



GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

London and Region

www.gcclondon.ca

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THE

FRONT COVER

<u>2019</u> - The new Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle now in the 1st Hussars and the Windsor Regiment. See page 9.

<u>1945</u> - A Canadian Sherman M4A2E8. See page 3 for the GCC Field Trip.

<u>2007</u> - A Canadian Leopard 2A6M Main Battle Tank in Afghanistan.

Featured throughout this issue are some of the AFVs and vehicles you will see at the Ontario Regiment RCAC Museum.

The GCC Newsletter

Submissions and suggestions are welcome and information about upcoming events is especially appreciated. Please contact any of us with an e-mail to:

garrisoncommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Submissions for the May Newsletter to your Editor by ANZAC Day please. (Righto, that would be 25 April ... but you knew that yeah?)

FROM THE EDITOR

The Air Force had the cover in February and last month, soldiers in the snow got the nod. For April, the Cavalry has dashed to the front cover with great élan and then infiltrated the whole Newsletter. Thanks to ... well, me. Next month we are <u>organising</u> a superb trip to the **Ontario Regiment RCAC Museum** to see armoured vehicles in action; I wanted to set the mood. Throughout the issue you will find AFV photos from the **Museum**. It should be a great day out. Mutt is so excited he even dug out his old black beret.

We have an excellent array of interesting articles this month and as usual, delighted to see our regular contributors supporting the Newsletter. A heartfelt thank you to all.



Dave Barton

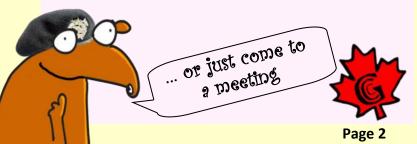
You are most welcome to join us

Like reading this Newsletter? Terhaps you have attended a meeting as a guest, enjoyed our monthly speaker and had a chat with some of the members.

The GCC holds monthly lunch meetings that include guest speakers on a range of topics such as military history, current issues and subjects of topical interest.

For a membership application, contact our Secretary, Beth Sayler on 519 851 0730 or e-mail us at

garrisoncommunitycouncil@gmail.com





GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL **London and Region**

www.qcclondon.ca



The General Meeting **Wednesday 10 April**

Warrant Officers' & Sergeants' /Officers' Mess **Beaver Hall, Wolseley Barracks**

Meet & Greet

11:15

Lunch

11:30



Please remember to advise your attendance in advance to Beth Sayler by email (garrisoncommunitycouncil@gmail.com) by 11:00 am the MONDAY prior so we can arrange sufficient lunches. You need also to indicate whether you want a wrap or a sandwich.

General Meeting

12:00

Tour

Dress is Business Casual - no jeans but jacket & tie are not needed

THE

Tour of 31 CBG

Maintenance & Supply Facilities

Next month ...

GCC FIELD TRIP



Saturday May 11th

0800

Leave London for Oshawa

1100

Lunch at 420 Wing next to Museum (not included in cost)

1200 - 1600

Museum

1830

Arrive back in London

Cost: \$ 75.00 (includes round trip coach, museum admission, sandwiches for the ride

home but not lunch on arrival)



You must book no later than Wednesday 17 April

If we do not have enough people paid by this date, the tour will not happen. Those who have paid will be fully refunded.

Contact:

Beth Sayler

garrisoncommunitycouncil@gmail.com

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From the President

Spring is upon us. With the good weather the GCC will be undertaking some new and interesting activities. In April, in lieu of a Speaker, we tour the **31 Brigade Group**

Maintenance and Supply facilities located in the tancoloured buildings just North of Beaver Hall. Since we will be walking through the garage, weapon bays and maintenance areas, may I suggest that 'business casual - no jeans' might be appropriate.

On Saturday 11 May we are planning a bus tour to the **Ontario Regiment (RCAC) Tank Museum** (www.ontrmuseum.ca/tankmuseum/) where we will see armoured vehicles of several generations, many of which will be thundering around crushing



gravel and making lots of mud or dust (*depending on the weather*). However, I must add that we need sufficient numbers to make it feasible so don't forget to sign up soon. Our earlier planned visit to the Canadian Centre for Product Validation (http://www.ccpv.ca/) is now scheduled for 22 May. The CCPV is a unique facility that helps the industry in Canada prepare equipment and items for the world market.

