

*Please note that our 14 February GCC Meeting / AGM will be held at the **Warrant Officers' & Sergeants' / Officers' Messes**, Beaver Hall, Wolseley Barracks*

- *Meet & Greet 11:00 a.m.*
- *AGM 11:15 a.m.*
- *Lunch service begins at 11:30 a.m.*
- *Speaker 12:00 p.m.*

## **FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER**

**Meet & Greet:** 11:00 hrs *Warrant Officers' & Sergeants' / Officers' Messes, Beaver Hall*, Wednesday, 14 February 2018

**AGM** 11:15 hrs

11:30 hrs lunch service begins (*Please bring a guest*)

**Regular Meeting:** 12:00 hrs meeting starts

**Speaker:** Mr. Michael Seabrook, President & CEO,  
London International Airport  
(see page 2 for details)

**Lunch Menu:**



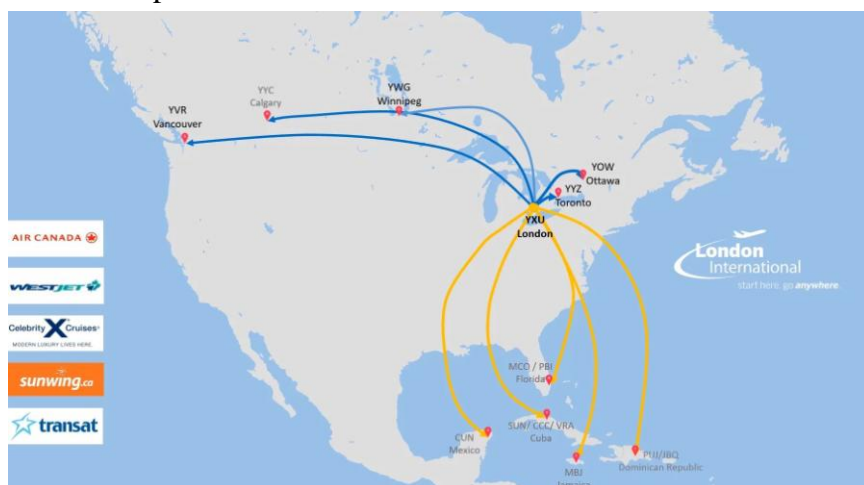
- Chef's choices will include:
  - Soup and Salad;
  - Soup and Sandwich;
  - Hot Entrée;
  - Dessert



## **Speaker: 14 February GCC Meeting at the WOS/OM**

### **Speaker: Mr. Michael Seabrook, President & CEO, London International Airport**

Michael Seabrook is the President and CEO of London International Airport. Mike's been with the airport for twenty-five years in both the operational and commercial services sides of the business. Prior to joining the Airport, Mike spent five years with 3M Canada in product marketing and business development.



Mike is on the Board of the London Convention Centre, the Canadian Airport's Council and the International Association of Airport Executives (Canada).

Mike was born in London and holds an Honours BA from Western University and an MBA from the Ivey School of Business.

Mike enjoys sports, is an active pilot and flies his own homebuilt RV 8 aircraft.

With his wife Marian, Mike has three children between the ages of 21 to 25.

## **GCC President's Comments**

Our upcoming monthly meeting will mark the first time we have had our AGM in February. There will be a brief report on the activities of the GCC since the last AGM and the Financial Statement for 2017 will be presented for approval. Amendments to the Constitution will be presented (Notice of Motions attached in last two Newsletters). The term of the current Executive will conclude and a new slate will take its place.

Upon adjournment of the AGM, lunch will be available and the General Meeting will follow at 12:00 hrs. We look forward to seeing those of you who have not fled south. Please join us and bring a guest.

Members are reminded that payment of Dues would be welcome if they are still outstanding.

Regards,

Doug Acton  
President



## **GCC's January Meeting Speaker**

**Speaker: LCol Dr. Vivian C. McAlister: Angus D. McLachlin**  
**Professor of Surgery, Western**  
**University: *Medical Ops in Theatre***

LCol McAlister gave an eye-opening presentation on his recent rotation as a surgeon in a front echelon medical operation in theatre versus ISIS. It made Hawkeye and Trapper John's experience on MASH look like a 4Star All-Inclusive.

