporal Mason “Headshot” Sutcliffe** hit it too hard with a softball. Morale was high; dignity was low. A classic Canadian celebration.

Break over, Exercise FORGE kicked off. Coordinating within our own Squadron is one thing; add a Polish tank squadron with limited English and radios that refused to speak to ours, suddenly things got spicy. Yet Anvil persevered, forging interoperability with our Polish tanker cousins through what can only be described as Tank Duolingo, courtesy of the T4 Winged Hussars.

After a quick maintenance week, we launched into Exercise STRIKE, a rare treat involving a Level 4/5 range alongside our Royal Canadian Regiment pals from Duke’s Company. **Master Corporal Jarred “Badger 1” Bambrick** was ecstatic to showcase T54’s Badgers, even though one may or may not have possibly gotten stuck in a tank ditch at the very start. But they rallied, and we demonstrated exactly what a main battle tank can do post breach. Duke’s Company swore they wouldn’t shoot our tanks; the fresh paint chips suggested otherwise.

Then, as tradition demands, more maintenance.

Next up was Exercise SHIELD, mostly Anvil Squadron perfecting the ancient art of “hurry up and wait for move orders,” while T53, as per standard operating procedure, got detached for the main defensive. The squadron did enjoy “*Combat Uber Eats*,” courtesy of the SQ Shop every morning for breakfast. **Master Corporal Mike “We need more guns” Loiselle** took this opportunity to do a show and tell with his combat loadout of that day, despite **Master Corporals Devin “Why are we bringing so many guns” Headrick**, and **Jordon “Gibby - I’m just along for the ride” Gibson** advising otherwise.

In the end, all three of these exercises were preparation for the big one: Exercise OAK RESOLVE, the combat readiness evaluation.

Exercise OAK RESOLVE began exactly as expected: “T53, you’re attached to Duke’s Company. The rest, with me,” - T59. After a punishing defensive and a very enthusiastic counterattack in which many were “lost”, the enemy force was shoved back across the Puska River. While crossing, we noticed something odd. It looked like enemy force engineers tried to breach the river as if it were an anti-tank ditch. **Warrant Officer Kyle “CHEEMO” Girouard** swore it wasn’t them and blamed 2 **“REDACTED”**. We chose to believe them.

After a well-earned break, we tackled IRON SPEAR, a multinational gunnery competition featuring 11 nations. A week of early mornings, long nights, **Warrant Officer Dave “Little Dave” Young**, and **Master Corporal Brandon “I am the SGWO now” Lockhart** holding down the fort on the range, and **Captain Gesse “Be One with the Dozer” Roberts** obsessively scorekeeping led to a slick event where the Leopard 2 once again reigned supreme.

Now, as Anvil prepares for a hopefully drama-free handover with B Squadron, we say adieu to Latvia and get ready to head home to our loved ones for the holidays.

T5 *mic drop* OUT.



IRON SPEAR fire power demonstration



Ex STEELE BEASTS

Captain Nathan Bogya

Welcome to Atlanta.

“Your bags didn’t make it, they’ll be on the next flight. It’s here in an hour. NEXT CUSTOMER!”

The first clue we were off to a shaky start was an Air Tag alert: “Your Air Tag ‘luggage’ is no longer with you. It is 2,400 km away. Last seen 3 minutes ago.” Slowly it became more apparent that most of the flight’s luggage didn’t connect, as grumbling passengers made their way to Customer Service, only to be met with the same response, “it’s on the next flight.”

“Everyone has a set of combats and their boots in their carry-on, right???”

For Level 4 validation, B Squadron has embarked on an adventure to Fort Benning, Georgia, to make use of the U.S. Army’s Clarke Simulation Centre, allowing the entire squadron to participate in a single scenario. But first, we need our bags—and a trip to TGI Fridays.

An hour later, a flurry of green duffel bags came bounding out of the luggage chute and into the arms of sleepy-eyed soldiers. The first Chalk piled onto the school bus, building makeshift pillows out of their bags, preparing for the next 1.5-hour trip to Fort Benning. While the two-lane divided highway that runs through Fort Benning may allude to its size, it’s easier to use the common CAF metric: CFB Wainwright. At 736 km², Fort Benning is 1.2x the size of CFB Wainwright (609 km²).

As we continue through the winding chicanes, blind corners and undulating hills, we finally reach our home for the next week, Bldg. 9142. The large, brightly lit parking lot, mild temperatures and low traffic density will give way to a myriad of lower body workouts that will haunt some of us for weeks.

The mornings hit us quickly: 0530h PT, 0645h on the bus for breakfast, in the simulators by 0800h. The food choices at the Dining Facility initially left many of us believing we had entered the pantheon of DFACs, “have you ever seen chicken fingers, biscuits and gravy for breakfast???” Once the culture shock of Southern cooking passed over, our plates began looking more like a DPI in Gagetown: scrambled eggs, sausage, hash browns and coffee.



Capt Chris “Vape, Smoke, Vape” Lee, Lt Griffin “B’y Sell B’y” Brophy and Lt Nathan “Shower Club CEO” Bogya arguing over who’s going to get lost first.



Lt Evan “my bags are here let’s go!” Perrault growing tired of the wait

Now divided into our troops, we’re given a five-minute primer on the operation of the M1 Abrams before being set loose to find, fix and destroy targets as we see fit. The operational and doctrinal differences between the platforms are stark, but the switched-on troops of B Sqn quickly adapted their drills, buttonology and ergonomics to tame the wild horse.

As confidence grows, so does the level of difficulty: Battle Procedure is taking place between loads of laundry, traces are more complex, Tp (troop) orders are being issued at 2300h, and 0530h PT remains a constant. Traces are getting longer, the enemy skill level is increasing, and the novelty of U.S. MREs has long worn off.



Friday’s validation sees B Sqn engaging a formidable enemy using the Fort Irwin training area: we’re vastly outnumbered, the ammo resupply function in the simulator is glitching and call signs are randomly flipping upside down, catching on fire in the process. The support staff of the Clarke Simulation Centre display have the utmost professionalism, quickly trying to resurrect errantly destroyed vehicles as we head west to our first objective. With beverages prohibited inside the simulators, everyone has become a camel: unable to stop for both the bathroom or to take a drink. The both-ears-only headset, rapid-fire contact reports and flurry of orders coming across the net create an atmosphere of orchestrated chaos.

- “Did anyone see that vehicle behind me take fire?!”
- “2x BMP-2’s destroyed”
- “9x T-90 tanks have adopted a static position”
- “Break break, 22A is under contact”
- “That T-90 isn’t dead, it’s still traversing”
- “My Bravo callsign is K-Killed”
- “Charlie Charlie 1, Frag-O to follow in 30 seconds”
- “Contact, 2x Mi-24 HIND Helicopters heading west to east”



MWO Matt “Zeppelin Forever” Williams trying to beat ‘Engaged’ out of the Troop Leader’s heads

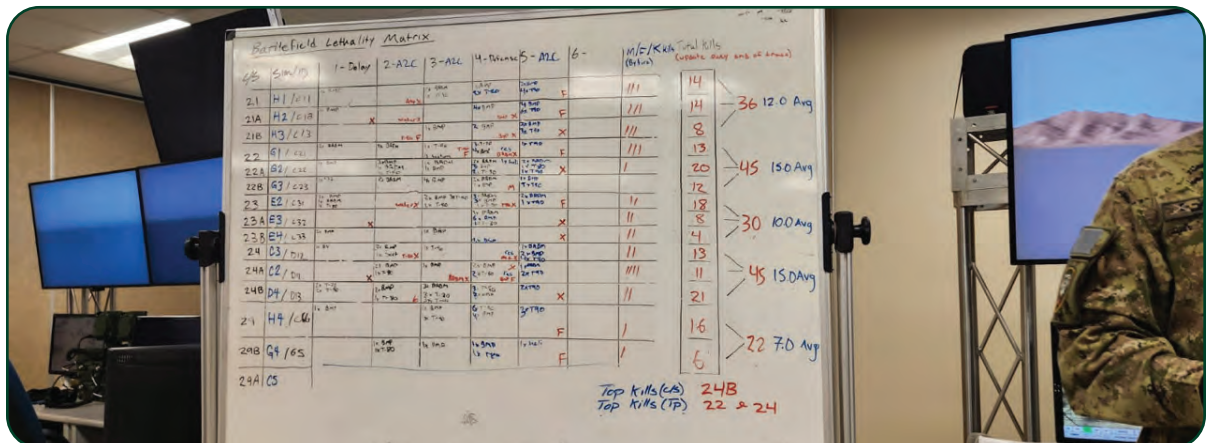
Ammo is starting to run low. Everyone has adopted strategic positions, allowing them to engage at the last minute with the minimal number of rounds possible. Call signs aren’t responding to radio checks. Comms are getting stepped on. “How much sabot is left?” “Lase that hull, how far is it?” “Hold on, what did they say on higher?” “Three rounds?! We gotta go.” “Driver get us outta here. Driver prepare to reverse...”

Call Signs start peeling off in the hopes of reaching the ammo point in time as reports of enemy helicopters start coming in. “29C this is Z21, we’re at the ammo point, MACH to follow...” “...oh, okay—SIR! THE AMMO POINT DOESN’T WORK!”

“End Ex, end Ex, end Ex, all call signs dismount and conduct Tp AAR’s, Sqn AAR to follow...”

In the end, B Sqn successfully defended Fort Irwin from being overrun. The HINDs were necessary to wipe us out, but that doesn’t damper the mood within the Sqn. The four days of training prior to the validation trace demonstrated the professionalism and adaptability of every Strathcona involved in the Ex STEEELE BEASTS 25.

After a short night on the town to celebrate, B Sqn mounted up at 0400h and waved goodbye to Fort Benning. While we couldn’t bring the warm weather, all our baggage managed to follow us.



The Battlefield Lethality Matrix, which will only unlock achievements on the Xbox

Ex STEELE SABRE Grit, Growth, and Flexibility

Captain Chris M. Lee

This past September, the soldiers of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) rolled into the field for Exercise STEELE SABRE 25 (Ex SS) for a full month of hands-on training designed to sharpen our skills and get us mission ready. From new tankers learning the ropes, to seasoned crews refining their edge. It was a busy, challenging, and rewarding time for everyone involved.

We kicked things off with Primary Combat Function (PCF) courses – essential training for our newest armoured soldiers. These courses are all about building the basics correctly: how to operate tanks, handle vehicles, communicate effectively, and work as a tight-knit crew.

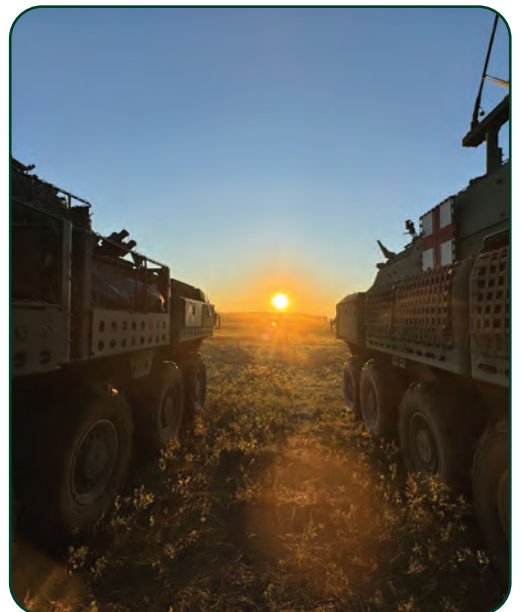
It was a tough week of instruction and drills, but the payoff was huge. By the end, our newly qualified soldiers and officers, as part of 11 different courses, had a solid foundation and were ready to take on their roles with confidence.