As has become the custom, May will focus on the Royal Canadian Navy. The Speaker for the 8 May Meeting will be Commander Michele Tessier who is the Commanding Officer (designate) of the Arctic and Offshore Patrol Vessel, *HMCS Margaret Brooke* that is now under construction in Halifax.

Like every volunteer organisation, the GCC is always seeking new members. Tom Dean is very energetic in progressing our recruiting efforts but he needs all of us to put our shoulders to the wheel. The best recruiters are you. Bringing a guest to our meetings and activities is a great way to introduce them to the GCC.

This month our *Support Our Troops* stickers will be available; let's show our support for our Canadian service personnel by displaying them.

All the best,

Geoff

... and 'back in the day', the M113 Armoured Personnel Carrier was a true companion for me - Geoff.

The GCC Executive

President: Geoff Hutton **Secretary:** Beth Sayler

1st Vice President: Tom Dean **Treasurer:** Barry Graham

3rd Vice President: vacant

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The March Meeting

The GCC was treated to an outstanding presentation by Chris Mercanti who told us everything we would ever need to know about *Bruce Power*, the nuclear power plant on our doorstep. The eight



edging GDLS support of our bursary program.

Our Newest Member Captain (retired) Ken Kennedy

The Polish Combatant's Association

By Stan Skrzeszewski

In the late 1940s to the early 1950s hundreds of Polish Veterans settled in the London area. These Veterans had served in the Polish Air Force, Navy, the Polish 2nd Corps and the 1st Armoured Division and fought alongside the Allies during World War II. Many of them had endured incredible hardships in order to join the Polish forces in the West. Many came through the Russian Gulag in order to serve. Very few of these Veterans are still with us and there was a real danger that their stories would be lost and they might be forgotten. In order to preserve their memory and to save them from forgetfulness, the Polish Combatant's Association, Branch 2 decided to write a book preserving what we could of their war time histories. In some cases we could only come up



with their names and a few details. In



some cases we could produce more detailed stories. Earlier this year we were very proud to publish a **Book** of **Remembrance:** Traces will Remain of Days Gone By - Biographies of Polish Veterans. Copies were given to our Veterans and they are now available from the Combatant's for \$15.00. This is our way of preserving their memory and living up to the final order of the day - Lest We Forget!

GCC Membership Dues

Your dues are our primary source of income.

Not to worry if you can't make it to all the meetings, your support still counts. Dues are **\$100** to the Treasurer, Barry Graham and cheques payable to *Garrison Community Council*.

Garrison Community Council, London and Region c/o 31 CBG, HQ, Wolseley Barracks
701 Oxford Street East
London, ON N5Y 4T7

If your cheque does not have your name on it, please attach a note identifying yourself. If your address, phone no. or email address has changed, let us know. If

you prefer to pay in person, bring your cheque or cash to our next meeting.

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The NAVY

HMCS Prevost - Leading The Naval Reserve

By SLt Chris Niesel

Over the course of the 2018-2019 Training Year HMCS Prevost has shown its determination to exceed expectations in areas of recruitment, training, and deployments. With the Naval Reserve being tasked to augment 10% of all HMC Ship sailing positions; the requirement to maintain individual certifications and training qualifications is our sailor's number one priority. Therefore, significant funding and effort has been put forth to achieve Naval Reserve refresher training.

As mentioned in previous articles, NRD's are required to host and run a variety of training events throughout the year to support each region. For the weekend of 15-17 March, HMCS Prevost deployed sailors to the Cedar Springs Range and Training Area, located just southwest of Blenheim, Ontario. The training area occupies

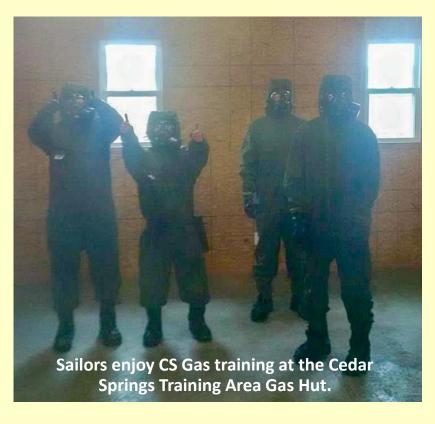
approximately 134 acres of land and was first established in 1912. Members arrived in the late afternoon on 15 March, shortly after everyone had settled in their allocated bunking assignments, PO1 Steven Greidanus led the Inital Action drills to familiarize sailors with the C-7 rifle. These drills are carried out to ensure a smooth range experience for the following morning that would transition to Chemical Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) training.