GCC President Doug Acton thanks our speaker, LCol Vivian McAlister.



## **31 Canadian Brigade Group Commander's Column**

**An informal view of the Brigade's activities.**

*February 2018*

*This short article, normally penned by a member of the Brigade staff, will offer a casual look at 31 CBG. Written with an intent to avoid heavy use of military lexicon, acronyms and abbreviations, the Commander's Column supports information sharing to groups with diverse backgrounds and will, hopefully, offer a less formal view of the Brigade overall, or the examination of specific issues or events.*

*C.W. Poole*  
*Colonel*  
*Comd 31 CBG*



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## **Full Time Summer Employment**

By now you may have heard about, or seen the advertising images for Full Time Summer Employment (FTSE). This is an initiative designed to tackle one of the dissatisfiers identified in recent years regarding Reserve summer employment, which is that the available summer courses and taskings often did not

provide individual Reservists with the length of employment, or the earnings, they could achieve in available civilian alternatives. Acknowledging that many young Reservists need to make the most of their summer breaks to help pay for their next school year, restricting their options as Reservists was also having an effect on the progress the Army made each summer in developing and strengthening the Army Reserve.

FTSE, as its primary goal, will offer full summers of employment for any Army Reservist in their first four summers with the Reserves. This is not limited to new recruits and will include any Reservist with less than four years' service, although they will be among the program's target audience for one, two, or three summers accordingly. But these newer Reservists will not be the only recipients who benefit from the FTSE program. The challenge of offering FTSE to, potentially, a sizable portion of the Army Reserve will also create a demand for commanders and supervisors, instructors and administrators, across the system. The opportunities for available officers and non-commissioned officers will be varied, challenging, and offer employment throughout the Division area and, as needed, across the country.

The details of how the FTSE program will be coordinated and administered, and the balance between existing staffs and the creation of additional coordination cells where necessary, are still being developed. The variety of training locations and home garrisons may result in an equally broad range of solutions to manage the administration and movement of personnel to where they are needed and can best be trained and employed as the summer progresses.

We can be certain that the roll-out of FTSE will be an exciting challenge, one that the officers, NCOs, and soldiers of 31 CBG are ready to meet. It will be up to every member who participates, in whole or in part, to seek and accept those opportunities that benefit the end goals of a stronger Army and a better prepared Reserve Force. Those who rise to the challenge will find their rewards in what they achieve for their own continuing development and in what they impart to others around them, with the potential of their full summer of employment as a bonus.

## **Ranges and Training Areas**

While many training activities can take place at home unit locations, there have always been some Reserve training that requires more space than the armouries provide. In particular, ranges and field training are usually executed away from unit home locations. 31 CBG units in London, for example, have to travel over an hour to get to the closest rifle ranges and further for larger weapons' ranges or more training space. But it wasn't also so.

In 1901, the Department of Militia and Defence recommended to the Government that use of a parcel of land, then on the south-western edge of the City of London, be acquired as a rifle range. Approved by Lord Minto on 8 June, 1901, this set in motion the creation of the London Rifle Range off Wharnecliffe Road, set behind the current location of the German Canadian Club is the site of the London Rifle Range. Established on the level flood plain terrain inside an old oxbow of the Thames River known as The Cove, and oriented towards the southwest, this site served London units for decades until its danger area was overtaken by the expanding city. Aerial photos taken in the early 1940s show that the firing mounds have disappeared and it



has returned to agricultural use. Much of the site of the range itself still remains undeveloped, while what had been the danger area to the west is now fully built over with residential development.