Once PCFs wrapped up, B Squadron dove into troop-level training focused on two key areas: survivability and lethality. Survivability meant learning and mastering how to stay hidden and protected—whether through smart hide routines, obstacle drills, or SOPs to make sure everyone was on the same page. This was the focus during troop-level training where the Squadron was dispersed in the training area to allow for maximum freedom of movement for each troop. This gave them the freedom necessary to conduct immersive training, executed by troop leadership. Lethality, on the other hand, was all about live fire, both at the crew and troop level. B Squadron tankers were able to test their skills in tactical combat scenarios, proving they could engage targets accurately, while under pressure and on the move. This phase was intense, but it was exactly what we needed to stay sharp and ready for whatever comes next. With the intent of working up to Squadron-level dry training, the serviceability of all vehicles truly tested the commanders' flexibility. With the constant ebb and flow of available vehicles, plans had to constantly be adjusted, refocused, or outright changed to ensure maximum training value. Whether self- or externally imposed, flexibility quickly became the critical, and everyone's favourite, principle of war.

Behind the scenes, our maintenance crews were the unsung heroes. Tanks are powerful but complex machines, and they took a beating out in the field. Our techs were constantly on the move – fixing, tuning, and getting vehicles back into the action fast. Their hard work meant B Squadron could keep training without missing a beat, albeit with a not-insignificant amount of flexibility. It was a great reminder of how vital support and logistics are to mission success.

After nearly a month in the field, the results were clear. Junior soldiers got their first taste of real field conditions, learning to work as a team and building confidence in their roles. For many, this was the first field exercise, and a particularly long and austere one at that. Senior members had the chance to sharpen leadership and tactical planning skills; skills that tend to suffer from extended time in garrison. The Squadron, and the Regiment, walked away from the month of September having grown as soldiers and leaders.

By the end of Ex SS, the Regiment, especially B Squadron, was feeling proud and motivated. The challenges we faced and overcame together built a stronger sense of purpose and camaraderie. We're ready for what's next – and we know we've got the skills, the teamwork, and the flexibility to handle it.



Command and safety vehicles waiting for the sun to set, marking the start of night training.



Leo 2A4 and two Ferrets prepare for the roll past during the 125th Anniversary and Change of Command Parade



B Sqn officers falling into parade at the Hayakaze memorial during Remembrance Day

Regimental Events



1 CMBG Comd Colonel Sean French receiving salutes on the roll past at the 125th Anniversary and Change of Command Parade



B Sqn defeating HQ Sqn to win the first Monthly Multisport competition



The glory of the Guidon unveiled for all in attendance.



LCol Nitu stands with Cmdr 3 CDSG Col Tesselaar at NSLA.



NSLA/Remembrance Day

Captain Charles Coxhead



MCpl Hamilton speaks during a Remembrance Day ceremony at Mayerthorpe Legion.

mm round displayed prominently in her office—fired by her at the Regiment’s invitation years earlier. Soldiers were proud to be hosted by the NSLA team and to support such a meaningful initiative.

On Remembrance Day, the Regiment honoured its fallen by attending services across the province. From Regimental Headquarters contingents at the Mayerthorpe Legion to individual presenters at schools and daycares, Strathconas maintained a strong presence. C Squadron also paused training during the Leopard 2 Driver and Maintenance course to conduct a ceremony at the Centurion Field Monument in Wainwright.

Each year, Strathcona soldiers are proud to support local communities and events by educating and reinforcing the importance of Remembrance Day to all. Veterans’ Week binds all soldiers from past and present to ensure that those who have made sacrifices will be remembered forever and their legacy never forgotten.

Veterans’ Week began on 5 November with soldiers from C Squadron honoured to serve as the Honour Guard and Vigil Party at the annual No Stone Left Alone (NSLA) ceremony at Beechmount Cemetery in Edmonton. This national initiative ensures Canada’s fallen are never forgotten by engaging local youth to place poppies on the headstones of veterans.

Following the ceremony, the President of NSLA, the Honourable **Lieutenant-Colonel Maureen Bianchini Purvis**, invited C Squadron soldiers to NSLA Headquarters for lunch. The importance of Strathcona involvement was evident, highlighted by a polished 105



Cpl Guignard speaking with students at No Stone Left Alone ceremony.



C Sqn awaiting the start of the Fort Saskatchewan Remembrance Day ceremony.



125th Anniversary and Change of Command

Lieutenant Patrick Grubber

On the weekend of 24-26 July 2025 Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) alongside dignitaries, the Regimental Society, friends, family, and past members celebrated the 125th Anniversary of our Regiment and a Change of Command Parade.

24th July saw the arrival of ERE and former members of the Regiment which included **Lieutenant-General Derek Macaulay**, **Major-General Joshua Major**, **Colonel (Retired) Jamie Cade**, and **Colonel Mark Lubiniecki**. AGMs for both the Regimental Society and the CMT Foundation were held, affirming the healthy status of both entities and their continued efforts to support the Regiment. A GOFO Town Hall was then conducted where the senior members of the Regiment passed on their wisdom (to include not avoiding loathsome Ottawa postings). Once this was complete, the party really started with a get-together at the Lamplighter lounge in a more relaxed environment. **Warrant Officer (Retired) Joe Gushue** made an appearance and confirmed that life outside the CAF is not actually as scary as many feel it is. This event also saw the appearance of Lord and Lady Strathcona who graced the Regiment with their presence.



Cpl Kelsey Petherick, a fine example of supporters that are an integral part of the Regimental family.

25th July was the Change of Command parade held behind the LTF. Dignitaries included the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta the **Honourable Salma Lakhani**, the 1 CMBG Commander **Colonel Sean French**, and the Commander of K Division **Deputy Commissioner Trevor Daroux**. Before the parade started, the Lord and Lady Strathcona took a moment to address the Regiment before they formed up to ensure the members of the Regiment understood the bond and solemn affection that our founding family has for what the Regiment does. Read by the Lieutenant Governor was a letter from His Majesty the King thanking the Regiment for its long and continuous history of excellence. In the era of fostering relationships, the Regiment and the RCMP have recently become closer, and this was demonstrated by the return of the A Sqn pennant from the Boer War.



LCol Darryn Gray handing over command of the Regiment to LCol Alexander Nitu



Lord and Lady Strathcona with Their Honours Lieutenant Governor Salma Lakhani and Dr. Zaheer Lakhani

The ceremony saw the Colonel of the Regiment ceremonially take the Guidon from outgoing CO **Lieutenant-Colonel Darryn Gray** and pass it to incoming CO **Lieutenant Colonel-Alexander Nitu**. A rare occurrence during this Change of Command was a roll past with all the different vehicles used by the Regiment. Of note, not a single left-handed salute was seen. The reception that followed at the Harvey Building had a great turnout and featured vehicles from the different eras of our history for the children to climb all over and explore. The Regimental cooks put on a great spread with a pig roast that took multiple days and long nights to prepare. Special thanks to **Captain Phil Webster** and **Corporal Miguel Blanco** for the amazing display brought up from the Military Museum in Calgary to display Regimental history.

The final day of the festivities was time for a nice relaxing golf tournament in the morning, followed by a dinner and reception at the Northeast River Valley Park Event Centre. A gorgeous venue choice, great food was had, libations were plentiful, and old friends were seen.

Though 125 years of Strathcona history has come and gone but the most important theme that seemed to permeate the events was that much more is to come in the near future. Deployments are happening at a prodigious pace, the world is less secure than it has been in a few decades, but Strathconas are still around and ready to serve when called upon. To 125 more years of Strathcona history and pride.



1 CMBG Comd Colonel Sean French inspecting B Sqn during the 125th Anniversary and Change of Command Parade



Presentation of the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) A Squadron Pennon by Commander K Division RCMP, Deputy Commissioner Trevor Daru.







Regimental Sports

Captain Nicolas Dennis

This year, Regimental Sports saw changes as we transitioned from once-a-week participation into a monthly competition between the Squadrons. B Squadron was presented with a newly repurposed trophy after they won the inaugural Monthly Multisport Competition, which they promptly tried to smuggle away to Latvia for their upcoming rotation, after claiming the afternoon's games of soccer. Competition continues to be fierce between the squadrons, fighting for the right to claim ownership of their trophy and get their squadron forever engraved onto the Multisport trophy.

Despite a deployment cycle that kept much of the Regiment from participating in Ex STRONG CONTENDER 25, our Tac Athlete and Powerlifting teams did their best to pull the Regimental weight, with a 4th place finish from the Tac Athlete team and similar results from the Powerlifting team.

The Strathconas led the stationary charge during the annual Canadian Pacific Kansas City Spin for a Veteran fundraiser in Calgary, where ten members of the Regiment burnt their legs out biking over 380km in twenty-four hours. The Regiment is always proud to participate in this event, raising money to assist veterans struggling with finding housing. This year, over \$600,000 was raised for the Homes for Heros Foundation with teams participating from Canada, the USA, and Mexico.



Capt Wiesenfeld showing his strength during the Ex STRONG CONTENDER 25 Powerlifting competition.



WO Steven Gross, Pte (B) Francois Chesne, Pte(B) Austin Jones, Tpr Sean Thomson, Cpl Colten Siemens, Capt Gesse-Lee Roberts, MCpl Keenan Fitzpatrick, MWO Jarrit Turnell Ex Strong Contender Marksmanship Team! MWO Turnell tied for first place as the Top Marksman during this competition.



Calgary Stampede and Spruce Meadows

Lieutenant Mackenzie “Big Mac” Nauss

This past summer, C Squadron proudly took part in, once again, in both the Calgary Stampede Parade and the Spruce Meadows North American Event. Over the course of five action-packed days, C Squadron showcased their military excellence while fully embracing their “army of the West” persona, setting the tone for this year’s Stampede festivities.

The weekend kicked off with the iconic Calgary Stampede Parade weaving through downtown Calgary. Troops marched with pride, sporting their signature black cowboy hats, accompanied by the vibrant rhythms of the Royal Canadian Artillery Band, energized by enthusiastic cheers and a seemingly endless stream of high-fives from the crowd, LdSH(RC) helped launch the Stampede celebrations in true Western style.

In the days that followed, members of the Regiment were stationed at the Stampede grounds with a static display of armoured vehicles, which offered the public an up-close look into the life and workspace of an armoured soldier.

