



The **GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL** **London and Region**

www.gcclondon.ca

September 2019

The Connection





The Garrison Community Council



Building Closer Connections Between Canadians and our Military

In This Issue

SEPTEMBER MEETING

September's Speaker	3
From the President	4
The GCC	5
Our Book Review	7
Student Bursaries	9
The Navy	10
The Army	12
The Cadets	18
The Summer in Our History	22
Upcoming Events	23

FROM THE EDITOR

Last year we had a Summer Issue that covered July, August and September. The was to show the Garden Party we held in June and then catch up on the busy summer activities of the Navy and the Army. This year, I held the "Summer Issue" back as our Reservists and Cadets have provided a wealth of material to let us know what they have been up. So, by the time you read this, the "summer issue" has become the September Issue.

I hope this month's Newsletter rekindles your enthusiasm after the break. Just like being a kid again and can't wait for school to start up after the holidays. (Well, for most of us.) Welcome back everyone.

Dave Barton

FRONT COVER

Captain Vince Gagnon instructs an ExecuTrek participant on the Abseil Tower at the Blackdown Cadet Training Centre, CFB Borden. See Page 19. (Photo: Lt(N) Terri-Leigh Saunders, UPAR, RCSU Central)

Lieutenant Heather Pesto is a tow pilot at Mountain View. She recently completed her 1,000th tow. Story on Page 18. (Photo: Flight Sergeant Noah Rego, Cadet Correspondent)

Kate Young, Member of Parliament for London West, and Peter Fragiskatos, Member of Parliament for London North Centre announce the change in Reserve Force pay. Left to right: CPO2 Kevin Van Arnhem, Lieutenant-Commander Derek Niles, Peter Fragiskatos, Kate Young, Randy Warden. See Page 8. (Photo: Lt(N) Andrew McLaughlin, PAO 31 CBG)

You are most welcome to join us

Like reading this Newsletter? Perhaps you have come to 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

... or just come
to a meeting





THE GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL London and Region

www.gcclondon.ca

The General Meeting Wednesday 11 September

**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 Saylor by e-mail (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

Speaker **Detective Constable Ryan McNichol**
Human Trafficking

Detective Constable Ryan has served 14 years in the London police Service. He moved from Uniformed Patrol to the Human Trafficking Unit in September 2016.



MEMBERS ARE ASKED NOT TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS DURING THE PRESENTATION



From the President

It is hoped that everyone had a good and relaxing summer.

As you are aware, over the last few months, your Executive has been working to ensure that the GCC is supporting the military community.

To that end, there have been several meetings with the Commander 31 Canadian Brigade Group, the Commanding Officer of HMCS Prevost and their staffs. These meetings have been very positive.

During the preparation for those meetings, there was concern that the GCC was not optimally organised to neither achieve our aims and objectives nor to best utilize the experiences and talents of its members. Additionally, a new major factor came to light.

After informally speaking with organisations similar to the GCC, it was concluded that the GCC does not reflect our modern litigious times, thus potentially exposing all of us to financial risk as we undertake our activities. This fact was brought home forcefully when we reflected upon the road visit to the Ontario Regiment (RCAC) Museum last May. Consequently, we are making efforts to determine the feasibility of incorporating the GCC as a Not for Profit corporation in Ontario. An incorporated status would mitigate our risk as the organisation would be an entity separate from the members. As will be appreciated, there is much work to be done to determine the prudence of such incorporation as it will impact our current structure. Consequently, the process will take much time and effort. As we gather the information about the criteria for incorporation as a Not for Profit group, we will provide you periodically with updates. Hopefully, by the AGM in February you will be able to decide whether to support the incorporation of the GCC as a Not-For-Profit entity to provide the necessary protection for all members and enable the organization to flourish and grow.

As an aside, should any member have experience in establishing a Not for Profit corporation, please contact me. We don't want "to reinvent the wheel".

On another matter, with September upon us, we begin a new series of Speaker Presentations, starting with the London Police Service speaking on Human Trafficking. Please make an effort to attend with a friend who might want to join us. As Tom Dean pointed out often last year, the first step in recruiting new member is to "ask" someone.

All the best,
Geoff



The GCC Executive

President: Geoff Hutton

1st Vice President: Tom Dean

2nd Vice President: Dave Barton

3rd Vice President: Randy Harden

Secretary: Beth Sayler

Treasurer: Barry Graham

Past President: Doug McAndless





The June Meeting

We thoroughly enjoyed our guests for the June meeting. Colonel Pierre Viens, Deputy Commandant of the Canadian Forces College, gave an interesting talk on creative problem-solving in the military. His responses to questions from our members certainly added value to his presentation. Rene

McKinnon introduced Colonel Viens who was then thanked by Ken Kennedy. CWO Mark Delorosbil, RSM of the 31 Brigade Group Battle School, spoke about current activities at Wolsley Barracks and the 31 CBG Public Affairs Officer, Lieutenant(N) Andrew McLaughlin told us about how our local military uses Facebook to reach out to the community. Lieutenant-Commander Derek Niles brought the GCC up-to-date on the activities of *HMCS Prevost*.