All members of the Canadian Armed Forces are trained in CBRN defense, and must maintain standards which are tested at least every three years. HMCS Prevost sought to undertake the effort of ensure that our members were meeting the three year rule. This is definitely a challenge due to

the limited availability of instructors, training gas, and facilities since the Naval Damage Control Schools, which would normally administer the recertification of the CBRN qualification, are located on the coasts.

PO1 Greidanus was the driving force behind organizing the weekend, including the difficult CBRN component. The latter required a lot of logistical expertise as CS-Gas tablets needed to be ordered, picked up and then delivered. The transport of the CS-Gas tablets requires the individual to be





certified as a Carrier of Dangerous Goods. The planning and scheduling of the aforementioned task was handled expeditiously by PO1 Greidanus who worked hand in hand with Prevost's Logistics department.

The weekend was a great success! HMCS Prevost was able to complete CBRN training certification along with the regular C-7 training shoot; this allowed HMCS Prevost to be the only NRD in the province to successfully attain the CBRN training qualification. Members of HMCS Prevost's ships company really enjoyed their weekend at Cedar Springs; everyone was able to refresh their personal reactions and challenged one another to improve as the CBRN component would normally only occur when individuals are away on occupational training and development.

Some of the Operating Vehicles at the Ontario Regiment RCAC Museum





The ARMY

31 Canadian Brigade Group

These articles, normally penned by members of the Brigade, offer a casual look at 31 Canadian Brigade Group. Written without heavy use of military lexicon, acronyms and abbreviations, they support information sharing to groups with diverse backgrounds and will, hopefully, offer a less formal view of the Brigade or examination of specific issues or events.

> C.W. Poole Colonel Commander, 31 Canadian Brigade Group



Special Delivery! 31 CBG Gets New TAPV



By SLt Andrew McLaughlin, 31 CBG

The 1st Hussars and Windsor Regiment (RCAC) have just received their first new Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle (TAPV). Each Regiment will operate two of the high-tech machines and train numerous vehicle commanders and crews.



F.A. Tilston VC Armoury, Windsor

The TAPV is a combat vehicle that will conduct reconnaissance and surveillance, security, command & control and armoured transport of personnel and equipment. The vehicle is highly mobile and provides very high protection for its crew.

These vehicles will expand the capabilities of the Canadian Army Reserve's Armoured Reconnaissance units and enable them to be ready to protect Canadians and their communities in times of need.





Exercise ALPINE SUSTAINER



By SLt Andrew McLaughlin PAO 31 CBG

From 11-13 February 2019 soldiers from 31 Service Battalion joined with soldiers from 33 Service Battalion for *Exercise ALPINE SUSTAINER*.

The adventure training exercise was led by 2 Service Battalion, a Regular Force unit based at Garrison Petawawa.

Continued next page ...









"The Ex began with the Reservists meeting our Regular Force counterparts at CFB Petawawa and immediately loading and boarding a bus for the town of Saint-Donat-de-Montcalm, Quebec." said Lieutenant Valdemar Kochanowski, 31 Svc Bn, who led the reserve detachment. "During the evenings, we slept and ate within the town but during the day we partook in various activities focused on physical fitness and adventure training in the surrounding area."

"The final day we travelled to Ski La Reserve where we conducted alpine skiing for the day before returning to CFB Petawawa and then home." The troops enjoyed the intense but gratifying training, according to the Lieutenant.

"This was a fantastic experience for both my troops as well as myself and we are grateful to 2 Service Battalion for offering us this opportunity." Day One included cross country skiing, snow-shoeing and ice skating through the nearby Parc des Pionniers. "The second day we conducted a day long hike to the summit of Mont Noir." said Kochanowski.