Additionally, LdSH(RC) was once again honoured to take part in the Spruce Meadows North American Event opening ceremony. This year’s contingent, led by **Major Colin “No dramas” Peterson** and Troop Leaders **Lieutenant Garrison “Garry” Hannahford** and **Lieutenant Mackenzie “Big Mac” Nauss**, exemplified military precision, professionalism, and captivated the audience with a stunning feu de joie. The contingent had the privilege of welcoming both the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), **General Carignan**, and the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, **Salma Lakhani**. Like last year, their performance was so impressive that they did it all over again the next day.

Until next year!



C sqn on parade at Spruce Meadows in the International Arena.



Moreuil Wood

Lieutenant Nicholas O'Brien

As the Strathconas assumed command of the Battlegroup in Latvia, Regimental members at home commemorated the 107th anniversary of the Battle of Moreuil Wood. The ceremony took place on the parade square and was led by Acting Commanding Officer **Major Nathan Hevenor** and Acting Regimental Sergeant Major **Master Warrant Officer Michael Gratto**. The occasion also served as an opportunity to formally recognize Regimental members for their accomplishments and dedication throughout the year. The Regiment was honoured by the attendance of **Brigadier-General Wade Rutland**, **Colonel Sean French**, and the Colonel of the Regiment, **Colonel (Retired) Jamie Cade**, as well as members of the Regimental family, Old Guard, and invited guests.

In the evening, a mixed mess dinner was held at the Officers' Mess, providing a less traditional setting for the Regimental members. Many of the subalterns were more than happy to exchange their mess kit for smart casual to celebrate the evening. The event fostered professional camaraderie and allowed personnel of all ranks to engage in a relaxed and respectful environment. The evening highlighted the collective achievements of the past year and reinforced the Regiment's readiness and cohesion as it prepares for future operations.



SMT putting history on display with WWI Uniforms for Moreuil Wood



C Sqn receiving Prince of Wales moniker.



Regimental Society & CMT Foundation



Strathcona Mounted Troop

Captain Tom Lauterbacher



The 125th anniversary celebration year saw the Strathcona Mounted Troop (SMT) standing to their horses for one of the busiest seasons for the troop.

The training season continued throughout fall 2024 and winter 2025 to see six new riders qualified for the 2025 season. Planning for what would prove to be a very busy season, was in full swing by mid-January.

In February, the troop hosted an American contingent of cavalry soldiers from The Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard out of Fort Riley, Kansas. The two units worked together exchanging knowledge, skills, and unit history. The exchange was an eye-opening and typically Canadian experience for the Fort Riley soldiers, as temperatures dipped to -45°C during

the night and a brisk -25°C during the day. During the visit, the soldiers of the color guard experienced the Spur ceremony, as members were presented with their spurs, signifying the passing of their ride course.

The beginning of March saw the start of ride practice. The riders spent all day in the saddle, practicing moves on horseback, which would inevitably make up the musical ride for the season.

May saw the first ride of the season, with SMT performing the cavalry drills, musical ride, and tent pegging for members of CFB Edmonton, as well as some students from the local Guthrie Elementary School.

The first major test for SMT was the Grande Prairie "Stompede" 30 May-2 June. Originally slated to only perform cavalry drills, the troop also managed to perform escort tasks, the musical ride, and tent pegging for crowds of over 3,000 people. The rodeo crowd roared with excitement as the riders showcased their skills in the fast-paced tent pegging competition.

After almost no rest for the team, they quickly cleaned tack and were off to Spruce Meadows on a twenty-four-hour turnaround. There, the troop completed escort tasks, musical rides, and promenaded through the grounds. The barns remained open to the public throughout as the soldiers of SMT utilized any chance of pulling a horse out to introduce it to the public for photo ops and pets.

The beginning of July marked the start of the Calgary Stampede, where once again the troop – under cover of the 3 a.m. morning darkness – snuck into the city to set up and participate in the Calgary Stampede Parade. This saw members riding straight down the centre of the parade route, where the troop was met with many cheers and waves from spectators.

On 7 July 2025, SMT packed up all their tack and equipment and headed to the Calgary Airport, where they would embark on the long-awaited King's Life Guard Task. After a long flight, they landed in London, UK, and were off to Hyde Park Barracks to link up with their hosts from the Household Cavalry (HHC). With only two days until the official mounting of the guard, the troop needed to





resize tack for the much larger HHC horses, practice the Guard routine, and complete a ride test with their new mounts.

At dawn on 11 July 2025, the gates of Hyde Park Barracks opened, and SMT passed through, a sight which had not been seen in 25 years. With brass tack, helmets, and boots polished to a high shine, the troop rode past thousands of onlookers and made their way past Buckingham Palace and down to the parade square of Whitehall. There, they were greeted by the Blues and Royals, who officially handed over guard duties to them in a ceremony conducted in the courtyard. The next ten days consisted of morning watering order (riding through the streets of London), patrols through St. James's Park, 4 o'clock inspections, and hour-long shifts in the guard boxes. The presence of media did not bother the troop, who were noted for their "Canadian Mustaches" and the first female soldier of the Canadian Forces to mount the King's Guard, **Corporal Madison Young**.

During their stay, the troop had the honour of being invited by **His Majesty King Charles III** for an hour-long meet and greet at Windsor Castle. They enjoyed several laughs and a few good stories with His Majesty, who was very intent on getting to know the individual soldiers and where they came from. After time spent with the King, the troop quickly returned to their guard duties. On 21 July 2025, SMT handed their duties back to the HHC, and the guard was taken over by the King's Life Guard. 24 hours later, horses were returned, tack cleaned, and the soldiers were back on a plane to Canada.

On their return, the SMT stood to their horses yet again for a Regimental Change of Command Parade, a part of the celebrations for the Regiment's 125th Anniversary. The horses had been resting for two weeks while the soldiers were in the UK and proved to be a bit, "spicy."

August saw a change in venues, as smaller contingents of the Troop were detached for events like Heritage Park – Days of Yore, CANPRAXIS, Summer Skirmish, and even dismounted tasks such as the Cavalry FC games at Spruce Meadows. The remainder of their 'spare time' has been spent in constant prep for the next bound. At the end of August, the mounted troop participated in Alberta Days in both Edmonton and Calgary, the Labour Day ride and Masters Tournament at Spruce Meadows, and finally finished off the busy 2025 Ride season with the 100th Anniversary Parade in Wainwright, AB.

As one of the busiest seasons on record, the Mounted Troop was, and always is, up to the task. Soldiers, both ground crew and riders, give their all to ensure the history and public image of the Regiment and Canadian Armed Forces are always upheld.





CPKC / Regtl Society Scholarship Program

The Canada Pacific and Kansas City / Regtl Society Scholarship Program was developed to provide educational assistance to family members of Strathconas (both serving and retired) as well as Strathconas taking part in training for railway technical trades. These scholarships offers annual subsidies totaling \$15,000 toward costs incurred through enrolment in bona-fide educational programs at the post-secondary level.

Scholarship A: Service/Community Involvement. A \$5,000 scholarship for post-secondary education to the child or spouse of a Strathcona, on active duty or retired from the CAF who has supported their community. This scholarship will be awarded based on the impact of their involvement to the community. The 2025 winner, **Kaitlyn Friesen**, was presented the award by **LCol Nitu** on August 29th in Edmonton.

Scholarship B: Academic. A \$5,000 scholarship for post-secondary education to the child or spouse of a Strathcona, on active duty or retired from the CAF, who has demonstrated academic excellence. This scholarship will be very heavily weighted on grades and financial need. The 2025 winner, **Victoria Miller** was presented the award by **LCol Johns** in Gagetown in August.

Scholarship C: Career Focused. A \$5,000 scholarship for post-secondary education to the child or spouse of a Strathcona, on active duty or retired from the CAF, who has a desire to work in the railway. For this scholarship to be awarded, the recipient must be enrolled in a directedly transferable post-secondary program and will be eligible for an internship within CPKC Operations. On August 16th, **Ryleigh Baldwin** was presented the award by **LCol Nitu** in Edmonton.

On behalf of the wider Strathcona family, our warmest congratulations to **Kaitlyn**, **Victoria** and **Ryleigh**. We wish you continued success in your education.





Historical Vehicle Troop

Lieutenant Nicholas O'Brien

The members of Historical Vehicle Troop (HVT) take on a true labour of love week after week and month after month. The troop, like everyone, has been subject to the ebb and flow of the Regimental Op tempo. Many of our experienced members sadly ran off to do their “real jobs” with Anvil Sqn. But time waits for no one. HVT is still expected to show off our history for the 125th year of our great Regiment. This brings us to the borderline magic work of **Sergeant Richard “The Boss” Partridge** and the gang in the short weeks before the 125th / Change of Command parade.

Armoured vehicles can be temperamental beasts at the best of times. HVT knows first-hand that this is not a stage that they grow out of. With just over a week to the parade we found that our three Ferrets; **Dagger**, **Dictator**, and **Dieppe**, had decided to be extremely temperamental. Electrical and mechanical issues passed through them like a virus. What was initially assessed to be two days of work became a full week sprint. **Corporal Brousseau**, **Corporal Eaton**, **Trooper Fortin**, and **Trooper Friesen** all took to work like a duck to water. They came in early, stayed late, and made use of every available moment down to the last minute. It may have been a rush job timeline, but they far exceeded rush job standards. They delivered on July 24th, transporting the guidon party in well-polished and smoothly running scout cars.

No one story will perfectly explain HVT. This is one of many moments where troops have volunteered their valuable time and expertise to keep the Regiments’ history rolling. Congratulations to all who have volunteered for another year of excellent work.



Cpl Brousseau and Tpr Fortin taking a moment to feed themselves before they feed the machine



Tpr Bunnett gaining intimate knowledge of Catherine



Regimental Association – National Branch

Tony Batty

This is my first update on the Association since becoming President in the summer.

Enough about that, big things happened this year. The National Association Headquarters moved to Edmonton. I would be remiss if I did not thank **Brad Norman** and his committee members for all their efforts during the past few years.

The next big event was the Reunion, held 23 – 26 July. It seemed to be a 24-hour period of intense speed chatting. As soon as you managed to say hi and how's it going to one, another member or former member of the Regiment was wanting to chat.

The reunion was organised in no small part by a select committee, headed by **Tom Falls** and 5 members of the Edmonton Chapter. The OPI of the event, **Brian Talty**, ensured we were on track and meeting expectations, and off we went.



In hindsight, a few more volunteers would probably have been a good idea. Although the Meet and Greet was overbooked by a few, we were saved from being shut down as we managed, for the most part, to behave. During the event, Lord Strathcona and the COTR addressed the attendees.

The parade was executed flawlessly by the Regiment, I have never seen so many retirees attend a parade before.

The dinner and dance was a great time, only marred by the torrential downpour. The food and company were excellent. More speed chatting.

The Association remains our link to our past service and

to present-day serving members, if you are able, get out to a meeting – wing night or whatever else may be on the go. It's a good time to catch up and remember just how good we were.

In the near future, you will hear from your respective Chapter Heads on changes within the Association, nothing drastic. I do, however ask for your support. If we do not support the Association, all the memories will unfortunately fade into the past and be lost.