Today, the ranges and training areas used by 31 CBG units include the following:

#### Cedar Springs Range and Training Area

The Cedar Springs Range and Training Area (CSRTA) was established in 1912 and is situated on approximately 134 acres of land southwest of the town of Blenheim near Chatham, Ontario. It features a 14-lane, 400-metre Classification/Gallery Range, with the danger area extending out over Lake Erie. Additional facilities include a Gas Hut, Confidence Course and a 10-metre Rappel Tower. The Dry Training Area also contains a Forward Operating Base (FOB) and Seacan Village (SV). The facility's kitchen and quarters can accommodate and feed up to 77 personnel.

#### Winona Range and Training Area

The Winona Range and Training Area (WRTA) was established in 1938 and is situated on approximately 118 acres of land just west of the town of Grimsby, Ontario on the north side of the QEW. WRTA features a 24-lane, 400-metre Classification Gallery Range with a danger area extending out over Lake Ontario. Additional facilities include a Gas Hut, Confidence Course and a 10-metre Rappel Tower. The Dry Training Area also contains a Forward Operating Base (FOB) and Seacan Village (SV).

#### 4th Canadian Division Training Centre Meaford

4th Canadian Division Training Centre (4 CDTC) was created as the "Meaford Tank Ranges," a name still familiar to the local population, when 80 km<sup>2</sup> (20,000 acres) of private lands along the Georgian Bay were purchased to augment the gunnery ranges at Base Borden. The property near Meaford was selected from competing alternatives because extending the range danger area over Georgian Bay significantly reduced the amount of property that would be needed. Camp Meaford was used extensively by regular force Canadian Army units assigned to Camp Borden until the 1960s when the Combat Arms Schools moved to CFB Gagetown. Mothballed in 1970, the Meaford property saw slowly increasing use by Reserve units in the following decades and was completely rebuilt and the base facilities expanded in the 1990s. 4th CDTC Meaford provides 31 CBG units with a full suite of training area and range facilities for all natures of live firing and dry training including artillery ranges and engineer demolitions.

#### Canadian Forces Base Borden

Canadian Forces Base Borden (CFB Borden) began in 1916 as the Borden Military Camp, for the training of units for the Canadian Expeditionary Force. The camp built in 1916 was expanded with a military aerodrome the next year, making it the first flying station of the Royal Flying Corps Canada. With continual use and ongoing expansion, Camp Borden's became the home of the Armoured Fighting Vehicle School in 1938 although its ranges would prove to be too limited for Second World War tank gunnery. (This led to the

acquisition and opening of the Tank Ranges at Meaford in 1942). CFB Borden's value as a training base has continued and today remains a valuable resource for Reserve units for its ranges and other training facilities.

#### 4th Canadian Division Support Base Petawawa

4th Canadian Division Support Base Petawawa was founded in 1905 as the Petawawa Military Camp, or Camp Petawawa. Created by the Department of Militia and Defence (now DND), the base was formed by the purchase of 22,430 acres (90.8 km<sup>2</sup>) of mostly agricultural property from local residents. First used in 1905 by the Royal

Canadian Horse and Garrison Artillery, in 1906 the Royal Canadian Engineers constructed huts, stables and installed water and gas systems to support Militia training activities. By 1907 combined training and tactical exercises were conducted by various other units such as A and B Squadron, Royal Canadian Dragoons; A and B Batteries, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery; No. 2 Company, Royal Canadian Engineers, The Royal Canadian Regiment; and detachments from the Medical and Ordnance Corps. Petawawa is the home of 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, and the ranges and training areas at 4th CDSB allow for a wide range of training activities and the live firing of all the weapons and munitions used by 31 CBG units.



#PhotoOfTheWeek - Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members participated in Exercise ARROWHEAD CHILL led by 31 Canadian Brigade Group at CFB Borden from January 19-21, 2018. Photo: Corporal Stuart Evans, CFB Borden Imagery. #StrongProudReady

#### US Training sites

Sometimes the proximity of a cross border training site, or the anticipated better weather conditions at times of the year, make the use of training facilities in the United States a preferred choice for 31 CBG units. Some of the training sites used in the US in recent years include:

- Camp Grayling Joint Maneuver Training Center (located in Northern Michigan)
- Camp Atterbury (Edinburgh, Indiana)
- Muscatatuck Urban Training Center (Butlerville, Indiana)
- Fort Knox (Kentucky)
- Fort Drum (Jefferson County, New York)