Photos: Lt Kochanowski, 31 Svc Bn



... and a couple more of what you will see





The CADETS

Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps *Warspite*Welcomes New Commanding Officer

By Cadet CPO2 Madison Green, Cadet Correspondent

Being the Commanding Officer of a Cadet Corps is no easy task. It takes lots of dedication, commitment, and determination. For the past 3 years, Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps (RCSCC) *Warspite* in Kitchener has been very fortunate to have Lt(N) Michelle Kirkham as our Commanding Officer. On the 5 March 2019, the Change of Command Ceremony took place. While

it is sad to see such a great leader leave, it is with a warm heart that we welcome Lt(N) Eric Bremner as our new Commanding Officer.

Throughout the ceremony, speeches were made talking about Lt(N) Kirkham's career as a cadet and as an officer within the Canadian Armed Forces in support of the Canadian Cadet Organization. Lt(N) Kirkham joined RCSCC Ajax when she was 15 years old, her family moved to Southampton where she joined RCSCC Cape Hurd and progressed



through the ranks until she earned the position of Coxswain. Lt(N) Kirkham is dedicated to the Sea Cadet Program, she has worked with many Sea Cadet Corps as well as Navy League Cadet Corps. In 2011, RCSCC *Warspite* welcomed her as a New Entry Officer and Divisional Officer.

During her time at RCSCC Warspite Lt(N) Kirkham has worked with the Marksmanship and Seamanship teams. While working with these teams she has connected with Cadets and built a close bond with everyone in the Ship's Company. Every parade night Lt(N) Kirkham would get to her tasks with a positive attitude and she brought a smile to each person she interacted with. RCSCC Warspite was incredibly lucky to have her as an officer inspiring youth to become leaders today and in the future.





Signing ceremony at the Change of Command Parade for RCSCC Warspite with the incoming Commanding Officer, Lt(N) Eric Bremner, Presiding Officer, LCdr Chris Patterson, and Outgoing Commanding Officer, Lt(N) Michelle Kirkham.

band programs, including winning the provincial competition.

Lt(N) Bremner continues to demonstrate his passion for music as the director of the RCSCC Warspite band. Under his leadership, the RCSCC Warspite band has won the area level band competition for Southwestern Ontario and moved on to provincials. His work

Officer Lt(N) Kirkham looks on. does not go unnoticed. He is truly dedicated to his service in the Canadian Armed Forces and the Ca-

Her dedication and time spent with Warspite was very appreciated and will be missed.

As we thank Lt(N) Kirkham for her time spent at RCSCC Warspite, we also welcome our new Commanding Officer, Lt(N) Eric Bremner. He started his involvement in the Cadet Program in Sault Ste. Marie when he joined the Navy League Cadet Corps Newman then later joined RCSCC Royal Sovereign. During his years as a cadet, Lt(N) Bremner attained level 5 Master Bandsman qualification. He has dedicated much of his time to the music and

Lt(N) Eric Bremner receiving the sword signifying the transfer of command of RCSCC Warspite by the Presidand connection with the Cadets of RCSCC Warspite ing Officer, LCdr Patterson, as outgoing Commanding

nadian Cadet Organizations. RCSCC Warspite is very proud to welcome such a talented and committed Commanding Officer.

The Warspite Family has been very fortunate to have such dedicated, passionate, and well-trained

Lt(N) Michelle Kirkham addresses the Ship's Company

leaders and we wish both Lt(N) Kirkham and Lt(N) Bremner the best of luck in their new adventures.