Extra Regimentally Employed



LCol Cooper stands with a 5th Grade student reading of Inf Flanders Fields during the No Stone Left Alone Ceremony



Strathcona's in the NCR out for a Black Hat dinner; from left to right: Capt Ali Mansour, Col David Macintyre, Col Mark Lubiniecki, MGen Joshua Major, LCol Malcolm McMurachy, Maj Calum Smith, LCol David Cronk.



Maj Islam Elkorazati presenting the Canadian Army Command and Staff College Commandant's Coin to the Indonesian Peace Support Training Centre Director on behalf of the Commandant. Maj Elkorazati was the Military Training Team lead.



Maj Matt Shumka receives his King's Coronation Medal from Col Sean French.



Capt Bulmer trying to figure out how he knocked down all the cones without falling off.



A wild Maj Bugg appears. CMTC attacks with WORK. It's super effective. Maj Bugg became confused.



Strathconas in Gagetown

Captain Reva Gill

Despite being embedded deep inside the Maroon Machine (5 Div), the Strathconas haven't forgotten who they are or how things *should* run. With **Lieutenant-Colonel Matt "PRB that Guy!" Johns** taking command of the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps School (RCACS) this year and **Chief Warrant Officer Conway Eady** steering the Tactics School as RSM, the message is obvious to anyone paying attention: the West is running the East, and Gagetown is better for it.

A Squadron, led by **Major Andrew "Mayor of Petersville" Tardiff** with **Captains Nicolas "Top Candidate" Dragatakis** and **Leah "5am is not too early for crossfit" Ahenakew**, continues shaping the Corps' newest Troop Leaders. Their training philosophy remains unchanged: let them get lost and figure it out. Whether this builds better officers or just more confident, lost ones is anyone's guess. Unsurprisingly, **Warrant Officer Jeff Hayes** has rolled his eyes throughout most of the ATL courses. Meanwhile, **Sergeant Richard Paquette** remains extremely pleased with his personal hot tub overlooking the Saint John River, despite the horrific working conditions.

In B Squadron, **Captains Phil "CSOR is too easy" German** and **Shawn "you should come ruck" Suresh** keeps the NCM/NCO career-course machine running at full tempo. **Warrant Officer Henry Chen**, as MTT, has treated every tasking as an excellent excuse to get back to Edmonton, while Capt Suresh continues to mourn Alberta's 5% tax rate. Their NCMs, many of whom are posted straight from DP1, may never see the Regiment again, but their work ethic is leaving a lasting impression on the School.



*From Tpr to A/CO, dreams can come true in the Corps. Captains Cory Bulmer and Martin Levis who both deployed on Op Apollo in 2002 as the crew of 41A, where this last January bestowed the honour of Acting Commanding Officers during CTC unit SPS. Martin, was identified as the acting Commandant of the Royal Canadian Armour School (RCACS), and Cory as the Commanding Officer of The Canadian Army Trials and Evaluations Unit." Both have been overheard in the mess plotting how they would change the world if given the chance, channelling their inner "Major Frank Burns (US Army M*A*S*H 4077), as an example of Acting CO mentorship"... Foot note, someone higher realised this was dangerous and sent a snow storm to bring to an end the RCACS SPS in Halifax, leaving Capt Levis powerless and sulking.*



MCpls participate in a Training Mess Dinner hosted by RCACS NCOs.



Maj Phil Buckingham and Maj Justin Salter at the Canadian Army run.

D Squadron, commanded by **Major Phil “OCD” Buckingham** with **Captains Martin “Skip” Levis**, **Reva “just use the QR code” Gill** and **XX “English-ish” Issa Moussa**, remains locked in back-to-back-to-overlapping Trooper courses. The Squadron also bid farewell to **Captain Kevin “Go Home” Kwok**, whose release from the Regular Force marks a loss for the Regiment—but undeniably a gain for 8 CH. **Master Corporal Christopher Jones** continues to endure reminders from his non-Strathcona counterparts that tanks “aren’t real,” which he handles with the calm

professionalism of someone who has popped enough tracks to know what *is real*. Meanwhile, **Corporal Lee “printer farm” Houston**, when asked what he wanted included in the Strathconian, repeated his daily refrain verbatim—a view widely shared among Strathconas posted here: *“Bring me home.”*

Beyond RCACS, Strathconas continue shaping capability development at CATEU, where **Captain Cory “I have joined the dark side” Bulmer** and **Corporal Kipot** keep trials—and e-bikes—running. Officially, this year’s E-Bike trial during Roto 25-01 was labelled “mixed,” but fighting order, rider weight, and Baltic sand may tell you otherwise. You win some, you learn some, and at CATEU, the learning never stops.

Across the swamps of Gagetown, Strathconas continue to train, lead, and keep the Corps functional. The Maroon Machine might run Gagetown, but it’s Strathcona horsepower that keeps it moving.



The signing of the Change of Command documents, officially transferring leadership of the RCACS to LCol Matthew Johns.



Strathconas in the NCR

Lieutenant-Colonel Mike Timms and Captain Ali Mansour

Life in the National Capital Region (NCR) is... different. Daily priorities are set by breaking news, the traffic on highway 417, the day of the week, and most importantly, the parking available at Carling Campus. Often referred to as the center, like the enormous gravitational pull of a singularity in a black hole, everything and everyone gets stretched, squeezed, and eventually spaghettified by the bureaucracy.

The NCR's latest victim is **Lieutenant-Colonel Malcolm “send me back to Korea” McMurachy** who managed to stay away from the center for over a decade while serving OUTCAN in the United States and South Korea. He is currently working at the Strategic Joint Staff, the perfect place to shop for his next OUTCAN. **Lieutenant-Colonel Dave “what is it that you do around here” Cronk** has also been forced through the event horizon to work at Chief Force Development (CFD). After a few months as their official meeting coordinator and slide clicker, he asked what CFD does and promptly found himself tasked with coming up with what CFD should do.

Some Strathconas have found themselves orbiting the center for a long time. **Lieutenant-Colonel Allan “007” Dwyer** and **Lieutenant-Colonel Mike “gone fishing” Timms** both migrated from Army Headquarters to the Vice Chief of Defence Staff Chief of Programme as part of the Army's brilliant plan to insert its Modernization spies deep into the bureaucracy. Mike, however, has remained far more focused on convincing fellow Strathconas to go fishing with him—or to move to Arnprior—anything to fill the gaping void that is his social life.

Defying the laws of physics, one Strathcona Officer did manage to escape the NCR, albeit temporarily. **Lieutenant-Colonel James “where’s my jeep” Anderson** has been posted OUTCAN with the Operation ARMANA Headquarters in the middle east. James prepared himself for the dangerous and unpredictable life in the middle east by buying a house in the Barrhaven neighbourhood, experiencing multiple break ins and having his fancy jeep stolen multiple times.

Once swallowed by the NCR, life isn't *entirely* as bleak and lightless as a black hole. Strathconas still find ways to gather—though this year, “weekly” Strathconas Coffee quietly downgraded to “monthly” after it became apparent that most weeks only **Captain Dave “where is everyone?” Wright** showed up, awkwardly sitting alone hoping for friends to arrive. Still, despite the competing gravitational pull of priorities in the NCR, Strathconas still manage to come together on occasion (proof exists in the photo, so no one can dispute it).

In the end, surviving the NCR isn't about beating the bureaucracy—it's about outlasting it. As long as Strathconas keep showing up, swapping stories, dodging staff work, and sharing the occasional coffee (even if it's just Dave), there's proof that not even the NCR's black-hole-level pull can erase Regimental spirit.



From left to right: *Capt Ali Mansour, MCpl Derek Foster, Maj Sheldon Holmes, LCol Malcolm McMurachy, MGen Joshua Major, Col Mark Lubiniecki, LCol Michael Timms, LCol Allan Dwyer, LCol David Cronk, Capt David Wright.*



Strathconas in CFB Kingston

Major Stephanie Clubine



Maj Dave Williams at the Green Line in Nicosia, Cyprus.

CFB Kingston boasts many Strathconas across practically every major organization and employed in numerous LIs. There are more than a dozen of us working hard to support Army training, operations, and the development of our newest soldiers, sailors, and aviators in the Kingston area.

Sergeant Aly Alwani is a key part of the Indigenous Leadership Opportunity Year (ILOY) leadership team at the Royal Military College. As one of the ILOY staff, he is one of the first leaders the candidates ever meet and learn from. In June, the group visited the Senate of Canada and met with **Senators Yvonne Boyer and Rebecca Patterson**.

After another year with 1st Canadian Division Headquarters accumulating more Cedar Miles with Middle East Airlines than he will ever be able to use, **Major Dave Williams** was posted to 6th Canadian Combat Support Brigade (6 CCSB) as the G5. **Warrant Officer Aaron Hodgin** provides key support in the 6 CCSB G3 cell as their Operations Warrant Officer.

Major Justin Salter has been in the middle of some pretty fascinating projects at the Canadian Army Land Warfare Centre (CALWC). Some of the concepts and designs that CALWC has released in the past year include Loitering Munitions, Ground-Based Air Defence, and the new Army Warfighting Concept.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cam Meikle spent the last year employed at CALWC. All who knew him and had worked with him were deeply saddened when he passed away from cancer in October. His passion for our profession and our responsibilities as leaders will continue to influence all who were blessed to know him and learn from him.

Major Stephanie Clubine has been working within the Army Training Authority. Confronted by acronyms she never knew existed that have been omitted from the Defence Terminology Bank, she's working alongside an excellent team to ensure the Canadian Army is able to train on all the exciting new things that will be delivered in the next year. **Major Moses "good vibes only" Pano** is down the hall as the Information Management Officer, but sadly he also has no control over the Defence Terminology Bank. We've heard there's a committee somewhere for that...

At the Canadian Army Simulation Centre, Strathconas were busy moving digital versions of the Regiment in support of training. **Major Stuart "Dolla-Dolla-Bill" King** was busy managing the work done by many retired Strathconas while **Major Steve "Bro-net" Couture** managed the simulation centre closest to the mothership to complete essential simulation training.

All this training needs to be supported by the right people in the right places. **Master Corporal Tishyna Forestell** ensures that courses at the Peace Support Training Centre are able to run smoothly. **Major Islam Elkorazati** is a Directing



Maj Islam Elkorazati receiving the King's Coronation Medal.



Staff for the Army Operations Course, but is focused on international training and has taught on the United Nations Staff Officers Course in Indonesia. In June, he received the King's Coronation Medal for volunteer work. **Major Mike Forestell** and **Major Clayton Fifield** are also key leaders in the work to professionally educate young Army Captains at the Canadian Army Command and Staff College, moulding minds as part of the Army's deep fight for developing Division-level planners.

Captain Jon Vickars is currently deployed on Operation REASSURANCE 25-02 as the Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) Plans Officer within the Multinational Artillery Battalion Group. They've been at the forefront of the Canadian Army's ISR development as it hits the field force and will remain in this role through roto 26-01 as well. **Captain Alex "Secret Squirrel" Young** also continues to represent the Regiment as part of the Canadian Forces Intelligence Group. We can't share what he's working on next, but we promise it's need-to-know only.



*The Indigenous Leadership Opportunity Year students visit the Canadian Senate in June 2025.
The two senators are Senator Yvonne Boyer (left) and Rebecca Patterson (right).*

Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Company for Op REASSURANCE 25-02.