Tom Dean

Ken Kennedy

Colonel Pierre Viens

Our Newest Member

Kathy Longo was a YMCA Woman of Excellence for 2019. Kathy and her husband Frank, are well known London philanthropists. She is a co-chair of the Youth Opportunities Unlimited new addition building campaign. **Kathy is also the new Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of the 31 Service Battalion.** Her sponsor, Murray Faulkner, a retired London Police Chief, preceded her in this appointment.



Tom, Kathy & Murray

Canadian Club of London D-Day

Dave Barton and Doug McAndless attended the GCC



sponsored table at the Canadian Club lunch on 12 June at the Convention Centre. The table was filled by students from **John Paul II Catholic Secondary School** in London. It was a most satisfying experience conversing with these young, energetic minds and they enjoyed hearing what the GCC is all about. The speaker was Dr. Jeffrey Noakes from the Canadian War Museum.

Photo: Campus Creative London

D-Day Veterans welcome combat boots of remembrance at the end of cross-Canada commemorative train journey

As you may already know, VIA Rail is proud to have worked, in concert with the Ministry of Veterans Affairs, to highlight an important event in Canadian history: the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings. To celebrate the occasion, a pair of combat boots was sent by train from coast to coast. The journey went from Vancouver to Churchill to Halifax and lasted from March 29th to June 6th. Several stops were made along the way so that commemoration events could be held at local stations for veterans, their families and any Canadians who wished to attend the ceremonies.

For more information about the journey, please consult the following link: <https://www.canada.ca/en/veterans-affairs-canada/news/2019/06/at-destination-combat-boots-welcomed-to-75th-anniversary-of-d-day-and-the-battle-of-normandy-events-in-halifax-d-day-veterans-welcome-combat-boots-.html>

In the spirit of honouring those who served, VIA Rail is happy to announce a special offer that will allow active service members, veterans and their families to save 40% on ticket prices this summer. Additional information and conditions about this offer can be found at the following link: <https://www.viarail.ca/en/canadian-forces>

Welcome Back!

Now that the summer heat and rain are behind us, we look forward to the Fall. As part of looking ahead, we hope that you will consider making efforts to help us recruit some new members. We have room for new members.

Is there a friend or neighbour who may be interested in becoming a member of the GCC? We offer knowledgeable speakers on a variety of current topics including current military matters as well as a second look at significant military events of the past. Invite that friend or neighbour to come with you to a meeting of the GCC. Send them a copy of our most recent informative Newsletter. There are people waiting to be asked. Ask them!

It is a good time to join the GCC as the dues for the balance of the year are reduced by 50% to only \$50.00. Each new member receives a new member's kit which includes a membership certificate, lapel pin, name badge and Support Our Troops decals for the car or home.

Pick up the phone and call that potential new member, send that person a copy of the Newsletter and bring that person with you to the next meeting. And don't forget to order a sandwich or wrap for you guest. We look forward to meeting your guests.

Tom Dean
1st VP - Membership

ROBIN NEILLANDS
**THE BATTLE FOR
THE RHINE**
1944

ARNHEM AND THE ARDENNES
THE CAMPAIGN IN EUROPE



Our Book Review

By Dr. Paul Webb

The Battle for the Rhine and the Ardennes

- Robin Neillands, UK, 2005; Kindle 2018.

This is the fourth book Neillands has written on the WW II European campaigns, so he is familiar with all the players, their military doctrine, their personal idiosyncrasies, strengths and weaknesses. Added to that asset is a very clear and readable writing style, and a persistent analysis of all the factors going into the dozens of key decisions of this campaign. Quickly dismissing the old films “A Bridge Too Far,” and “Patton” as fanciful entertainment, Neilland’s approach focuses on a handful of key issues, such as leadership qualities, and the absolutely crucial supply problem.

Most readers will know the allied set up: Canadians on the left wing, clearing the Channel ports, and eventually tasked with the Scheldt (and Neillands gives full credit to the Canadian contribution, not just lumping us in with the “British” forces as so many authors do), then the British forces in the middle, and the Americans on the

right wing. The question was, where to place the maximum effort to deal a death blow to the Germans? Montgomery pushed the northern route, and needed most of the scarce fuel supplies to do it; Patton, backed by Bradley, wanted the southern route (and the supplies). Montgomery, who lacked the ability to know how to “manage up” was crude in his approach to Eisenhower, but did finally get the nod for his plan. But, and it is a big but, Eisenhower could not stick with it – a disappointed Patton stealthily pushed his troops forward until they were in the thick of a fight, then wheedled more supplies from Eisenhower to solve his problem. Eisenhower caved, and key resources were diverted from the northern thrust. Basically, Eisenhower lacked the “grip” to rein in Patton, and perforce adopted a “broad front” strategy, where all units fought hard all the time. If you have surplus supplies, that works well, but if not, no army has the means to advance much. And so this campaign dragged on for months, allowing the Germans to shift their meagre assets to meet each modest threat.

