



# REGIMENTAL LINES

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S HORSE GUARDS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Fall 2017

## Larry Small

A SURVIVOR  
TO THE END



Also Inside!

Information for  
Retired Reservists



## President's Message

an insider's view on the Vimy 100th Celebration, which many of us watched on April 9th and Col Claggett updates us on the ongoing Memorial Project, this time in Humboldt Saskatchewan. He also reminds us of the upcoming WW II 75th Anniversary Tour of Italy in May 2019. The WW I tour of France and Belgium that he arranged was incredible, so you definitely won't want to miss this opportunity! Mark your calendars!

Please note several events happening within the next few weeks; the Memorial Dinner will be Friday November 3rd at Denison Armouries, and the Regiment is taking advantage of Remembrance Day falling on a Saturday this year, to parade the Regiment at the GGHG Tank Memorial in York Cemetery. This will be a special event for all Horse Guards and I urge you to attend (and march if you can!). Lastly, our AGM and social will be held Saturday, December 2nd at 17:00 in Katz's Deli. This is a great opportunity for members of the Association and their partners to re-connect and socialize. As always, we are looking for members to join the Executive!

Nulli Secundus

Craig Anhorn  
President

Welcome to this 'packed' Fall 2017 Issue of Regimental Lines. This issue profiles WW II Veteran Larry Small (whom I had the privilege to escort on Canada Day). Larry may have moved into Sunnyside, but he was ready to cross the 'Start Line' exactly on time July 1st, without assistance! It was a real pleasure, and for the first time I saw how grateful the Dutch people are to the Canadian Liberators. While my own father was one of those soldiers, growing up here I never really gave it that much thought, but seeing their reaction to Larry really underscored how important the contribution from Canada was in WW II.

Additionally, Association Vice-President Brain Macdonald provides



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RL

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## WINTER EDITION

Just wanted to drop you a quick line and let you know that I just went through the Lines and was just blown away with the extremely professional presentation.

I cannot believe what a wonderful layout and the great pictures. Fantastic job-----it was so wonderful to go through the pages and be wowed with each new page. Great good job my friend---keep up the outstanding work. yours in friendship