Photos by Cadet CPO2 Madison Green. © DND/MND 2019 Page 14

April in Our History

1669 3e avril	Nouvelle France	Le roi Louis XIV ordonne au gouverneur de la Nouvelle-France d'organiser des compagnies pour l'entraînement militaire au Canada; il s'agit de la naissance officielle de la milice canadienne.
1713 11 April	For Dumhin	The Treaty of Utrecht is signed as France abandons all claims to Acadia and Newfoundland, but maintains its sovereignty over the île Saint –Jean (PEI) and île Royale (Cape Breton Island).
1813 27 April		Americans capture and burn York (Toronto).
1848 4 April	Army	The 8th Canadian Hussars (Princess Louise's) is Canada's oldest armoured regiment. The Regiment has continuously served Canada since 4 April 1848. In the early days, the men were paid more for the upkeep of their horses than they earned themselves.
1917 9 April	wwı	Vimy Ridge is captured by the Canadian Corps.
1942 6 April	WW II	The First Canadian Army formed in the United Kingdom under the command of Lieutenant-General A.G.L. McNaughton.
1944 14 April	RCN	HMCS Swansea and HMS Pelican combine to sink the German submarine U-448 in the North Atlantic.
1947 5 April	RCAF	The Royal Canadian Air Force receives its first helicopters, number one of seven Sikorsky H-5s, to be used in search and rescue operations.
1951 24-25 April	Korea	The 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry stops the Chinese at Kapyong in Korea, an action for which the battalion is later awarded the United States Distinguished Unit Citation, now called the "Presidential Unit Citation".
1953 21 Avril	Corée	Le 3e Bataillon, Royal 22e Régiment, remplace le 1er Bataillon, Royal 22e Régiment, en Corée.
1962 11 April	RCN	The Government of Canada announces plans to build eight frigates and buy three submarines.





GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

London and Region

www.qcclondon.ca

Upcoming Events

Garrison Community Council

THE

garrison community count		
General Meeting	10 April	Wolseley Barracks
General Meeting	8 May	HMCS Prevost
Field Trip - Tank Museum	11 May	See page 3
Field Trip - Canadian Centre for Product Validation	22 May	Detail To Be Advised
General Meeting	12 June	Wolseley Barracks
London and Region		
Finan Comedy Show	12 April	Convention Centre
1st Hussars Dinner Fundraiser Contact: Pat O'Hagan 519 680 1334	5 May	The Springs 310 Springbank Drive
The Trooper Mark Wilson Chapter of the United Nations Peacekeepers Fundraiser	28 April	The Victory Legion
RLMI Meetings & Activities (page 18)	8 April 13 May	HMCS Prevost Mixed Formal Dinner
www.rlmi.ca	6 June	Tour #34 (See page 18)
South Western Ontario Military Family	April Cale	endar is on page 17

ith western Ontario Millitary Family Resource Centre

Veterans' Golf Tournament

See page 19 13 June







APRIL 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	FrI	Sat
"Like" us on Facebook www.facebook.com/ landen	,	2	3 L: Wonderful Wednesday L: Little Troopers Playgroup	.4	E: PA Day Adventure Club H: Portraits of Honour Hookey Game	6
7	8 L: "Mindfulness for Everyday Life"	9	10 L: Wonderful Wednesday L: Little Troopers Playgroup H: Rustic Sign Workshop	11 H: Living the Reality Of Loss	12	18 H: Chocolate Tales
14	15 L: Decluttering Workshop See Back For Details	16	L: Wonderful Wednesday L: Little Troopers Playgroup H: Creative Writing for The Mind, Body & Soul	18 W: Children's Easter Celebration "Tentative"	19 Good Friday All Offices Are Closed	20
21	22 Easter Monday All Offices Are Closed	23	24 L: Wonderful Wednesday L: Little Troopers Playgroup H: Creative Writing for The Mand, Body & Soul	28	26	27 L-STRENGTH BEHIND THE UNIFORM DINNER
28	29	30 L: "Becoming an Ob- server In your Life" See Back for Details	Family Information Line 1-800-868-4546 Ell (CCA-connection ca	www.CAFconnection.ca /london	"You're Not Alone" Access Immediate Mental Health Assistance by colling 1-800-268-7788	ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BABYSITTER COURSE ALL MONTH LONG HAMILTON INFO ON BACK

London Events

April 3/10/17/24: Wonderful Wednesday Coffee, Time: 9:30am-11:30am, Contact Kym 519-660-5275 x5432. **Cost:** Almost always Free; however, there may times when cost is a factor. Watch for your emails from Kym Wolfe. **Location:** Conference Room at the SWOMFRC. If you have children from Tyr-5yrs they may attend the Little Troopers Playgroup offered the same time as the Wonderful Wednesday Coffee Morning.