Strathconas in Wainwright

Captain Yuan Hu



Capt Gervais: "This will work" WO Davidson "This will not work Sir"

From CFB Wainwright, the CAF's premier LARPing Centre of Excellence

2025 in Wainwright wasn't just busy, it was relentless. From the icy grip of Resolute Bay to the Latvian mud pits, the Wainwright team proved that manoeuvre warfare isn't just theory, it's a lifestyle.

The year opened with CAF Arctic Training in Resolute Bay, where the team braved unfavourable conditions which delayed the return flight back to Edmonton by many days. Back in Wainwright, CMTC was already spinning up for a packed calendar year. By August, **Captain Yuan "The Fixer" Hu** arrived as G3 Ops. After buying a rice cooker for the CMTC breakroom, he was

ready to take charge of day-to-day operations and went about synchronizing exercise timelines and smoothing out last-minute friction points with CMTC's arch nemesis, CADTC HQ. Meanwhile, **Warrant Officer Gerri "Spreadsheets" Davidson** stepped into her new role as Ops Grp Ops WO mid-year, immediately earning a reputation for turning black and white spreadsheets into colour-coded perfection.

Spring launched Ex OAK RESOLVE in Latvia, where **Captain Ryley "Round 2" Gervais**, Ops Grp Ops O, became the Baltic MVP. He liked it so much that he went on the same exercise twice in the same year, just to make sure it sucked provided a valuable learning experience as much as it did the first time.

Meanwhile, **Major Nate "Alaskan Airlines" Bugg** spent more time north of 60 than in Alberta. Between domestic planning and wildfire contingencies, Maj Bugg attended multiple conferences all around Alaska for the Joint Pacific Multinational Readiness Center (JPMRC) mega-exercise set for February 2026. He never stopped to ask why the "Joint Pacific" exercise was in Alaska though, until he found out that there is another JPMRC in Hawaii he could've gone to.

Overseeing the CMTC OCTs was **Major Karl "Puzzle Master" Tams**, Deputy Chief Ops Grp, who made deployment orchestration look effortless, though it is generally believed that most of his stress came from dealing with Base RPOU. Meanwhile in CMTC HQ, **Lieutenant-Colonel Eric "The Don" Angell**, Deputy Commander, kept the ship steady in his usual calm as cucumber manner.

Over in the great outdoors, Lieutenant Colonel Angell and Major Bugg embarked on a legendary hunting trip through the Alberta wilderness. The duo returned with stories of "tracking game through the woods," but according to witnesses



Cpl Logan "The Tasker" Thompson and LCol Eric "The Don" Angell



they started each day with a ritual of reciting lines from Predator, “If it bleeds, we can kill it.” No alien trophies were recovered however, but they both came back unscathed therefore it was clear that whatever dangerous prey that was stalking them was closed with and destroyed.

Over at 3 CDTC, Admin Coy received **Master Warrant Officer Jean-François “The Firefighter” Charest** as CSM mid-summer where he immediately found himself knee-deep in troop disciplinary chaos. Master Warrant Officer Charest spent his first weeks putting out metaphorical fires faster than an AFESS system. Luckily, he wasn’t alone, **Captain Ryan “Bodycast” Tompsett**, the new Admin Coy 2IC, had arrived months earlier, though it was difficult to tell whether Ryan aided in the restoration of order or he was a part of the cause.

Finally, **Corporal Logan “Task Terminator” Thompson** and **Master Corporal Steph**

“I don’t know what I did this year” Shipston both played key roles in keeping the CMTC HQ dumpster from catching fire. Whether prepping for Ex UNIFIED RESOLVE in Valcartier or wrangling last-minute taskings, they proved that no spreadsheet is too monstrous and no Tshirt size is too common to not have in stock.

2025 wasn’t just another year in Wainwright, it was a showcase of precision planning, seamless adaptability and the kind of teamwork that turns chaos into capability. The Arctic winds and Baltic mud may fade, but the CFB Wainwright’s impact has proven that it’s built to last, at least for another year until Ex MAPLE SWORD.



So this is like, a picture book?



Wainwright Strats with the 2501 MN BG Flag



Strathconas in 1 CMBG HQ

Captain Carsten MacLean

Despite a stated intent to “de-Strathconify” the Brigade Headquarters at APS 2025, you will be happy to know that our influence is, if anything, growing.

The Brigade Headquarters’ year started with a focus on the planning and execution of Operation CADENCE, CAF support to the G7 summit in Kananaskis, Alberta. Although the Regiment was not directly implicated in this op, it was well represented on the ground through the efforts of **Majors Matt Shumka** and **Mike Forestell**, both of whom formed the core of the planning team prior to execution and served in various liaison rolls during the conduct. **Lieutenants Adriano Rollo** and **Jeremie Drouin** supported the operation as Duty Officers in the Ops Centre, creating an impressive map model and ensuring COP was maintained.

Both while deployed to Kananaskis and in garrison, the Brigade’s day-to-day functions were managed by the steady hand of **Lieutenant-Colonel Mike Selberg**. In fact, LCol Selberg did such a good job as the Brigade G3, he was rewarded with a period as the Acting Brigade Chief of Staff before moving across the street to become the Division G3 at APS.

The lone Regimental continuity in the Headquarters across APS was in **Major Darren Carter-Wright**, as the Brigade G1. After two years managing PARs, grievances, and the other joys of personnel administration, he tells me APS 26 and a posting home to the Regiment can’t come soon enough.

APS 25 saw **Major Ryan Lee** posted in as the Brigade G3, which promptly saw him deploy to the equally exciting locales of Manila and Yellowknife. Strathcona influence in the remainder of the Headquarters was sustained by the arrival of **Captains Adrian Droogers** as the G1 Ops and **Carsten MacLean** as the G5 Plans. Later in the fall, the G5 cell was further bolstered by the arrival of **Major Steve Couture** following a short time at the Sim Centre Det Edmonton.

As 2026 moves us toward Army modernization, rest assured the Brigade is in good hands, and your team of Strathconas at the Headquarters are working hard to both optimize the Brigade’s road ahead and find themselves postings back to the Harvey Building.



The 1 CMBG HQ team while deployed on Op CADENCE.



Strathconas in 3rd Canadian Division Headquarters

Major Andre Berube



(From l to r) Maj Andre Berube, Sgt John Nancarrow, Capt Kevin King, CWO Rob Clarke, LCol Mike Selberg, Capt Sean Danyi

The Strathconas at 3rd Canadian Division Headquarters spent 2025 working in a way that would surprise absolutely no one from the Regiment: carrying more than their share of the load, solving problems before most people even noticed them, and doing it all without fanfare. Whether the task was summit security, domestic response, modernization, or the constant churn of staff work, a Strathcona was involved in the planning, the execution, or the post-operation analysis, and often all three.

The year began with pressure on the operations staff as planning intensified for a major national security task in support of Operation CADENCE. As G35, **Major Matt Hoffart** spent the first half of the year embedded in planning boards, coordination meetings, and

scenario rehearsals. Working closely with the G3 team, he pulled together the Land Task Force requirements, synchronized brigade inputs, and translated broad, national-level guidance into executable direction. By the time the event concluded, the value of an experienced Strathcona major steering the effort was unmistakable.

Domestic response followed swiftly. When wildfires surged across Western Canada and Operation LENTUS was activated, **Major Hoffart** again led much of the early planning and synchronization within the G3 shop, building clarity from a flood of warnings and fragmented reports. Once the crisis abated, **Major Andre Berube** assumed the G35 portfolio and took on the essential but less glamorous work of post-operation reporting, assessment, and lessons learned. This effort ensured the Division captured what had gone well, what required improvement, and where future response plans needed refinement.

Through it all, the Joint Operations Centre remained the nerve centre of the Division's daily activity. **Sergeant Brydon Townsend** and **Sergeant John Nancarrow** maintained their steady presence as watchkeepers for Joint Task Force (West), managing a constant flow of incident reports, domestic taskings, and overseas updates. Their work rarely appeared in headlines, but their reliability ensured that senior leaders always had accurate information and that the Division never drifted out of situational awareness.

Strathconas were equally engaged outside the operations portfolio. In the G1 Cell, **Captain Sean Danyi** returned from second-language training and spent the latter half of the year navigating the intricacies of divisional standing orders and personnel management. In the public engagement sphere, **Captain Kevin King** continued to lead community relations efforts, ensuring the Division's presence at key events was professional, coherent, and aligned with broader Army messaging.

A significant change arrived late in the year when **Lieutenant-Colonel Mike Selberg** joined the headquarters as the new G3, following a demanding year as 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group's G3. Transitioning seamlessly into familiar rhythms, he brought with him a strong focus on clarity in orders, practical planning, and honest assessments of what could actually be achieved with available resources.

Providing senior leadership to the Division throughout the year was **Chief Warrant Officer Rob Clarke**, the Division Sergeant Major. His emphasis on standards, professionalism, and soldier welfare shaped the tone of the headquarters and ensured that even during periods of heavy operational demand, the Division remained grounded, connected, and focused on its people.

Looking back on 2025, the Strathconas at 3rd Canadian Division Headquarters were seldom in the foreground, yet consistently at the centre of the Division's most important work. From domestic operations and national events to the continuous task of turning guidance into executable plans, they represented the Regiment with professionalism, competence, and the quiet dependability that has long defined Strathconas everywhere.