Marg Fisher  
Barrie, ON

## MYSTERY COLLAR DOGS

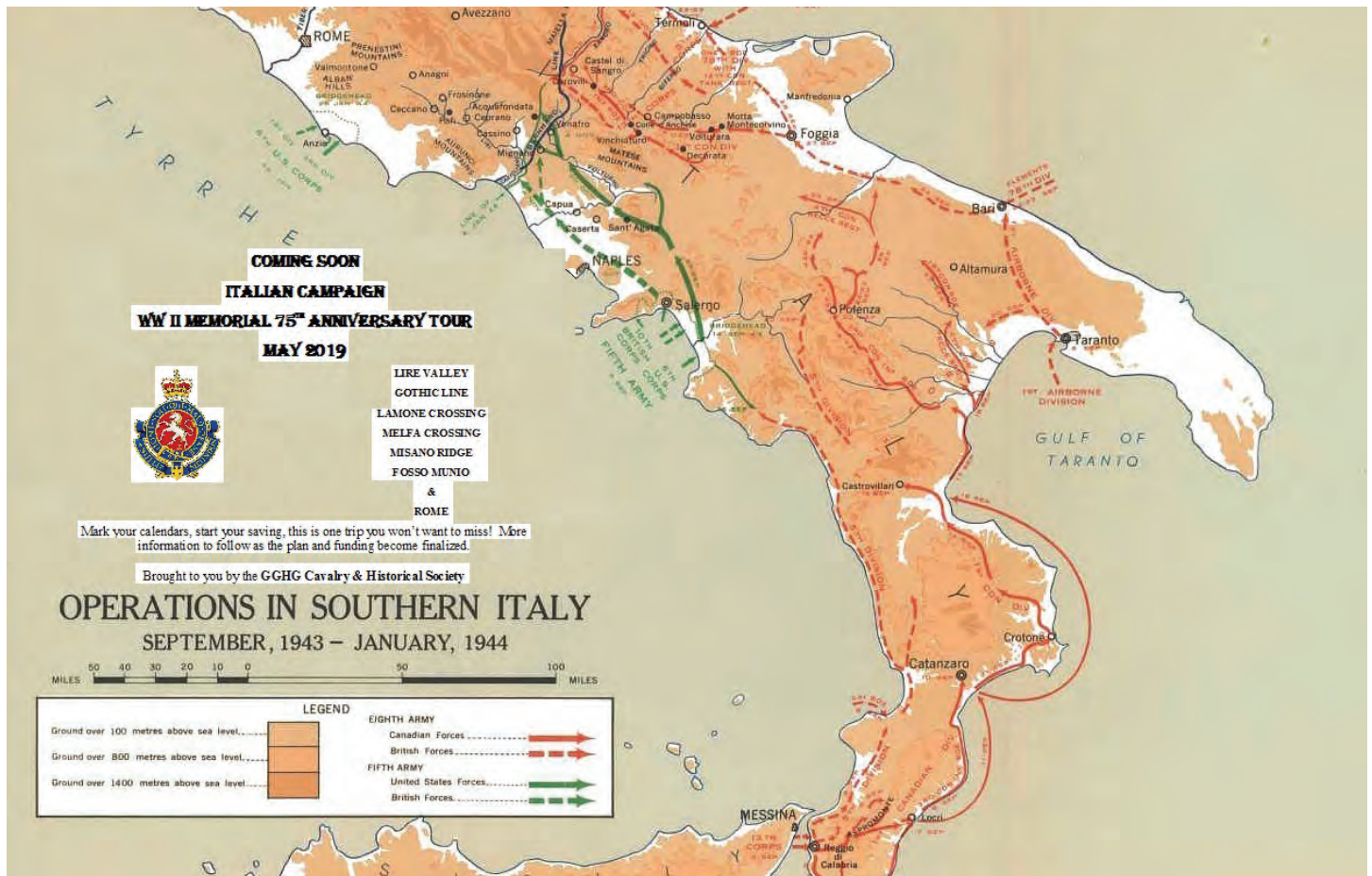
My grandmother recently passed away and I came across what appears to be a pair of GGHG collar pins (not sure if that's the technical term). My family has a history of service in various forms throughout WW I and WW II and doing a bit more research I found that it was my Great Uncle George McIntosh who served with the GGHG in WW II. As I understand it, based on bits of information, he may have served in a tank battalion in Italy?



I am wondering if there are any records of service that might point me in a direction,

or a way to determine the period of time these may have been issued. I understand that at one time they may have been made of silver? Any further information or guidance you may be able to offer on this subject is greatly appreciated, thank you, it means a lot.

Alan McIntosh  
alan\_mcintosh123@yahoo.com



# In Memoriam

*We wish to convey our heartfelt condolences in acknowledging the recent passing of the following:*

**DAKS, Sgt Coleen** - former Chief Clerk with the Governor



General's Horse Guards from June 2008 to June 2009, passed away on September 21, 2017 in Nova Scotia after a prolonged battle with cancer. Colleen was a fixture in the Brigade as a Reserve Clerk and worked for many years with the 7th Toronto Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery and 32 Combat Engineer Regiment. When she transferred to the Regular Force, she brought her extensive

finance knowledge to us as our Chief Clerk and always looked out for the welfare of the troops. She is survived by her husband Sergio Ferrigno, also in the Canadian Forces and a past member of 32 CER and her young children Alex and Brianne.

**ELSON, Tpr George William** - passed away on April 18,



2017 at Brantford General Hospital. He is survived by his wife and best friend Joan (nee Baxter); his daughters Ann and Gladys (John) of Cudworth, England. George was involved since birth with St. James Anglican Church in Paris, Ontario. He enlisted in the Army in 1941 at the age of 17 and served with the Governor

General's Horse Guards and the Armoured Division in the Italian Campaign as a Non-commissioned Officer and Tank Commander. Upon returning from the War, he answered a call to the Priesthood in the Anglican Church and took his Theological Training at Wycliffe Theological College in Toronto. After ordination George served as Priest in Bancroft, Tyendinaga Indian Reserve, Brockville, Massena, New York and finally returning to St. James, Paris as an Honourary Assistant to the Priest and Chaplain of the Royal Canadian Legion in Paris. Funeral Services were held at St., James Anglican Church (8 Burwell St. Paris), on Saturday April 22 with interment St. James Anglican Cemetery and a Legion Service at the funeral home on Friday April 21.