The supply issue conjures up the Scheldt campaign, handed to the Canadian army. Fighting conditions in the polders and dykes were beyond horrible, and Canadian manpower was drying up in the face of casualties. Oddly, Antwerp, the major port, was taken early, but the British commanders did not choose to move on quickly enough, which allowed the Germans to reinforce the Scheldt Estuary defences which caused the Canadians such grief.

The author deals with the two events most known by the public: the Arnhem operation, and the Battle of the Bulge. The first was Montgomery’s best chance for his northern front strategy, and it failed for a number of reasons on several levels; and the Bulge, while a bit tense, was not a very serious threat.

Leadership issues emerge as the constant problem – Eisenhower just could not rein in Patton to really push an overwhelming northern thrust; Montgomery was first rate on the battlefield, but his own worst enemy in the conference room; subordinate officers sometimes stumbled – Bradley connived with Patton to circumvent Eisenhower's decisions; local commanders sometimes made just bad tactical moves.

In summary this is a well researched book which challenges several accepted "truths," and as an introduction, or a refresher, on this campaign one could not do much better.

Our GCC member, Paul Webb was born and raised in London. He shared his time at Beck Secondary School with the 1st Hussars. Graduating with a BA (Honours) in history at King's College, UWO Ontario in 1966 and followed by a Masters at UWO the next year, he went on to postgraduate studies at Cambridge. He joined the Faculty at King's College in July 1970 teaching European history 1500-1945. Paul retired in 2016.



Reserve Force Pay



Photo: SLt Andrew McLaughlin, 31 CBG

Kate Young, Member of Parliament for London West, and **Peter Fragiskatos**, Member of Parliament for London North Centre, announced at Wolseley Barracks the change in Reserve Force pay structure with Reservists from 31 Canadian Brigade Group (31 CBG) and HMCS Prevost on July 18, 2019.

"This important initiative laid out in Canada's defence policy, Strong, Secure, Engaged will ensure that our Reserve Force members are fairly compensated for their service. It is a clear demonstration of how our government and all Canadians value the dedication and sacrifices of all members of our Canadian Armed Forces."

The Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan, Minister of National Defence



THE GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Student Bursaries 2019

In appreciation of your service, London and Region's **Garrison Community Council**, with support from **General Dynamics Land Systems - Canada**, will award a number of bursaries to serving military personnel in Primary Reserve units who are enrolled in post-secondary education. Each bursary is worth \$1,000 and may be used for any educational expense.

How to Apply

Details and Application Forms are available on the GCC website under Outreach Activities on the website **www.gcclondon.ca** Applications must be submitted in electronic format and sent by e-mail (*Attention: GCC Bursary Selection Committee*) to:

garrisoncommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Primary Reserve members serving in the following local Units and noted locations are eligible for a GCC Bursary:

1st Hussars [London, Sarnia]
31 Combat Engineer Regiment (The Elgin's) [St. Thomas, Waterloo]
31 Signal Regiment [London]
4th Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment [London, Stratford]
31 Service Battalion [London, Windsor, Hamilton]
31 Military Police [London]
31 Canadian Brigade Group HQ
HMCS Prevost

**The deadline for completed applications is
25 OCTOBER 2019**



The NAVY



HMCS Prevost

The Father of the Naval Reserve

By SLt Chris Niesel



Vice-Admiral Art McDonald addressing the crowd at Rear-Admiral Hose's resting place in Heavenly Rest Cemetery, Windsor.

Parks Canada started a Hometown Heroes initiative which will be commemorating individuals from all walks of life who have made unique contributions to the war effort. Parks Canada would like communities across the country to know the remarkable stories of these Hometown Heroes, honour their memory, and express gratitude for their service by visiting Parks Canada's National Historic Sites, National Parks, and National Marine Conservation Areas.

The most recent ceremony took place on June 22, 2019, in Windsor Ontario, where the community, along with the Royal Canadian Navy, honoured the late Rear-Admiral Walter Hose, CBE. Rear-Admiral Hose was born aboard a steamship in the Indian Ocean in 1895, and at age 14, he enlisted as a cadet serving at home and abroad for the next 21 years. He commanded HMCS *Rainbow*, one of only two Warships that the Royal Canadian Navy possessed during World War I. He was promoted to Captain in 1918, and appointed Senior Naval Officer, Halifax and Captain of Patrols for the east coast.

In 1920, he became Naval Assistant to the Minister and Acting Director of the Naval Service. In 1921, he was appointed Director of the Naval Service, then promoted to Commodore First Class in 1923.

Rear-Admiral Hose is widely regarded as the 'Father of the Royal Canadian Navy Reserve', he had a vision of a 'Citizen Navy' which led to the creation of the Royal Canadian Navy Volunteer Reserve. This initiative was of great importance during World War II, as the infrastructure allowed for recruitment and training throughout the nation.

His legacy includes 24 Naval Reserve Divisions which are distributed across all Canada, and to this day play an important role in Canada's defence initiative.



Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy, **Vice-Admiral Art McDonald** (centre left) and the Grandson of Rear-Admiral Hose, **Terry Leahey** (centre right) unveil the “**Hometown Hero**” commemorative plaque for Rear-Admiral Hose in Heavenly Rest Cemetery, Windsor, Ontario on 22 June 2019.



Hometown Heroes is a community-based initiative by Parks Canada that honours and tells the stories of ordinary citizens, both civilian and those in the armed forces, who contributed to Canada’s wartime efforts during the First and Second World Wars. <https://www.warmuseum.ca/event/hometown-heroes/>



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.

*Joe Robinson
Colonel*

Commander, 31 Canadian Brigade Group

31 Canadian Brigade Group Gets New Commander and Brigade Sergeant-Major



Colonel Joe Robinson, COMD 31 CBG

Commander, 4th Canadian Division, presided over the parade.

Colonel Poole's message to the troops:

"Thanks to all of you for a successful Change of Command Team Parade and for the departing gifts. Col Robinson and CWO Delarosbil will do an excellent job as your new Command Team. As you know, it is a privilege



Colonel Chris Poole

On Friday August 23, 2019, 31 Canadian Brigade Group held a Change of Command Team ceremony in the field at the end of Exercise STALWART GUARDIAN.

Colonel Chris Poole handed over command to Colonel Joe Robinson, and CWO Rob Talach handed the Sergeant Major's stick to CWO Mark Delarosbil. Brigadier-General C.J.J. Mialkowski,



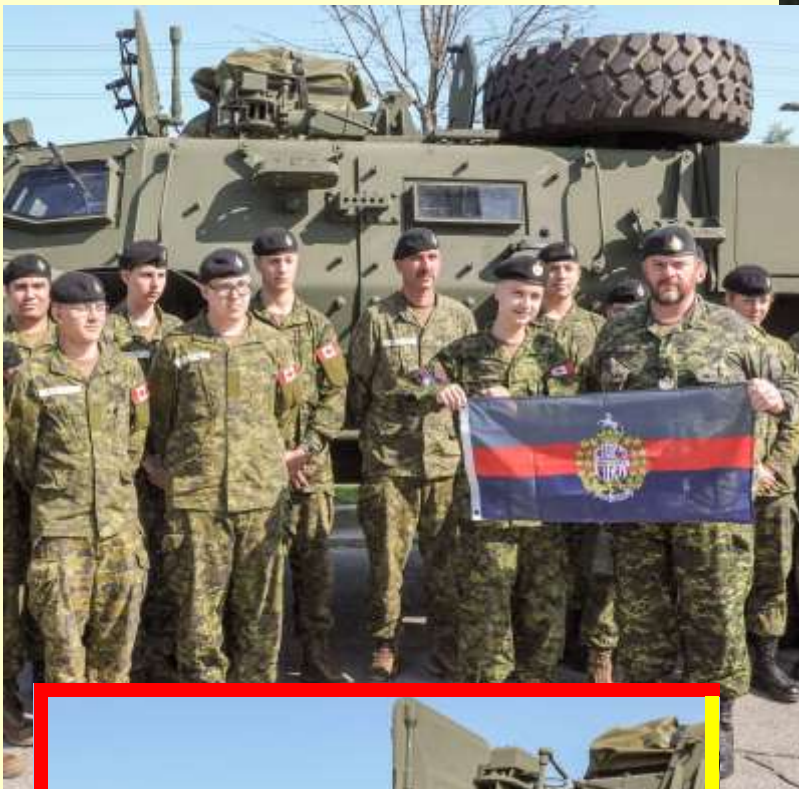
The Sergeant Major's Stick

to command our great soldiers and the last three years have been humbling... You have accomplished much and attained the outstanding results expected by our fellow Canadians. I wish you and yours the very best."



Aiden Anderson Joins the Regiment

The 1st Hussars were proud to host Make-A-Wish recipient **Aiden Anderson** at his hometown Canadian Army unit in London on July 24, 2019. Our troops were thrilled to welcome him to our team at Wolseley Barracks where he got a ride in our new Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle. Aiden joined the troops on DP1-Armour and got a tour of the base, participated in hands-on equipment demonstrations and took part in a ceremony welcoming him as an Honourary Recruit and member of the Regiment.