*Pro Aris et Focis*



## **HMCS Prevost Update**

### **HMCS PREVOST Winter/Spring 2018 Column**

**February 2018**

As the Royal Canadian Navy's (RCN) representative in the city of London and the surrounding area, HMCS PREVOST has been tasked by Commander of the Naval Reserves, Commodore Marta Mulkins, to focus on recruiting new members to the Naval Reserve, be ready to respond to domestic operations, maintain our training levels, and employ our Sailors with exciting contract opportunities such as the Naval Security Team in Latvia as a part of Operation Reassurance.



### **Naval Reserve Recruiting**

The Naval Reserve has been given a mandate to grow by almost 50%. Therefore in the later part of 2017, and now carrying over into 2018 HMCS PREVOST, has increased our community outreach initiatives and have personnel engaged in local high schools, career events, employment fairs, Western University and Fanshawe College functions. We have staff dedicated to recruiting who are available and highly motivated to attract people to the RCN.



One of the key points that we wish to convey to the members of the community is that the Naval Reserve, and all of the Canadian Armed Forces, offer excellent [starting salaries](#), generous vacation leave, as well as government medical, dental, and vision benefits for members and group plans for families for members of our full time service. This is essential information to spread to career placement professionals, school councillors, and to the community by word of mouth. In today's job climate, we want to let young people know that there are lifetime career options available to people as young as 17.



## HMCS PREVOST Training

PREVOST started 2018 with a national level sailing opportunity in British Columbia for our sailors. We sent eight sailors over two weeks to Esquimalt BC to conduct training on board four of our ORCA class training vessels. While there, each ship practiced navigation, ship familiarization, emergency procedures, close manoeuvres between ships, engineering drills, as well as port visits in locations such as Vancouver, Nanaimo, and Ganges Harbour.



Leading Seaman Corey Bliss (left) and Master Seaman Harrison Baycroft (right) install metal shoring to prevent further damage during flood training



ORCA Class training vessel

Moving forward in 2018 we have an exciting training year planned with Force Protection training. This evolution prepares our sailors by practicing immediate actions to protect one's self, ship, unit, or other sailors in the event of a hostile person(s) acting against our forces.

In February we have Sea Survival training, where sailors will learn the best ways to survive in the open ocean should they fall overboard or be forced to abandon ship. PREVOST will also be planning and executing a regional Alongside Fleet Training weekend in Esquimalt BC where Naval Reserve Units from across Ontario will be sending sailors one of our commissioned ships on the west coast to conduct training. The focus of this event will be to use a Kingston Class vessel and familiarize sailors with its layout, equipment, safety procedures, and to conduct trade specific training to progress sailors in the skills they need to succeed within their area of responsibility and professional knowledge.

In March, there are fire fighting and ship damage control training sessions to refresh sailors on how to fight a fire on a ship, as well as how to stop leaks, broken water pipes, and use wood



shoring to reinforce the metal structure of the ship, should it ever be damaged. As well, we will be clearing off the early spring snow in Port Stanley to conduct small boat operations in Lake Erie, sending sailors to Quebec City for bridge simulation training, and sending Naval Warfare Officers to Esquimalt BC to work towards achieving their Bridge Watch Keeping qualifications, qualifying them to act as Officer of the Watch on HMC Ships.

Needless to say, HMCS PREVOST is very busy in 2018; “diving head first into the swells” to deliver training and recruiting new enthusiastic sailors to the Royal Canadian Navy.

## **Significant Military Dates- February**

The list of significant military dates each month serves as background for the GCC’s Honouring Veterans Initiative. The list is not conclusive and is for reference only.