**HOLMANN, Tpr Reuben Milton** - GGHG WW II Veteran, passed away peacefully in Edmonton, Alberta, on November 24, 2016 at age 93, with his family by his side. He is survived by Rose, his wife of 25 years, and his children Melanie (Rick) Higgins of Barrhead, Jamie Holman of Edmonton, Shelly Holman of Edmonton, Liz (Randy)



Stamp of Calgary; Craig (Cathy) Holman of Barrhead and daughter-in-law, Jane Holman of Onoway. A funeral service was held on Saturday, December 3 at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 17416 – 115 Street, Edmonton with interment

in Leduc Municipal Cemetery.

**TAYLOR, Capt. George Robert** - former Regimental



Sergeant Major (1963-1966) and serving officer of the Governor General's Horse Guards, passed away on Tuesday September 5th in Toronto. He is survived by his wife Norah (nee Dickey) and his children Elizabeth, Shirley, Richard and Yvonne. For a number of years, George spent his winters in Venice, Florida with his wife and it was there that he

became an ordained member of the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church. He was also a Member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Fort York Branch 165 and St Ninian's Anglican Church in Scarborough.

**WHITE, Mrs. Marjorie** - passed away on Monday, March



13, 2017 in Toronto. She is survived by her sons, William (Bill), Jack and Paul and their spouses and grandchildren. Marjorie came to Toronto to become a nurse and was among the first to graduate from Toronto Western Hospital following the War. While in training, she met her husband, (the late) William (Bill) White,

a former member of the Governor General's Horse Guards Cavalry Squadron. They shared a lot of adventures together over their 50 plus years of marriage. Bill passed away in 2006 but "She had a good life with lots of love and happiness." A memorial reception was held at York Funeral Centre on Sunday, March 26, 2017.



# Veterans Remembered

## Tpr Larry Small

*By Sgt (Ret'd) Colin Rowe*

The “Roaring Twenties” was a time of social change in the western world following the end of the first World War and in Toronto, that change brought a wave of cultural and ethnic diversity to the city. On March 7, 1920, Larry Smelovitch made his entry into that world in the modest family home on Nelson Street in the west end of Toronto.

Today, the many condominium developments in the area belie the vibrant neighbourhood of immigrants who had arrived back then in search of a better life. Larry was born to parents who had also emigrated from Europe. His father was from Romania and his mother from Austria and the family eventually grew to include five children; three girls and two boys. Among his childhood friends were many who would later go on to become comrades-in-arms in the Governor General’s Horse Guards. Aubrey Sharp, one of the few black soldiers to go overseas with the Regiment lived on Lippincott Street, and then there was Art G. McDonald with whom he later served in Naples and the Mehedan brothers, one of several in the Regiment during the War and they lived on nearby Bathurst Street. Larry attended King Edward Public School on Lippincott and like many kids at the time, left school after Grade 8 to work and help support the family. He joked that a salary of \$40.00 per week at Tip Top Tailors paid more than the \$23.00 per week offered by the post office.

At age 20, he joined the Governor General’s Horse Guards and at first was on guard duty in ‘B’ Squadron on Tuesday and Friday evenings. Soon after, the call went out for volunteers to go on active service overseas, so he and four others in the Regiment went down to the recruiting centre. From the

group, only Larry and his friend Reggie Hart were selected and it was in 1942 when they were on their way to England to join the Regiment in Maresfield.

In December 1943 they were shipped out from England to “not so sunny” Italy where the winter was terrible. At the recommendation of the Medical Officer, Larry was assigned to Transport because his hearing was damaged by the firing of rounds while in the tanks as there were no ear defenders being used by the crews. His hearing loss is a legacy of the War that he carries to this day. It was at this time that he met Sergeant Al Sellers who was in Head Quarters and following the War, Al was the driving force behind the Governor General’s Horse Guards Association. Being assigned to transport was a job that at times entailed driving officers around in the field but despite the weather, he and the rest of the troops considered that Christmas when they were holed up in a church in Matera, to be the best ever during their time overseas. As a driver, Larry was tasked with gathering up turkeys from the local Italian farmers for their Christmas dinner and by all accounts, the troops dined in fine style on the local poultry.