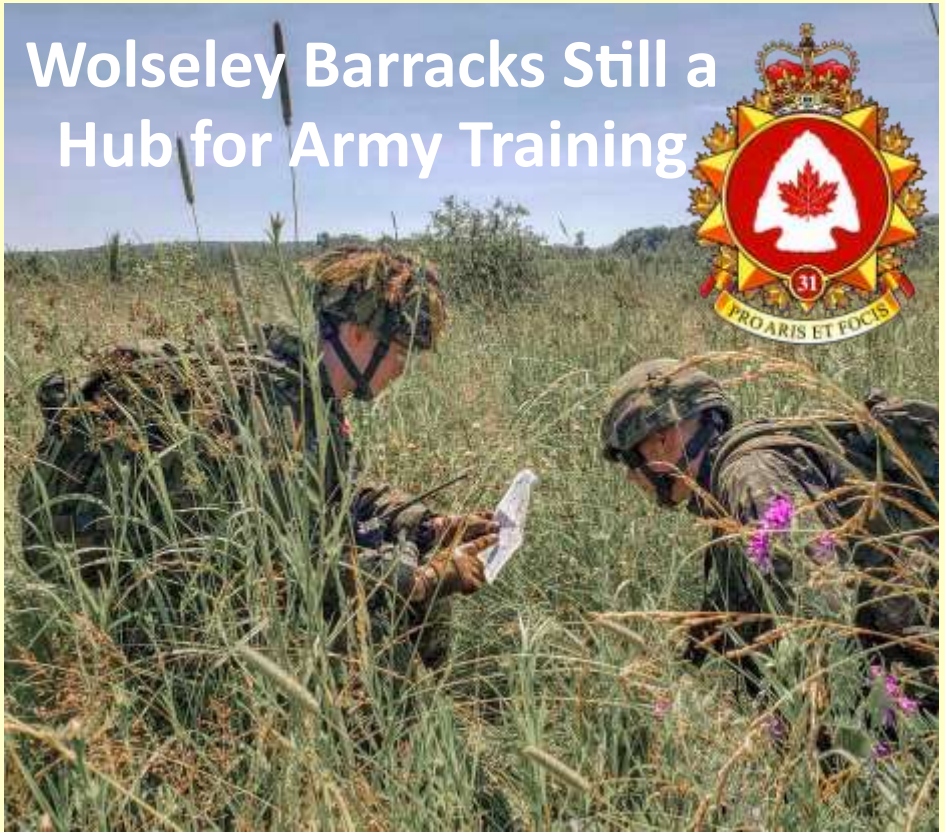
Photos: Lt(N) Andrew McLaughlin, 31 CBG

Make-A-Wish

<https://makeawishswo.ca/about-us>

Many locals believe the Army (basically) left London a long time ago; but they are wrong in that assumption. In fact, we train hundreds of Canadian Army Reserve soldiers at 31 Canadian Brigade Group Battle School (31 CBG BSL) every summer – from new recruits to junior leaders and officers. Much of that training takes place at Wolseley Barracks, which regularly hosts 31 CBG BSL courses during the Reserve Summer Training (RST) period, which coincides with the end of the post-secondary school year, and runs roughly to Labour Day. Many of the courses that begin here later move to various field training areas, including 4th Canadian Division Training Centre (4 CDTC) Meaford, Cedar Springs Rifle Range (CSRR) in Chatham, and CFB Borden near Barrie. Additionally, many of our senior personnel from London units run courses and instruct new soldiers all across Canada during RST.

Wolseley Barracks Still a Hub for Army Training



We had a chance to visit a 31 CBG-led Army Junior Leadership Course (AJLC) at 4 CDTC on July 17, 2019. AJLC prepares soldiers at the Corporal rank to take the next step to becoming Section Second in Command (2IC) and in some cases, Section Commanders. The primary focus is receiving orders, conducting detailed planning, and the execution of operational tasks utilizing the NATO standard 16 Steps of Battle Procedure. The final test is a gruelling evaluation period conducted in the field with high intensity, opposed combat training, focusing on Stability Operations, which include scenarios like Vehicle Check Points (VCPs) and Securing Sensitive Sites (SSS) in hostile terrain. Also shown are Basic Military Qualification-Land (BMQ-L) candidates at both Wolseley Barracks and CSRR. BMQ-L is





where soldiers complete the “field phase” of basic training, and are immersed in realistic combat scenarios and subjected to the stresses of field operations by an experienced cadre of instructors – made up of the Non-Commissioned Officer corps of 31 CBG. Also shown are troops on Developmental Phase 1 - Ar-

mour at Wolseley Barracks, where future armoured recce crews train on the fundamentals of firepower, protection and mobility as they learn how to operate on the battlefield and to provide current and indispensable information on the enemy to their commanders.

The RST period is critical to our ability to train and prepare what can be considered a recent, and substantial influx of new and developing Army Reserve soldiers for real-world missions, which can emerge at any time. Our soldiers take part in a wide spectrum of training for Army operations – and our Officers and NCOs travel across Canada to teach students on armoured reconnaissance and artillery courses; instruct on how to become combat engineers, signallers, and infantry



soldiers; and train troops on how to effectively operate as combat service and support specialists. Although we don't host all



types of trade courses here in London, this area has a long and distinguished history of being integral to Army preparedness – and we are proud and ready to continue this legacy by training hundreds of soldiers every year to defend Canadians at home and abroad, whenever they're required.