April 3: April Fool-ish Game Day **April 10:** Paint an Easter Plate

April 17: Coffee & Chat

April 24: Explore London: Breakfast at Billy's

April 5: Adventure Club PA Day. Time: 7:30am-4:00pm. Location: SWOMFRC Children's Room. Cost: \$25.00/child. Contact:

Shanon.Kisslinger@forces.gc.ca, x5002

April 8: "Mindfulness For Everyday Life" Presentation by Diane Yeo For Women 18+. Time: 7:00-8:00pm. Cost: \$5.00, Contact Emilie 519-660-5275 x5029. Location: SWOMFRC Main Events Room 153

April 15: Decluttering Workshop. Time: 6:30-8:00pm. Cost: free. Location: SWOMFRC Main Events Room 153

April 27: Strength Behind the Uniform Dinner. Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm. Location: SWOMFRC Main Events Room. Cost: Free, donations accepted. Contact: Beverly.Robbins@forces.gc.ca

April 30: "Becoming an Observer in Your Life" Presentation by Joanna Rogister. Time: 7:00-9:00pm. Cost: \$5.00, contact Emilie 519-660-5275 x5029. Refreshments Included. ALL Participants will receive a copy of Joanna's book "The Magnificence of Magenta"

For information on Hamilton and Windsor Events - please contact the respective Event Coordinator

Hamilton Events
Contact Donna Pickering
P: 905-972-4000 x 6623
E: Donna.Pickering@forces.gc.ca

London Events
Contact Brenda Willsie
P: 519-660-5366
E: brenda.willsie@forces.gc.ca

Windsor Events
Contact Erin Jordan
P: 519-254-2535 x 4501
E: Erin.Jordan@forces.gc.ca

Caregiver Zone-Supporting Care-givers of Veterans in Canada http://caregiver.ca/#1/forefront/home

Contact Deborah Smith for information regarding services for Veterans and their families Deborah.Smith2@forces.gc.ca 519-660-5275 x5005 *Events subject to change*



Dear Friends:

It's been a few years since we lasted hosted a free night of stand-up comedy for our friends and clients. This is a very special year for us at Finan Home Service as we are celebrating 25 years in business. Each year we have grown in staff and clients and that is thanks to you and your family.

For us Laughter and Gratitude are very important and we are hoping to have you and a guest join us for an evening of both.

Thank you, John and Martha Finan



We want to treat you and a guest to a free night of hilarious stand up comedy at the London Convention Centre

Friday April 12, 2019
7pm Cash Bar | 8pm Show
London Convention Centre, 300 York St

Seating is limited RSVP as soon as you can 519-455-0453 or info@finanhomeservice.com Don't miss out!

RLMI Rotes

Monday 8 April 2019 1900hrs

(please come early/note early start time).

Presentation: "Clearing the Way". Special screening of the documentary.

The film recounts the exploits of the Combat Engineers attached to the 1 RCR Battle Group in 2006. Operation Medusa, Afghanistan September 2006 was Canada's largest combat operation since Korea.

Paul Culliton, Producer of the film "Clearing the Way", spoke at the RLMI March meeting on the challenges of producing a documentary on Afghanistan. Additional footage not included in the final documentary was presented.

Guests are welcome!

RLMI Tour #34 Thursday, 6 June 2019



- Canadian Historical Aircraft Association / Aviation Museum
- ♦ Route 42 Diner at the Windsor Airport
- Pelee Island Winery, Kingsville
- Wayside Dining Lounge, Buffest Dinner, Talbotville

Cost is \$75 per person. Contact the RLMI for details. Page 18



Classic Golf Tournament

Thursday, 13 June 2019 – Registration Starts at 9am, Ceremonial Tee Shots at 10:30am, Shotgun Start at 11am, Four-person scramble.

Forest City National Club, London, Ontario

Early Birds before 1 May - \$110.00 per person includes Golf & Dinner, & shared Cart After 1 May - \$125 per person.

Registration deadline - 6 June.

Go to <u>www.vimylondon.ca</u>, See link to Golf Tournament.

Prizes awarded for: Best overall team score,

Closest to the Pin (Men & Ladies),

Hole in One wins*: 1 year vehicle lease from Dale Downie Nissan and Commercial

Vehicles.

Most Honest Golfers & more

Proceeds shall benefit

London Military Family Resource Centre, and the Parkwood Institute Veterans' Care Program

ALE DOWNIE

NISSAN Commercial Vehicles



www.vimylegion.ca

* Refer to tournament rules