**Larry was one of two WW II Veterans who were part of the Liberation of the Netherlands, invited to take part on Canada Day in the Parade of Nations in Toronto hosted by the Dutch Canadian Association of GTA.**

The following year, 1944, tragedy struck when he was forced off the road by a RCD in a scout car and ended up smashing his truck and injuring his shoulder. Following fifty-three days in hospital, Larry was assigned to work in the Base Post Office, a job which he enjoyed but in 1945, the operation was closed down as they were shipped off to Belgium and then to London to deal with the Christmas mail. Life in London was a dream come true since he lived in a private home and the work day at the Post Office was a nine to five operation. This left

him with free time to go dancing every evening at the local dance hall. It was there that he met his wife Nellie and, after a whirlwind courtship that lasted for three months, they were married.

With the War ended, Larry was headed back to Canada in March of 1946 and Nellie soon followed in July. For her, the move was a welcome break from the memory of having lost two brothers in the Blitz back in Britain and according to Larry she immediately embraced Canada and Toronto as her new home. Together they had two children; son Stephen was born in 1947 and daughter Elaine in 1949. Sadly, Nellie passed away in 1993. The Post-War years have been kind to Larry who returned to Tip Top Tailors and the clothing industry and later became the Business Agent for the Clothing Workers Union in the United States and Canada.

A myth that Larry was happy to put to rest was that he



Now a happy resident at the Sunnybrook Veterans Centre.

had changed his name from Smelovitch to Small in anticipation of any difficulties if captured by the Germans. In fact, the name change came ten years after he had returned home from the War and it was done for the sake of his kids because he recalled how as a child, he and his brother had to constantly spell their name when they gave it and he regretted not having done it sooner when he was in the Army.

In 2015, Larry voluntarily made the decision to leave his condominium in North York and moved into the Veterans Wing at Sunnybrook Veterans Centre where at his age, he would receive all the care that our Veterans deserve. The move to Sunnybrook has not diminished his interest in the GGHG Association and in return the Association continues to maintain a strong link to our few remaining World War II Veterans through visits and invitations to events. We honour their service to the Regiment and Canada.

RL

## OBITUARY



**Capt George Taylor**  
physical stature to lead it.

### CAPT. GEORGE TAYLOR, CD

When I joined the Regiment at University Armoury, George, then one of our SSMs, was an imposing figure. Tall, experienced, knowledgeable. In other words, a leader! Part of his training as a leader came when he was the Regimental Trumpet Band's Drum Major, when we had a trumpet band. He had the

his time as RSM. In civilian life, he worked for Toronto and latterly with Ontario Hydro settling land disputes around the province.

Many years later, when I was in command, I needed an Adjutant who was experienced, tactful and knowledgeable. I decided to ask George to come back. Problem was, George was on the Supplementary List and was not eligible to return, let alone be promoted Captain. Never one to stop at a roadblock, I found a work-around and within a year George was sitting in the Adjutant's chair shaking his head in dis-belief, yet overjoyed to be back home. I know I was overjoyed.

When I handed over command to LCol Palanik, George stayed on for a while, then took his final retirement from the Regiment. He spent many winters in Venice, Florida with his wife; therefore, our time together was severely limited. But Emails were wonderful inventions. He also became an ordained member of the American Episcopalian Church. He used to tell me he organized the community in his vision. Was not the least surprised!!!!

The other day I wanted to talk to him. He was an expert in Dress Regulations and I wanted to ask his advice, as I have been on the Regimental Dress Committee for many years. To my dismay and profound sorrow, his daughter Shirley informed me he had died two weeks earlier.

I miss 'my RSM', 'my Adjt'. RIP George. You were the right person for both positions, at the right time for the Regiment! I valued our friendship and mutual trust.

*LCol (Ret'd) John Burns*

RL

# GGHG Memorial PROJECT

By Col. (Ret'd) Jay Claggett

I am pleased to report that the GGHG Cavalry and Historical Society has rolled out another memorial as part of our ongoing Regimental Memorial Project. As many of you are aware, since 2013, we have been dedicating memorials at key sites that marked our Regimental Battle Honours. In 2017, it was our Northwest Canada Battle Honour. This past June, in recognition of Canada's 150th, the Regiment, in cooperation with the Royal Canadian Dragoons and the City of Humboldt, dedicated a new memorial at the site of Fort Denison. This memorial recalls the efforts of the Governor General's Body Guards during the Northwest Resistance.