*By Lt(N) Andrew McLaughlin,
PAO, 31 CBG*



STALWART GUARDIAN Tests One Army Concept

By Lt(N) Andrew McLaughlin, PAO, 31

Exercise STALWART GUARDIAN (Ex SG) is the largest collective training event for Army Reserve (ARes) formations and units within 4th Canadian Division (4 Cdn Div). It is aimed at integrating regular and reserve forces into a team that is based upon a 'One Army' concept, which allows for large-scale collective training in preparation for 4 Cdn Div entering high-readiness in 2020. This period will see the division put onto an alert posture, in order to deploy at a moment's notice at home in Canada, or abroad.

The Exercise focused on realistic and challenging training for ARes soldiers, facilitated by their Regular Force (RegF) counterparts from 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group, and contributed to improved Reserve and Regular Force integration. Backed by a wealth of equipment and a large number of RegF soldiers, the Reserve components took on important roles within composite Battle Groups, and went on to practice advanced, offensive operations.

Ex SG 19 occurred in two phases, each taking place simultaneously in Petawawa and Meaford: IBTS (August 12-16) and Force-on-Force (FTX, August 17-25), with over 1,700 personnel participating. Meaford hosted the armoured and artillery components, while Petawawa hosted the Infantry and Combat Engineers. Both locations were supported in-depth by Combat Service Support and Signals assets.

Infantry activities included an 80-hour continuous exercise that saw a dismounted advance against a robust Opposing Force, with Company and Platoon-sized elements commanded by ARes leaders conducting an amphibious assault and deliberate attack against a dug-in enemy.

Armoured crews engaged in Level 2 live-fire and a TAPV driver course. Artillery gunners conducted multiple live-fire shoots and leapfrogged batteries, manoeuvring to support a brigade advance. Combat Engineers supported the assault water crossing, and practiced explosive breaching.

In addition, tactical training included Live-Fire Pairs,



Photo: Lt(N) Andrew McLaughlin

Advance-to-Contact, Ambushes, Raids, Indirect Fire Missions, Live Demolitions, Obstacle Breaches, Delivery Point Operations, and Deploying/Operating CP Detachments.

“The 2019 iteration of Exercise Stalwart Guardian was a great success,” said BGen. Conrad Mialkowski, Commander, 4th Canadian Division and Joint Task Force (Central). “This training shows that soldiers from across 4th Canadian Division have the necessary skill sets to respond when the Canadian Army is called on both at home and abroad. Parti-



pants from across Ontario, a combination of both Regular and Primary Reserve Force soldiers, can be proud of the training they accomplished during this annual training exercise.”





The CADETS



CADET GLIDING

*By Lieutenant(N) Gillian Metcalfe, PAO
Mountain View Cadet Flying Training Centre*

Mountain View Cadet Flying Training Centre (MVCFTC) is full of action as 63 cadets work to earn their Glider Pilot Wings with 36 cadets working to earn their Power Pilot Wings at three satellite locations. Each cadet participated in an intense testing and interview process in order to have this opportunity.

Cadets on the Power Pilot Scholarship course are training at Journey Air Pilot Training in Windsor, Diamond Flight Centre in London and MAG Aerospace in Sudbury. These civilian schools are well-equipped to offer the cadets the experience of a lifetime.

Those cadets who are part of the Glider Pilot Scholarship course split their time between the Mountain View and Picton airports, both of which were bombing and gunnery schools during World War II. Mountain View remains owned by the Department of National Defence while Picton was sold to a private company. This gives them the opportunity to gain experience



Photo: Alex Pierzak



Students at the Power Pilot Scholarship site in Windsor celebrate their first solo flights together.

Photo: Alex Pierzak



with different airfields and have a glimpse into some military history.

While training to become a pilot cadets learn many other skills that serve them well in life, including leadership and a strong work ethic. Many return to Mountain View or to other cadet training centres to work as instructors, tow pilots or as staff.

The cadets are well on their way to earning their wings and are looking forward to their Wings Parade on August 23, 2019 at their respective training locations.

Colin Appleman of Lucan was the first student of the 2019 Glider Pilot Scholarship course at Mountain View to go solo. His instructor and other staff perform the traditional "solo soaking" to celebrate his achievement.

Photo: Flight Sergeant Noah Rego

Transferable Skills Highlighted During *ExecuTrek* 2019

By Lieutenant (N) Terri-Leigh Saunders, PAO RCSU (Central)

In joint venture spearheaded by members of the **Canadian Forces Liaison Council (CFLC)**, the *ExecuTrek* program recently gave CIC officers the opportunity to spend a day showing civilian employers about what life is like for Canadian Armed Forces Reservists in the Cadet Instructor Cadre (CIC).

***ExecuTrek* participants with CIC Officers and the Canadian Forces Liaison Council (CFLC), following a briefing on the operational role of the Light Armoured Vehicle.**



Photo: Lt(N) Terri-Leigh Saunders

After being nominated by their employees, July 24th saw employers from various businesses in Southern Ontario come together in the spirit of learning, to understand how their support and cooperation results in an invaluable return on their investment. Social workers, first responders, labourers, lawyers and others from the community made their way to Blackdown Cadet Training Centre (CTC), at CFB Borden, to spend an entire day learning hands-on, about what their employees do with the valuable time off that they so graciously provide.