1 February 1968	Unification of the Canadian Armed Forces	On 1 February 1968, Bill C-243, The <a href="#">Canadian Forces Reorganization Act</a> , was granted <a href="#">Royal Assent</a> , and the Royal Canadian Navy, the Canadian Army, and the Royal Canadian Air Force were combined into one service: the Canadian Armed Forces.
1 February 1991	The Gulf War	“Desert Cat Squadron” pilots carry out 56 bombing missions during the Gulf War (01-28 Feb).
18 February 1900	Boer War	Canadian troops fight South African Boers at the Battle of Paardeberg (18-27 Feb).
19 February 1951	Korean War	2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry becomes the first Canadian unit sent to the front during the Korean War when it moved to the line north of Yuju under the command of the 27th Commonwealth Infantry Brigade.
20 February 1958	Avro Canada CF-105 Arrow is cancelled	The Arrow's cancellation was announced on 20 February 1959. The day became known as "Black Friday" in the Canadian aviation industry.
25 February 1945	World War II VC	Sergeant A. Cosens, Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, attacked and captured German strong points located in three farm buildings at Mooshof, Germany to earn the Victoria Cross. (Posthumous).



## **GCC Meeting Dates- 2018**

Program planning for 2018 is underway. Suggestions from members are always welcome. Please contact any member of the Executive with ideas. Below are the dates to June, 2018.

- 14 February
- 14 March
- 11 April
- 09 May
- 13 June



## **GCC EXECUTIVE**

**President:** Doug Acton  
**Treasurer:** Barry Graham  
**1st Vice President:** Geoff Hutton  
**3rd Vice President:** Vacant

**Past President:** Gerry Treble  
**Secretary:** Beth Sayler  
**2nd Vice President:** Doug McAndless  
**Garrison Advisor:** LCol David Fearon

**Next Meeting:** *14 February at the Warrant Officers' & Sergeants' / Officers' Mess, Beaver Hall, Wolseley Barracks. Meet & Greet at 11:00a.m., AGM at 11:15, with lunch service beginning at 11:30 a.m., and speaker at 12:00 p.m.*

**Mr. Michael Seabrook, President & CEO, London International Airport will be our speaker**





# February 2018



## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### February 2, 2018

**London Knights Military Appreciation Night**  
7:30 pm  
50 / 50 Draw

### February 23—25, 2018

**Spousal Retreat**  
**Crieff Hills Community Retreat & Conference Centre**  
**7098 Concession 1**  
**R.R. #2 Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0**

### February 24, 2018

**Resiliency Seminar & Dinner**  
**“She Is Fierce” Speaker**

### February 28, 2018

**Teen Night**  
**Junction Climbing**  
**\$10 / teen**  
**6:30 pm—8:00 pm**

### March 7, 2018

**International Women's Day**  
**10:30 am—1pm**

### Building Resiliency

**Registration**  
**Donna.Pickering@forces.gc.ca**  
**905-972-4000 x6623 or**  
**Kym.Wolfe@forces.gc.ca**  
**519-660-5275 x5432**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 London Knights Military Appreciation Night 7:30 pm 50/50 Draw	3
4	5	6	7 Wonderful Wednesday Prepping for Valentine's Day 9:30 am—11:30 am	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Wonderful Wednesday Valentine Craft 9:30 am—11:30 am	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Wonderful Wednesday 9:30 am—11:30 am	22	23	24 February 24, 2018 Resiliency Seminar & Dinner “She Is Fierce”
25	26	27	28 Wonderful Wednesday Prepping for Women's Day 9:30 am—11:30 am			

## Building Resiliency

1. **The Whole Experience** (fully subsidized, no cost to participants)  
London, Feb. 24, 1-8 pm Seminar, Dinner & Speaker Kim Mills  
Niagara Falls, Mar. 3, 9 am-4 pm Seminar, Lunch & Speaker Sue Bassett
2. **Dinner & Speaker Experience** (\$5/person) Cash bar, Dinner & Kim—Stoney Creek, Feb. 23 6:30-8:30 pm—London, Feb. 24 5:00-8:00 pm
3. **The “She Is Fierce” Experience**  
Speaker only—come & see Kim!!—No charge—Stoney Creek, Feb. 23 7:30-8:30 pm—London, Feb. 24 6:30-7:30 pm