## Memorial Location



The site for the memorial is the historic re-creation of the Original Humboldt and Fort Denison. It is located approximately 10 km outside the city limits and managed by the Humboldt District Museum and Gallery. The site is on the ground of the first Humboldt telegraph station and military fort established by LCol Denison. Our regimental camp flag has flown over this site continually since its inaugural opening in 2013 when LCol (Ret'd) Develiadiis presented our flag to the City. And now, this new plaque commemorates our Regiment's involvement in that campaign.

## Memorial

### **North West Canada, 1885**

*In response to the North West Resistance in 1885, the Government of Canada authorized the mobilization of select militia units under the overall campaign command of Major General Frederick Middleton, including the Governor General's Body Guards (GGBG), under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Denison and the Cavalry School Corps (CSC), under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Turnbull. In early April 1885, the officers, men and horses from both units boarded trains and headed west.*

*After leaving their home bases in Toronto and Quebec City, the Regiments experienced a long and arduous journey west to Winnipeg. The movement west became some of the most problematic and dangerous parts of the expedition. The Regiments had to disembark and embark the train and travel on horseback at four different occasions due to the unfinished Canadian Pacific Railway line. One of the most difficult challenges was the 58 kilometres between Port Monroe and Jackfish Bay that included a 50 kilometre stretch over a frozen, windblown Lake Superior. On arrival in Winnipeg the CSC were augmented with the Winnipeg Troop of Cavalry.*

*The CSC were responsible for patrolling the lines of communication and providing flank protection to the main body in the Touchwood Hills between the rail line at Qu'Appelle and Fort Denison at Humboldt. The GGBG were responsible for establishing Fort Denison at Humboldt as General Middleton's advanced base of operations, escorting all stores and reinforcements, scouting and communications between Fort Denison and the forward lines at Batoche.*

*From the establishment of Fort Denison at Humboldt until the official end of the North West Resistance on July 2, 1885, the GGBG were stationed at Fort Denison and were responsible for this outpost's security. The CSC were stationed at Qu'Appelle and were responsible for its security. On July 9, 1885, the Regiments began their slow journey home, returning in late July 1885.*



## Remembrance and Reconciliation

The dedication of our memorial was not only an opportunity to remember our past but it was also the opportunity to bring together both the Whitecap Dakota First Nations and the Governor General's Horse Guards for the first time in 130 years. The CO and RSM, in the presence of the Mayor of Humboldt and the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan unveiled the plaque with representatives from the Royal Canadian Dragoons. After the unveiling, the CO took this historic opportunity to meet with Chief Darcy Bear and present him with a copy of LCol Denison's "Soldiering in Canada". This small gesture by the Regiment contributed to the overall sensitivity of the ceremony to remember and share stories from the past.

**GGHG ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
&  
END OF YEAR GET-TOGETHER  
Saturday 2 December 2017  
1700hr**



**KATZ'S DELI**  
3300 Dufferin St. Toronto  
Dress: Jacket and Tie for Gentlemen  
& "casual elegance" for Ladies  
Enjoy a lovely holiday buffet dinner  
with your spouse / significant other