Extra Regimentally Employed

LGen S.R. Kelsey	VCDS	Maj I. M. Elkorazati	CACSC
LGen D.A. Macaulay	United Nations Command	Maj C.S. Fifield	CACSC
MGen J.J. Major	MILPERSCOM HQ	Maj M.J. Forestell	CACSC
MGen P.J. Peyton	NATO DIANA	Maj M. Hoffart	41 CBG
BGen D.R. Parsons	VCDSO	Maj S.W. Holmes	SJS
Col V.G. Kirstein	Joint Force Command Brunssum	Maj B.S. Johnson	JTFN HQ
Col M. Lubiniecki	VCDS C Prg	Maj H. Jung	DLR
Col E.G. MacEachern	1 CAD	Maj M.A. Kaye	3 CDTC
Col A.D. MacIntyre	VCDS - Chief of Program	Maj S.A. King	CADTC
Col C.J. Quinlan	CDLS(L)	Maj M. Labrecque	CFRC NEON, CFRG
LCol J.A. Anderson	Op AMARNA-Task Force	Maj R.R. Lee	1 CMBG HQ & Sigs
	Middle East	Maj O.T. Lewis	CFRG HQ
LCol E.D. Angell	CMTC	Maj R.I. Lund	CFSU Europe
LCol J.S. Boates	C Army OUTCAN	Maj M.G. Pano	CADTC
LCol J.W. Brown	CAAWC	Maj C.E.J. Prince	3 Cdn Div
LCol R.P. Chiasson	VCDS OUTCAN	Maj A.A. Raju	TFL HQ
LCol J.L. Cochrane	32 CBG	Maj J.N. Rickard	CFC Toronto
LCol R.A. Cooper	3 CDSG	Maj J. Salter	CALWC
LCol D.R. Cronk	CFD	Maj M.R. Shumka	CFC Toronto
LCol T.W.F. Day	CFRG HQ	Maj C.T. Smith	DLR
LCol A.C. Dwyer	CA	Maj K.D. Tams	CMTC
LCol D.M. Gray	3 CDSB	Maj L.B. Tapp	CFC
LCol D.A. Gray	4 Cdn Div	Maj A.D. Tardiff	RCACS
LCol M.D.C. Johns	RCACS	Maj V. Vahal	C Army/DLR
LCol J.M.J. Kim	UNC Korea	Maj D.P. Williams	6 CCSB
LCol M.A. McMurachy	SJS	Capt J.F. Agius	RCACS
LCol J.P. Nguyen	CFB Shilo	Capt L.H.C. Ahenakew	RCACS
LCol C.O. Nolan	5 Cdn Div	Capt L.S.R. Bear	3 CDSG Sig Sqn
LCol M.E. Selberg	3rd Cdn Div HQ	Capt C.W. Bennie	CAF TC Cgy
LCol M.D. Timms	CA	Capt C.P. Bond	Hal Rif
Maj A.P. Berube	3 Cdn Div	Capt C.J. Bulmer	CATEU
Maj P.A. Buckingham	RCACS	Capt T.R. Carroll	DLR
Maj N.B. Bugg	CMTC	Capt S.T. Casey	JTF-X
Maj D.W. Carter-Wright	1 CMBG	Capt S.R. Churchill	CADTC
Maj S.K. Clubine	CADTC	Capt C.D. Clare	CFB Borden
Maj T.L. Collings	SHAPE	Capt S.P. Danyi	3 Cdn Div HQ
Maj S.G. Couture	1 CMBG HQ & Sigs	Capt W.D. Dorjee	FGH
Maj W.S. Deatcher	JCBRN Def COE	Capt N.S. Dragatakis	RCACS
Maj M.R.N. Douglas	CFB Edm	Capt A.E.R. Droogers	1 CMBG
		Capt P.A. German	RCACS
		Capt R.M. Gervais	CMTC
		Capt R. Gill	RCACS
		Capt R.S. Haddow	1 RCHA
		Capt Z. Hmaidan	KOCR
		Capt Y. Hu	CMTC
		Capt M. Issa Moussa	RCACS
		Capt K.E. King	3 Cdn Div
		Capt L.J. Kirkham	CMTC
		Capt K.E. Kwok	RCACS
		Capt T.U. Lauterbacher	BCD
		Capt J.F. Lee	SALH
		Capt K. Lee	CJOC
		Capt R.M. Levis	RCACS
		Capt K.Y.H. Loun	CFRC Fredericton
		Capt C.J. MacLean	1 CMBG



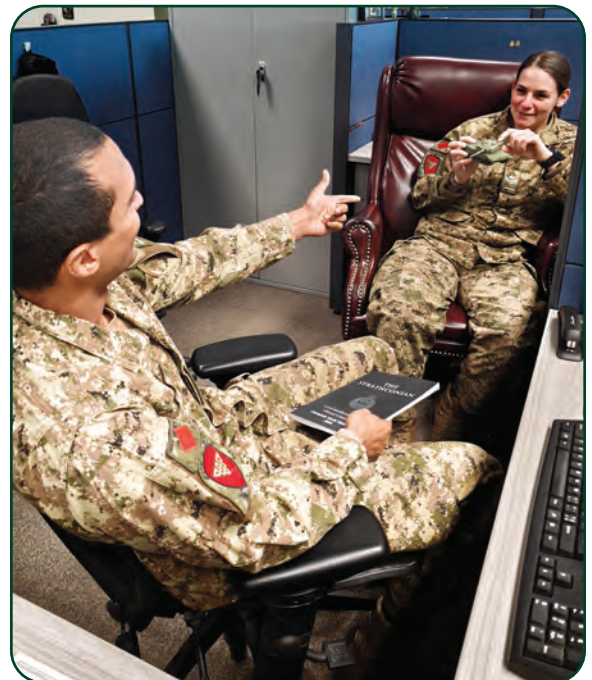
Maj Mike Forestell silently judges his boss while *Maj Matt Shumka* completes his Combat FORCE.



Capt M.K. Mahdi	3 CDSB Edm	WO K. Jesse	3 CDTC
Capt A.S. Mansour	SJS	WO C.A. Kentfield	CFB Comox
Capt K.R. McAtasney	NORAD	WO B.R. Loft	RCACS
Capt C.W. McDougall	3 Cdn Div TC	WO J.C. Loykowski	LER C Coy
Capt S.J.P. McGlone	CANSOFCOM	WO A.D. McKenzie	SALH
Capt C.D. McLean	36 CBG	WO D.J. McMurtry	3 Cdn Div TC
Capt M.A. McTavish	5 CDTC	WO H.L. Mijares	1 CMBG
Capt S.J. Meldrum	3 CDSB Edm	WO N.A. Patterson	3 CDSB Edm
Capt J.L.E.E. Miller	Sask D	WO D.P. Popoff	KOCR
Capt N.C. Miller	Tactics School	WO A.B. Sherlock-Hubbard	41 CBG HQ
Capt L.M. Misner	DLR	WO S.T. Taborowski	RCACS
Capt P. Munger	1 MP Regt	WO S.G. Thomas	RCACS
Capt J. Olson	CFLRS	WO L.J. Troop	FGH
Capt A.K.L. Schofield	CProg	Sgt A.A. Alwani	RMC
Capt M. Snetzko	3 CDSB Edm	Sgt T. Baldwin	3 CDSB
Capt S. Suresh	RCACS	Sgt L.T. Banman	CANSOFCOM HQ
Capt R.D. Tompsett	3 Cdn Div TC	Sgt B.K. Campbell	RCAF Academy
Capt T.A. Underwood	3 CDSG HQ	Sgt N.B. Deringer	RCACS
Capt E. Uppal	BCR	Sgt J.E. Desjardins	CAF TC Gagetown
Capt M.D. Uusoue	BCD	Sgt L.M. Doan	3 CDTC
Capt L.W. van Heerden	3 CDSB Edm	Sgt A.J. Elms	3 Cdn Div TC
Capt J.D.N. Vickars	Int Regt Det Kingston	Sgt T.R. Farquharson	JTFW
Capt J.D.P. Vos	BCR	Sgt R.L. Ferguson	CRFC Cgy-Det Edm
Capt P.J. Webster	CFRC	Sgt S.D. Fettes	12 RBC
Capt E.J. Wiome	CMTC	Sgt T.C. Gibbons	4 CDTC Meaford
Capt D.M. Wright	DVCDS	Sgt A.W. Goodwin	CAF TC Edm
Capt A.J. Young	JTF- X	Sgt M.S. Grewal	3 Cdn Div TC
Capt D. Zhang	CMTC	Sgt G.J.A. Houde	CFLRS
CWO R.J. Clarke	3rd Div HQ	Sgt J.A. Johnson	1 CRPG
CWO C.B. Eady	Tactics School	Sgt D.W. Lahay	3 Cdn Div TC
CWO R.A. Englehart	CMTC	Sgt J.J. Landry	CFLRS
MWO J.J.Y.L. Charette	3 Cdn Div TC	Sgt R.J.P.J. Larcher Pelland	3 CDSB Wx
MWO L.B. Christopoulos	CMTC	Sgt A.L. Maisonneuve	SJS
MWO J.C. Clarke	MND(N) Adazi	Sgt Z.A. Marshall	3 Cdn Div TC
MWO J.B. Hamilton	CMTC	Sgt J.B. Maw	CFLRS
MWO K.E. Hodgson	OLC Edm	Sgt J.P. Munro	RCACS
MWO B.E. Holmes	TC Edm	Sgt J.M. Nancarrow	3 Cdn Div
MWO N.C. Johnston	RCACS	Sgt M. Ouellet	CFLRS
MWO R.W.W. Kearns	3 CDSB Edm	Sgt R.C. Paquette	RCACS
MWO G.C. Moon	5 CDTC	Sgt A.W. Pawliuk	RCACS
MWO E.R.G. Morley	MPGTG Borden	Sgt M.D. Pecarskie	TC Edm
MWO D.S. Murdoch	3 CDSB	Sgt N.A. Reid	4 Cdn Div TC
MWO J.D. Paterson	RCACS	Sgt J.O. Schijns	CAF TC
WO R.R. Adby	SALH	Sgt C.J.D. Shute	RCACS
WO A.E. Balfour	CJOC Outcan Europe Latvia	Sgt T.G.C. Silcox	CMTC
WO F.L. Brown	MPGG HQ	Sgt Q.J. Stender	4 Cdn Div TC
WO H.C. Chen	RCACS	Sgt D.E. Stephenson	1 Svc Bn
WO S.P. Collins	CTC HQ	Sgt B. St-Onge	RCACS
WO M.R. Croxall	RCACS	Sgt K.M.J. Stratford	4 CDSB
WO G. Davidson	CMTC	Sgt D.E. Symington	1 CRPG
WO T.C. Dickey	BCD	Sgt C.J.W. Talmage	CTC HQ
WO J.A. Doherty	CMTC	Sgt B.W. Townsend	JTFW-JOC
WO J.D. Hayes	RCACS	Sgt R.K. Wagner	5 CDTC
WO H.A. Hayes	408 THS	Sgt K.N.N. Watson	41 CBG HQ
WO A.D. Hodgkin	6 CCSB HQ	Sgt J.V. Williams	CFRC Halifax
WO A.L. Icala	RCACS	MCpl P.B. Breaux	RCACS