Photo: Lt(N) Terri-Leigh Saunders

"I recently hired a Reservist who works at Blackdown" said Janice Baine, Commander for Toronto Paramedic Services. "It gives me great comfort as an employer to see first hand what transferable skills they bring not only to the program, but what they bring back to the workplace too!"

Employers were divided into two groups, with one group starting their day at the abseiling towers, conquering unknown fears under the direction of well-trained CIC experts. Simultaneously, the second group learned how the fostering of good teamwork and leadership allows participants to encourage others while overcoming challenges on the confidence course.

Participants then gathered together with amazement, seeing just how well a large-scale operation pulls off lunch for 2,000 plus Cadets and staff. Over lunch, they enjoyed time to get to know some of the Officers and other participants, noting that the quality of food and how smoothly meal service progressed was impressive.

The afternoon was filled with a variety of activities including a *Challenge Course*, which saw participants working together through positive communication to complete several different challenges. They also had the opportunity to visit practicing musicians, as well as the range, where some had the chance to fire the Daisy .177 Air Rifle, while others tried their skill at archery. Participants also made their way to the base proper, where they got up close with a Light Armoured Vehicle followed by touring 400 Squadron, where they learned about the work Reservists do to assist in Air Operations and the maintenance of the CH-146 Griffon Helicopter.

Towards the end of the day participants met with the Commanding Officer of Blackdown CTC, LCol

Allan Boileau, along with the Cadet Training Centre Chief, Warrant Officer 1st (WO1) Class Victoria Bradford. While telling their guests more about the CTC, they also took the time to explain to employers how their willingness to allow employees to take time off to work, directly impacts the quality of training our youth receive at the CTC.

Dr. Dan Longboat, a Director with the Indigenous Advanced Education and Skills Council noted that he was *“inspired to see the care, concern and compassion amongst not only the Officers, but also the Cadets”*. It’s always *“encouraging to see our youth learning from great leaders, and the contributions that our young people are making to society because of this, it’s a blessing”* he continued. *“The fact that this 18-year old (WO1 Bradford) is working alongside the adult Officers, helping develop our young people...Priceless!”*

To round out their day, Acting Commanding Officer of the Regional Cadet Support Unit (Central), LCol Tom McNeil, joined the participants for a BBQ dinner at the Blackdown Officer’s Mess. He brought with him Regional Chief Warrant Officer Gilles Godbout. After both gave a short address, expressing sincere thanks and appreciation for the support our civilian counterparts provide, they moved about the room, taking the opportunity to chat with the employers about their experiences and observations.

“Today was quite informative” said Shari Decaire, a clinical director for Hats Off, a community agency that also works with youth. In fact, one of her employees, Major Lisa LaCombe was one of the facilitators for the day. The ExecuTrek experience helped me *“see first-hand how the transferable skills she (Major LaCombe) has gained from being an Officer directly impacts her ability to be a successful, contributing employee at home”* said Shari.

As a representative for the CFLC, LCol Blake Golder says that the ExecuTrek program is *“an interface between businesses and the Reservist community; we promote reservists as employees with valuable, transferable skills for the workplace and days like today are just one way of doing that.”*

The Canadian Cadet Organization and the CFLC recognize and appreciate the ongoing support they receive from civilian employers. Not only does this allow our Cadets to receive excellent leadership and mentorship from talented adult staff, it gives employers the confidence in knowing that *“when they allow an employee to take a leave of absence to perform military service, they are also giving that employee the opportunity to develop personally and professionally”* Golder said.

Finally, when asked if the day was successful, only one word was needed...Absolutely!



Canadian Forces Liaison Council

July, August and September in Our History

5 Sep 1755	BNA	British troops start the expulsion of the Acadians.
15 Aug 1812	BNA	A British force led by General Isaac Brock forces the surrender of Detroit.
5 Aug 1872	Army	"B" Battery is called out to restore order during a riot between Irish and French-Canadians in Quebec.
30 Sep 1901		Dr. Alexander Graham Bell forms the Aerial Experiment Association at Halifax.
29 Aug 1911	RCN	The prefix "Royal" granted to the Canadian Navy by the King.
9 Jul 1914	RCN	HMCS Rainbow begins preparations for the international seal patrol in the North Pacific Ocean. Commander Walter Hose was the first commander of this submarine. See Page 10.
10 Jul 1914	Army	Official opening ceremonies for Camp Borden. On 13 July 1896 the Honourable Sir Frederick William Borden was appointed Minister of Militia and Defence. On 22 July 1940 the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan began operations when students began training at No. 1 Service Flying Training School at Camp Borden, Ontario.
8 août 1918	WW I	Le lieutenant Jean Brillant du 22e Bataillon du CEC captura des mitrailleuses, mena les assaut, et a été blessé plusieurs fois au cours d'une période de deux jours pour se mériter la Croix de Victoria (à titre posthume).
3 Aug 1961	RCAF	A Royal Canadian Air Force Lancaster aircraft photographed the largest non-nuclear explosion ever conducted up to that time, at Suffield Experimental Station in Alberta.
22 Aug 2001	Army	The medals of aboriginal war hero Tommy Prince are purchased at auction by the Manitoba Southeast Tribal Council.