**GGHG ASSOCIATION  
DARTS NIGHT 2018  
Saturday 10 March 2018  
1800hr Cocktails**



**Subscription: Free!!  
Snacks, buffet, cash bar**

**Royal Canadian Legion Branch 527  
948 Sheppard Ave West, North York**





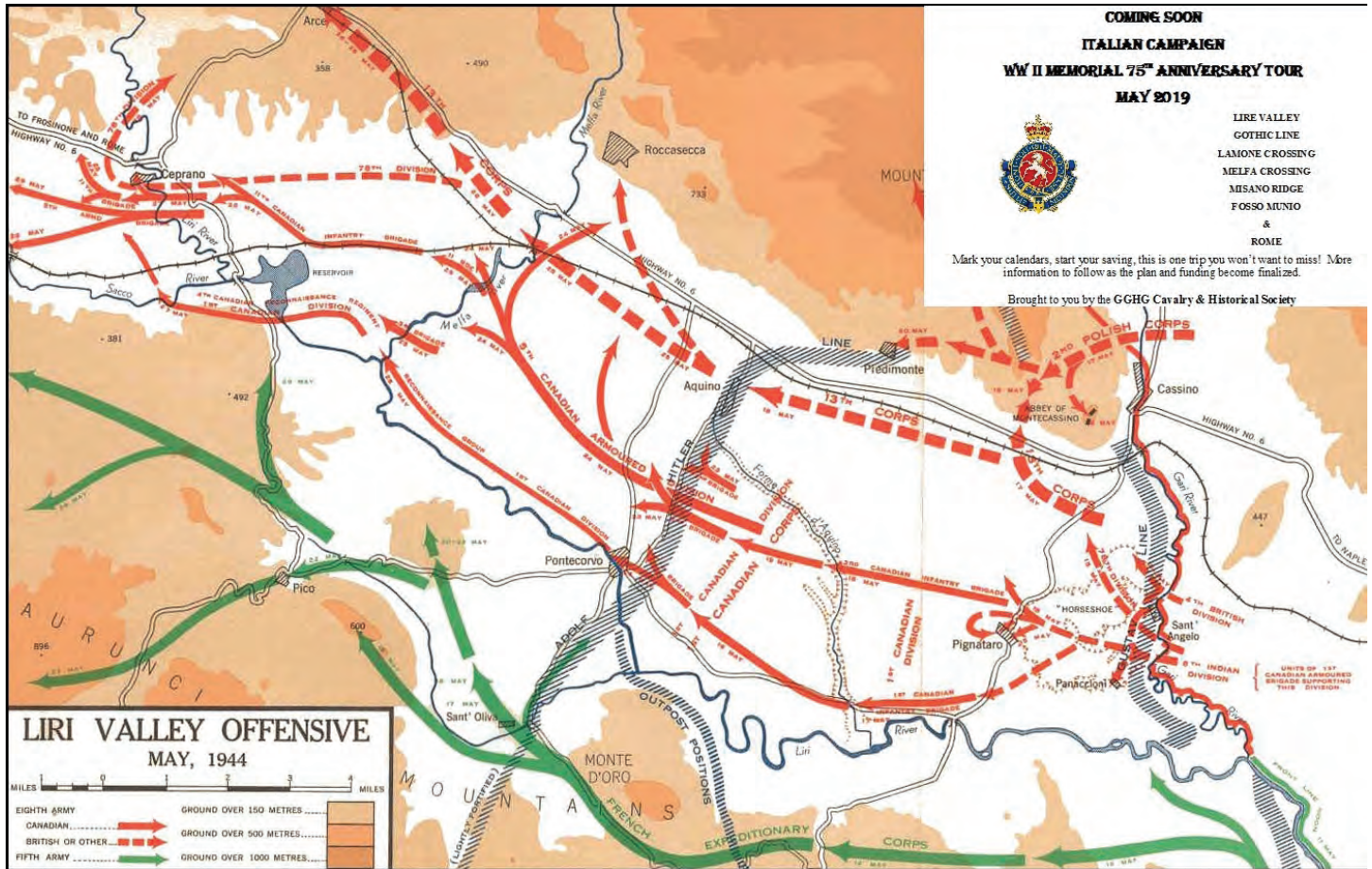
LCol Duncan presented to Chief Bear of the Dakota First Nation, a copy of “Soldiering in Canada”, by LCol George T. Denison, commander of the Body Guards and the Royal Canadian Dragoons in 1885.



Among those present for the unveiling of the Northwest Canada Battle Honour plaque, were the Lt Governor of Saskatchewan and representatives from the RCD.

### What’s Next?

In 2018, the GGHG Cavalry and Historical Society’s Memorial Project will be doing some maintenance on our WW I memorials and be busily working to secure new memorial locations in Italy for the planned 2019 - 75th Anniversary WW II Trip. For more information on the Project and other efforts of the Society, please visit the Society Website at <http://www.gghgsociety.org/>



# 'ROUND THE REGIMENT



Major Tom Bell (Left) proudly displaying his medal after winning a local marathon race. Tom is now serving in Iraq.