MCpl T.B.D. Buell	CFLRS	Cpl A.P. Hill	RCACS
MCpl S.M. Coughlan	RCACS	Cpl C.B. Hornby	RCACS
MCpl J.W. Crockett	RCACS	Cpl L.A. Houston	RCACS
MCpl R.E. Demeulenaere III	CMTC	Cpl J.P.R. Ingimundson	CMTC
MCpl B.J. Dumouchelle	RCACS	Cpl M.R. Jesse	3 CDSB
MCpl W.J. Evers	Hal Rif	Cpl R.I.J. King	RPO Det Wx
MCpl S. Fong	RCACS	Cpl R.T.A. King	CFB Suffield
MCpl T.F. Forestell	PSTC	Cpl C.M. Kipot	RCACS
MCpl C.B. Foster	CSOR	Cpl L.M. Kroecker	RCACS
MCpl E.J. Fulljames	CFPSU	Cpl A.G.T. Lagarde	408 THS
MCpl B.J.P. Hogan	BCD	Cpl L.M. Lastowski	CMTC
MCpl G.E. Johnson	CFLRS	Cpl J.P. MacFadyen	RCACS
MCpl C.A.S. Jones	RCACS	Cpl J.D. Martin	RCACS
MCpl D.D.E. Kentfield	RCACS	Cpl M.C. Maxwell	3 CDSB
MCpl M.V. Lopez	KOCR	Cpl A.A. Moreau	RCACS
MCpl C.B. Maisonneuve	CANSOFCOM HQ	Cpl R.W. Murray	RCACS
MCpl J.N. Matchett	RCACS	Cpl D.A. Olaes	NPTG HQ
MCpl S.A. Mireault	RCACS	Cpl M.J.A. Oliverio	RCACS
MCpl W.J. Mitchell	5 CDTC	Cpl K.A.P. Parker	CMTC
MCpl J.R.R. Munro	RCACS	Cpl N.E. Pearson	CFC
MCpl A.P.J. Normandeau	RCACS	Cpl L.M. Renooy	RCACS
MCpl R.W. Pietila	RCACS	Cpl C.B. Rundle	RCACS
MCpl R.S.R. Rawson	Sask D	Cpl S.J.D. Rutledge	TC Edm
MCpl J.A. Rourke	CANSOFCOM HQ	Cpl C.A. Smith	3 CDSB Edm Det Wx
MCpl J.J. Schemenauer	3 CDTC	Cpl C.J. Stamp	CFB Suffield
MCpl S.M-L Shipston	CMTC	Cpl C. Sterritt	RCACS
MCpl P.J. Smith	RCACS	Cpl L.C. Thompson	CMTC
MCpl M.L. Tanner	CFLRS	Cpl C. Tracy	RCACS
MCpl E.J. Thibodeau	RCACS	Cpl A.V. Turcotte	RCACS
MCpl C.J. Vanthournout	BCR	Cpl J.E.A Valenzuela	CFB Suffield
MCpl T.R. Villiers	CFRG	Cpl J.A. Works	RCACS
MCpl A.W. Waldner	RCACS		
MCpl A.C.P. Warren	RCACS		
MCpl M.L.P. Westelaken	RCACS		
Cpl C.D. Asprey	RCACS		
Cpl B.C. Baker	RCACS		
Cpl W.B. Balaneski	RCACS		
Cpl W.M. Barkley	3 CDSB Ops Wx		
Cpl C. Bériau Landry	RCACS		
Cpl D.A. Beukes	RCACS		
Cpl D.G.E. Brown	RCACS		
Cpl F.A. Castillo	3 CDSB Tech Svs Wx		
Cpl S.P. Charles	RCACS		
Cpl F. Corlay-Savard	CFLRS		
Cpl C.D. Ducharme	CFSPDB		
Cpl B.J. Ford	CATEU		
Cpl D.J. Foster	JIOC		
Cpl T.M. Gamman	3 CDSB Edm		
Cpl D.T. Giersch	3 CDSB, Det Wx		
Cpl J.M. Gilbert	RCACS		
Cpl J.E. Gratto	RCACS		
Cpl J.P. Gray	CFB Suffield		
Cpl S.J.J. Grenier	RCACS		
Cpl M.J. Guay	RCACS		
Cpl J.H. Hachey	RCACS		
Cpl R.F. Hammel	CFB Suffield		



"Is this a tank?" "No this is a tank."



Messing & Social





Mariner Room

Lieutenant Garrison Hannaford

2025 was a year best defined by changes in the Mariner Room with the only true constant being the questionable quality of the coffee. In the first half of the year, with the majority of the Regiments officers deployed, numbers in the Mariner Room were sparse with **Lieutenant Nico** “*I have been on coffee for two weeks*” **Sanchez** doing his best barista impression as the only non-tasked out subbie. This changed seemingly overnight with the return of TF Warhorse and Ceaser Sqn in July. For a few weeks the Mariner Room was a standing room only sauna, with the AC unit woefully inadequate in managing the heat generated by fifty people. Things got better after the 125th celebration as the APS thinned out numbers to more manageable levels where most, but not all, could be afforded the luxury of a chair during coffee.

The next major change came with the short-lived reign of **Lieutenant Manish** “*fiscal responsibility*” **Megnath** as mess sec. After a summer of celebration and excess it was time to trim back. First, it was the decaf coffee which “no one, or at least no one that matters drinks”. Then it was a change in coffee brand which “no one even noticed.” The final straw however was the removal of flavoured creamers which resulted in the disappearance deployment of **Lieutenant Manish** “*We can’t afford that*” **Megnath**. No one can say for certain, but I believe **Captain Robert** “*decaf with french vanilla*” **Cornell** was behind it.

The most controversial change this year, by a wide margin I may add, happened in early February when **Second Lieutenant Roy** “*Sacrificial lamb*” **Seo** was tasked with picking up donuts. These would not be the tried and true, Canadian staple everyone expected in Tim Horton’s donuts but instead would be from Krispy Kreme. Reactions from the subalterns were mixed, some liked the change, and others didn’t understand the choice of assorted donuts when the original glazed exists. Opinions from more senior officers were not mixed with **Major Stephanie** “*I drink decaf*” **Clubine** being quoted as saying “While we welcome innovation, these donuts are disgusting. We do not want them, do not buy them again. Stick with Tim Horton’s”. Needless to say, the next week we were back to Tim Horton’s, with Krispy Kreme donuts making a single defiant return to send off Anvil Sqn in June.

Sarcee Room

Warrant Officer Liam Talty

As busy as the year was with the regiment leading the battle group over in Latvia and the preparations for the 125th Anniversary the Sarcee Mess was relatively quiet. We started our year off by hosting the Americans from the 1st Infantry Division out of Fort Riley, Kansas, who had come up to do training with SMT. Following that we attended a jacket and tie combined dinner hosted by the officer’s mess to commemorate the Battle of Moreuil Wood.



MWO Chuback, MWO Pickell, MWO Murphy, CWO Mills, MWO Gratto, MWO Williams



As we moved from the winter to the spring much of our time was spent preparing to send another tank squadron out the door to Latvia. Several members of our mess had the privilege to be hosted by His Majesty King Charles at Windsor Castle during SMT's royal duties of the King's Guard early in July. With the returning of the Regimental BG in the summer, we shifted gears in the preparations for the 125th Anniversary and the reunion dinner that followed. I'm sure for most members of the mess it was good to see some old and familiar faces again. However, the moments were short-lived as we once again set our sights on preparing another tank squadron to deploy overseas.

Following the completion of Ex STEELE SABRE 25, we prepared our mess kit and got ready for the Annual Black Hat mess dinner, which had a larger-than-usual turnout from the old guard.

As we moved into our much-needed Christmas leave, we still had to endure the yearly death by PowerPoint briefs that we truly hate but are a necessary evil that we must complete prior to getting our leave.

With the high tempo of the regiment these days, it's a revolving door in the Sarcee Mess (if the door to the mess wasn't broken), with people constantly coming and going from deployments and courses, to new Sergeants being promoted and coming in, and those being posted out or posted in. As we enter the new year, I do not see this changing, as our commitments to Latvia are not going away and the amount of taskings being given to the regiment is increasing.

Green Point Lounge

Master Corporal Alexandre "MmmHmmm" Nolet

Yet another year has gone by, and the Regiment has only grown busier. With a high tempo of deployments, The Green Point Lounge (GPL) has seen members come and go with both promotions of members throughout the year, the deployments of Caesar and Anvil Squadron, and sadly, the posting of many Master Corporals outside of the Regiment.

The GPL was home to many great instructors that, PCF after PCF, keep pumping great Leopard 2 drivers, gunners and loaders, I'm talking here of **Master Corporals Juan Moceton, Christopher "this will make my 17th Mack course" Martin, Steed "Hit the ground running" Rice, Jesse "Post me to Nova Scotia" Clausson, Emma "Pop Smoke" Crackle, Thomas "Shaker" Morris, and Steven "Creating CF98 since 2017" Swanson** who spearheaded the B Squadron's training and PCF season, and are now away on Op REASSURANCE roto 26-01.

During an exceptionally busy year, the lunch time movies with **Master Corporals Evan Cox and Dylan Friel**, were a welcome pause from the busy routine. Equally important are the rest of the GPL members who are tasked out, working a rank above, or instructing on courses within or outside the regiment. As the next year approaches quickly, the GPL looks forward to the new challenges and opportunities that await its members and the Regiment.

Track Pad

Master Corporal Alex Parsons

Another year has come and gone. We have had a big influx of fresh-faced and eager Troopers fresh off DP1 and ready to start their Strathcona careers.

This year, rather than talking about PCF cycles or deployments, I want to take the opportunity to highlight a certain member of the Track Pad, and the longest serving Strathcona in the building; **Corporal (Cpl) William "Billy" Clendennin**. Everyone, and I do mean everyone, knows Billy. As new Troopers coming to the Regiment, he is often the first face they see. Billy has spent decades serving the Regiment and cared for the young Troopers and Corporals. Always there to give a hand and offer up wisdom and experience to guide the next generation of Strathcona warriors. Here is a tidbit from some of Billy's experience from his time as a fresh Trooper.



“Hello, I am Cpl Clendennin, currently the Lord Strathcona’s Horse (Royal Canadians) Stables NCO, though you all probably know me as Billy. I arrived at the Regiment on 31 January 1997, and approximately 6 months later (6 July), I deployed to Bosnia along with about 30 other fresh DP1’s. It was the first SFOR tour. The Regiment sent us over as infanteers and had us living out of Grizzlies for our 6-month rotation. My position was C9 gunner, as well as the number one Carl-G guy. It was the last time the Strat’s deployed its soldiers as infanteers. The company area was divided into three sectors. The Northern sector included towns such as Kulen Vakuf and Martin Brod. The Southern sector spanned from Basansko Grahovo to the Mokronoge valley and covered a variety of small villages in between. The final sector, Drvar, was our primary sector, tasked with local patrols of the area and the outskirts of various cities. Every two months the platoon would rotate sectors to avoid complacency.

As a brand-new Trooper, this was a great experience. The surrounding area was littered with blown-up buildings, though despite the situation at the time, the locals’ reaction to our arrival was very welcoming. We worked with them a lot, helping any way that we could, including rebuilding schools. There were only a few instances where we had to step in and separate certain groups from each other, but overall, a very good learning experience. We gained a lot of knowledge on that tour that I still use today. We were gone over Christmas, so there was a lot of family stuff that was missed, but overall the experience went well. I’m glad I had the opportunity to go.”

From Bosnia to Afghanistan and through to this day, Cpl Clendennin has embodied the Strathcona spirit and perseverance. He continues to serve dutifully and honourably, and we hope to keep sharing his wisdom for years to come.

Billy, I do hereby declare you the Supreme Governor of the Track Pad.



Tpr Billy Clendennin, Bosnia 1997



2nd company, 1 platoon, 3 section. C9 gunner Tpr. William “Billy” Clendennin at Camp Dubar, Bosnia, 1997.



Subbie's Corner

Captain Cole McCloy

2025 began on a high note as we welcomed nine fully indoctrinated faces into our Subaltern family. Their fresh energy and eager smiles brought new life to the ranks and much-needed assistance with Subbie duties. From brewing coffee that tested the limits of tolerance to assisting with a scavenger hunt of society property, these newcomers quickly proved they could handle the quirks and challenges of our responsibilities while keeping spirits high and traditions alive. As expected, they learned quickly that Subaltern life is less about knowing what to do and more about confidently figuring it out on the fly.