THE GARRISON COMMUNITY COUNCIL London and Region

www.gcclondon.ca

Upcoming Events

Garrison Community Council

General Meeting	11 September	Wolseley Barracks
	9 October	Wolseley Barracks
	13 November	Wolseley Barracks

London and Region

RLMI Cocktail Party	9 September	HMCS Prevost
427 (London) Wing Battle of Britain Lunch	20 September	427 (London) Wing
HMCS Prevost Change of Command	28 September 1500h	HMCS Prevost
Army Open Day	28 September 1000h-1600h	Wolseley Barracks
The Veterans' Classic	18 October	Western Fair District
South Western Ontario Military Family Resource Centre	September Calendar is on Page 25	



RLMI Notes

9 September	Cocktail Party
7 September	General Meeting
4 November	General Meeting / Elections (To take effect at AGM in February 2020)
9 December	Christmas & Festive Season At-Home Social
1 January	Levee

As always, new members and guests are welcome to attend RLMI events. For more information see www.rlmi.ca

RLMI

Annual Cocktail Party

at

HMCS PREVOST

Becher Street, London N6C 1A4

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Tariff: \$20.00 per person

Dress: Blazer or Business Suit, Dress or Slacks with Dressy Top

RSVP by 3 September

RLMI


303 Conway Drive

London, ON N6E 3J7


Contact: RLMI Secretary Gail Sneddon

glsneddon@rogers.com

10:00 am - 4:00 pm
The RCR Museum will open early



CANADIAN
ARMY



ARMÉE
 CANADIENNE


ARMY RESERVE OPEN HOUSE & JOB FAIR

SEPTEMBER 28


WE ARE HIRING!

WOLSELEY BARRACKS

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National
 Defence



FORCES ARMÉES
 CANADIENNES



HONOURING OUR PAST, CELEBRATING OUR FUTURE



THE VETERANS' CLASSIC





VETERAN
 TRIBUTES

VETERANS &
 MILITARY DISPLAY

FUNDRAISING FOR
 MILITARY AGENCIES

FRIDAY OCTOBER 18TH

OPENING CEREMONIES WITH 1ST HUSSARS CAVALRY TROOP 5PM | LIVE RACING 6:50PM

FOR DETAILS CONTACT:
 BETH SAYLER | 519 438-7203 x 381 | bsayler@westernfairdistrict.com







427 (London) Wing

Battle of Britain

Annual Commemoration Lunch

Friday, September 20, 2019

GUEST SPEAKER: JACK HURST. AIR-TO-AIR AVRO PHOTOGRAPHER SHOWING AVRO ARROW FLYING PHOTO'S. JACK WILL ALSO SPEAK ABOUT THE CANCELLED AVRO PROGRAM. FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS CANADIAN AVIATION EVENT.

WING OPEN 11:00, SERVING 11:30.
SPECIAL ROAST BEEF LUNCH
TICKETS IN ADVANCE \$25.00 P/P
PURCHASE AT THE WING OR CALL
519 455-0430 FOR BOOKING

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Closed	3	4 WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS  Coffee Connection	5 	6	7 2nd Annual Support Our
8	9 "Bounce Back" Information Session 	10	11 WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS Workshop: Happy New Year 	12 	13	14 SWOMFRC Softball Tournament  Mix, Mingle and Murder 
15  Fall Family Festival	16	17	18 WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS  Coffee Connection FAMILY SEPARATION AND REUNION WELLNESS GROUPS 	19 "Where it all Begins" Information 	20	21  "Sweat the Stress Away" 
22	23 FAMILY SEPARATION AND REUNION WELLNESS GROUPS 	24 FAMILY SEPARATION AND REUNION WELLNESS GROUPS 	25 WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS  Workshop: Setting Boundaries; "Just Say No"	26	27	28 Strength Behind the Uniform Dinner 
29	30					

London Events

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

Sept 4: Wonderful Wednesdays—Coffee Connection Time: 9:30 AM—11:30 AM

Sept 5: SWOMFRC Softball Game, Time: 6:00 PM, Location: North London Athletic Fields

Sept 11: Wonderful Wednesdays—WORKSHOP, *Happy New Year, Time: 9:30 AM—11:30 AM

Sept 12: SWOMFRC Softball Game, Time: 6:00 PM, Location: North London Athletic Fields

Sept 14: SWOMFRC All-Day Softball Tournament, Time: 9:00 PM (games start), Location: Vaux Hall Park

Sept 18: Wonderful Wednesdays—Coffee Connection, Time: 9:30 AM—11:30 AM,

Sept 21: Deployment Dish, **Murder and Mystery Dinner on the Train, Time: 6:00 PM—9:00 PM; Cost: \$30 / person, Contact

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*