Cpts Reva Gill and Shawn Suresh showing Regimental pride on top of Mount Kilimanjaro

Beyond the daily routines, the year was marked by a number of memorable events that reminded us why Subaltern life is as entertaining as it is demanding. Friendly competition, creative problem-solving, and the occasional questionable idea ensured no one took themselves too seriously. These moments, often unfolding after hours or around organized events, reinforced the bonds within the group and added character to an already busy year. If nothing else, 2025 proved that shared adversity and shared laughter remain the foundation of the Subbie experience.

First up on the annual calendar of questionable decision-making was Milk Mania. For those unfamiliar, Milk Mania is the time-honoured Subbie tradition where otherwise intelligent officers gather to play mini games and determine who can consume the most dairy products without immediate regret. It is science-adjacent at best. This year's competition was fierce, with contenders showing early confidence that was quickly replaced by visible discomfort and deep self-reflection. Emerging victorious was **Lieutenant Jeremie "Regt's Token**

Second Lieutenant" Drouin, who demonstrated not only exceptional lactose tolerance but also the youthful resilience that only a Second Lieutenant can possess. His calm composure, steady intake, and refusal to acknowledge consequences earned him the crown and the respect of peers who would spend the remainder of the evening reconsidering their life choices.

Next, we move to Ex STEELE GILMORE. A select group of Subbies signed up with the belief, however misguided, that this would be the year they rediscovered their long lost pro golf potential. Among them was **Second Lieutenant Roy**



Subbies looking sharp and representing the Regiment with pride.

“*Krispy Kream*” **Seo**, whose swing was smooth, his snack discipline nonexistent, and whose scorecard reflected a man enjoying the refreshments far more than the fairways. **Captain Robert** “*If the wind wasn’t so strong my drive would have gone straight*” **Cornell** bravely battled environmental factors that, oddly enough, only seemed to affect his ball. Meanwhile, **Captain Griffin** “*Dr. Chipinski*” **Brophy** showcased remarkable skill around the green, displaying a chipping game of near surgical precision, offset only by a slice so aggressive it routinely sent his ball into the next fairway.

After that, things slowed down, at least by Subaltern standards. The Subbies continued to make their presence felt at various EGOM Mess events, ensuring no gathering was complete without a memorable moment. From **Captain Zorawar** “*Exactly Fifteen Minutes Late Is Still On Time*” **Sohi** confidently testing the limits of punctuality, to his equally committed attempt at line dancing during Stampede Night, entertainment was never in short supply. Not to be outdone, **Captain Nick** “*Obi One*” **O’Brien** embraced the spirit of friendly competition by taking on anyone and everyone in feats of grappling, undeterred by the small detail that he was consistently the smallest person in the pile.



2Lt Seo, Capt Cornell, and Capt Brophy moments before confidence outweighed talent and the fairways paid the price.

We ended the year taking part in Subbies Caroling at the Commanding Officer’s residence. What began as an ambitious attempt to sing through the Twelve Days of Christmas steadily lost structure as enthusiasm outpaced musical ability. The evening continued with a cheeseburger eating competition that showcased determination over refinement, with Lieutenant Drouin unsurprisingly claiming victory once again and confirming that his earlier Milk Mania win was not a fluke but a warning.

Ultimately, it was the time spent together and informal gatherings that tied the year together. Shared laughs, friendly competition, and the occasional poor decision reinforced the camaraderie that makes Subaltern life enjoyable. Looking back, 2025 was a blast and set the tone for an equally memorable year ahead.



Subbies looking sharp and representing the Regiment with pride, plus a rare appearance by Lt Manish “I love going to all social events” Megnath, made possibly by modern technology.



Strathcona Spouses

Kim Mills

It seems like such a long time ago already that we jumped into 2025, still in the early stages of the Battle Group deployment for LdSH (RC), but also planning for the 125th anniversary, the next two Taste of Home dates, and a year's worth of activities for our group of spouses!

January saw a small but mighty group meet up to start the process of moving the Strathcona Spouses to our next stage – one run by a committee of committed members instead of solely the spouses of the Command Team. The

world is not the same as it was when the Regiment began, and neither are the families of the members who make it up. It no longer serves the families, or the Command Team, spouses that this is a job for them alone, and so the Strathcona Spouse Committee came to be!

Our first year saw us joined by Edyth McLauchlin, Valerie Rufier, Candace Thompson (Dockery), Jennifer Gray, Leya Stankovich, Stacey Oakes, Katherine Wittman and Kim Mills. After a wonderful brunch talk over the year, we were able to hit the ground running!

In February, committee members put together Valentine's Spouses of Deployed Members, finding donations as well as purchasing small items to bring a smile to some of our deployed families. In March, Leya was able to meet with spouses at the Trampoline Park for some fun with the kids. By April, we were all ready for our Bingo night hosted by Stacey, and then in May, it was time for a Wine and Paint night put together by Edyth.

That was just the beginning, because in June is when we all got busy! Early in the month, Valerie led us all through some card making to add a personal message to our Taste of Home for the year, while we started to see our members both coming home from Latvia as well as heading out. A new set of troops deployed meant that by mid-month it was packing time! Over 100 packages were sent once more out the door for the Taste of Home to our deployed members.

July was all focused on the 125th activities, and during the weekend events, the Strathcona Spouses hosted a Spouse Brunch with 50+ spouses of both current and veteran Strathconas getting together to enjoy food, conversation, and ice breakers. Our thanks to Kathy Batty, who also came alongside us to keep this event running smoothly.

The weekend's Change of Command also meant an official See You Later to Jennifer Gray, as the Grays moved to new adventures, with Jennifer already deployed herself across the world. Having her leadership and support was such a strength for the Spouses and Families, and we said our goodbyes with sadness, but knowing they wouldn't be far from us wherever the military takes them.

Once the dust settled from all that excitement, it was back to business as usual, with Stacey hosting us at another Bingo event in September to welcome everyone back from summer vacations and postings. Jessica Veltmeyer joined our crew and hosted Market Meetups, encouraging spouses who wanted to check out the local markets to connect with each other while they enjoyed the shopping! Then in October, we had a spooky gathering as we used the time we were making the Taste of Home cards with Valerie to also have the chance for Tarot and Pendulum readings by our gifted Candace and Katherine.

We ended off a busy 2025 with our 2nd Taste of Home. As once again families experienced reunions and farewells, we packed up over 110 boxes to Strathconas all over the world to open at Christmas.

LdSH (RC) continues to be the only CAF unit with a longstanding and formally recognized spouse group, and that is something I hope we never allow ourselves to take for granted. As we jump into 2026 with a committee of old and new faces, I am excited to see the ways the Strathcona Spouses will continue to be a place of support and encouragement for the Regimental family for years to come.



The Royal Lancers' (Queen Elizabeths' Own)

Captain A.J. Aldridge, Adjutant

Since the start of 2025 the Regiment has taken part in a host of different activities including two operational tours, conversion onto the British Army's newest Armoured Fighting Vehicle, sports tours, adventurous training, Freedom Parades and the novelty of providing the Edinburgh Castle Guard to mark the birthday of our Colonel in Chief.

At the start of the year the Regiment was still partly dispersed with C Squadron split between Kosovo on Operation ELGIN as part of the enduring NATO mission and a platoon sized detachment augmenting 5th Regiment Royal Artillery deployed to Cyprus on Operation TOSCA. Meanwhile, A and B Squadrons were back in Catterick following their deployment on Op PSYMA in 2024 and were on point to begin their conversion onto the new AJAX armoured fighting vehicle. AJAX is very much a vehicle of the 21st century and all ranks are getting to grips with the game-changing technological capabilities that it offers. The days of CVR(T), Jackal and Warrior are certainly over, and the future is here. At the end of 2025 A Squadron will be the first Royal Lancers Squadron to validate on AJAX.

Away from conventional soldiering the Regiment continues to be a vibrant and varied place to work. Lt Mollie Jackson led an incredibly successful netball tour to California in the summer where 15 Lancers and attached arms took part in a number of competitions in the country. There was plenty of time for cultural activities as well. On the adventurous training front, there have been three expeditions with climbing in Austria, hillwalking in Corsica and a diving trip to Cyprus.

We have also broken the commonly held view that cavalry soldiers can't do drill. This year we have participated in parades for the Freedom of both Nottingham and Chesterfield, provided a Lance Guard at a pass-out parade at the Army Foundation College (Harrogate), and provided the Edinburgh Castle Guard on Her Majesty The Queen's birthday. These last two events earned recognition from the Chief of the General Staff and the Governor of Edinburgh Castle respectively.

Life in The Royal Lancers is still one of novel opportunities where soldiers have found themselves all over the world and around the UK. Regardless of what they have been doing, they have represented the Regiment, and the wider regimental family, spectacularly well.





10th Armoured Cavalry Brigade

In 2025, the 10th Armoured Cavalry Brigade once again demonstrated high combat readiness, professionalism, and continued its important role within the Polish Armed Forces and NATO. The year was marked by intensive training, numerous exercises, and participation in significant national and international ceremonies.

The most important ceremonial event was the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Brigade's establishment, which highlighted its achievements, contribution to national security, and traditions linked to the 1st Polish Armoured Division of General Stanisław Maczek. The Brigade's tank crews continued the legacy of the heroes of Falaise, showcasing their capabilities both in Poland and abroad. A major success was achieving first place in the international NATO armoured crew competition "Iron Spire 2025," in Latvia, surpassing teams from allied countries. Further confirmation of the Brigade's high professionalism was achieving 4th out of 19 competing teams in the prestigious Swiss Tank Artillery Challenge in Thun.

Throughout 2025, the Brigade conducted a wide range of command-staff, tactical, and specialist exercises aimed at improving all components of the combat system. These included two staff training exercises focused on planning and staff procedures, and a command-staff exercise. Tactical exercises such as "Gallant Beaver-25 and Gallant Gepar-25," tested coordination between staff cells, subunits, and reconnaissance elements. The Brigade participated in an exercise verifying the readiness of the XVIII rotation of Latvia contingent.

International cooperation played a significant role throughout the year. At the Leopard Training Centre, soldiers conducted specialist training on the Leopard 2A4 tank and participated in the Long Effort program, which prepared Ukrainian soldiers for infantry operations. A key element of foreign engagement was the continued strengthening of the Brigade's partnership with the 2nd French Brigade from Strasbourg, including cooperation during planned joint training activities and the Dzielny Bóbr-25 exercise framework. The Brigade took part in the change of command ceremony of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), with delegations also represented in commemorations abroad, including Independence Day observations in Glasgow and the anniversaries marking the liberation of Mont-Ormel and Breda.

In addition to training activities, soldiers achieved notable sports results, earning bronze medals in orienteering and gold in swimming and shooting competitions. The Brigade supported local communities through aid operations for civilians in southern and southwestern Poland.

The year 2025 confirmed that the 10th Armoured Cavalry Brigade remains one of the most capable and best-prepared units of the Polish Armed Forces, consistently strengthening its operational capabilities and international partnerships.



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1813 CADET CORPS - CRANBROOK
2716 CADET CORPS - MAYERTHORPE
2756 CADET CORPS - INVEREMERE
2860 CADET CORPS - FORT SIMPSON
3066 CADET CORPS - GOLDEN
3070 CADET CORPS - EVANSBURG



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