The showcase of historic displays in the GGHG Museum is nearing completion and is located in the Ante-Room of the Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess.



On June 8, 2017, LCol Duncan and RSM Munroe attended the dedication of the Northwest Canada Battle Honour plaque to be mounted at Original Humboldt in Saskatchewan which was the site of a military camp in the 1885 North West Resistance.



Through the efforts of the GGHG Historical Society, the unveiling of the a joint plaque (with the RCD) commemorated our participation in the Northwest Resistance. Among the dignitaries present was the Lt. Governor of Saskatchewan.



This year's military exhibit at the CNE was among the most popular stops for families and with Cpl Cappella and Sergeant Birkett running things, we may have gained a few recruits this summer.



Leading by example is MCpl Krawczyk, seen here putting a young prospect through the paces in one of several tests on an obstacle course set up in the military display area at the CNE.

# DARTS NIGHT 2017



Darts is all about form, as demonstrated by Doug Ouimet at this year's Dart Night. Next year's outing already booked for March at Legion Branch 527.



Some players like Ross Bradley feel that hitting the bullseye is more about concentration.



It did not take long to discover that the job of tallying the points was best left to Palma Heming.



The night was not all about competition. Thanks to our organizer Faye MacLachlan, a lovely buffet procured from Katz's Deli at intermission was just what some teams needed to get going in the second half of the evening.



Yes, the ladies showed they were up to the challenge. They had their male counterparts in awe of their skill in darts, as seen here by the admiration received by Bonnie Grady from the guys.



The final showdown of the evening was between the two high ranking teams led by Vice-President Brian Macdonald and Past-President Chuck Vondercrone.



As they say, to the victor goes the spoils of war and so it was as Brian and his partner Chris Briggs took top honours.

# IRONSIDES XXXX



If prizes were to be awarded for the best dressed team at this year's Ironsides, MWO Shouldice and his Regimental team would have been atop the podium.



When it comes to fashion, we know that MCpl Butterfield and his crew would not be far behind in helping the Horse Guards make a big splash with their presence on the rink.



Some guys like Gary Meissner (above) on GGHG Association Team 1, would sacrifice comfort on ice to display their fine physique.



Hats off to the Colonel-Commandant of the Armoured Corps, Colonel Georges Rousseau, who showed his support for the event by competing on a team.



The post-tournament banquet is always the highlight of Ironsides and as always, the Chef did not disappoint us.



If you can't beat them, join them, seemed to be the attitude of this 1st Hussars team led by former GGHG Scott Elliot (second from right) which resorted to snazzy headgear in an effort to keep up with the Horse Guards. Nulli Secundus I say.



Bill Davidson (L) having a celebratory drink with former Horse Guard Dave Hall who was recently promoted to Chief Warrant Officer with the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) and annually supports the GGHG at Ironsides.

# CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION



Last minute entrants into the Warriors' Day Parade always present a challenge to parade announcer LCol John Burns (left). However, Warriors' Day Council member, Rose McGuire, is always on hand to help sort things out.



A combined troop from the RCD and GGHG Associations maintain the long tradition of an armoured presence in this annual parade.



Three generations of the Stafford family were on hand to see the family patriarch, Ed, maintain his record as the oldest Veteran to continuously march in the Warriors' Day Parade. Way to go Ed!



The best indicator that the parade has begun, is when the GGHG Cavalry Unit comes through the Princes' Gates.



The Regimental Band led by Capt Van Auken and bands from the Toronto District had a busy schedule entertaining audiences at this year's CNE.



Doug Ouimet appeared to have enjoyed his new role as parade marshal and is one of several Horse Guards who volunteer on Warriors' Day.

# VICTORIA CROSS MEMORIAL



On June 25, York Cemetery held a unique celebration to dedicate the only memorial in Canada to honour all 99 of Canada's Victoria Cross recipients and also officially open a new pedestrian boulevard, through the cemetery.



On hand for the opening was Cpl Jonathan Van Auken and a Piper from the Toronto Scottish Regiment for the playing of the Last Post and the Lament.



In attendance were both serving and Veteran members of the Governor General's Horse Guards (including the Cavalry Squadron), and members of the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 66.



Participating in the ribbon cutting ceremony were Deputy Mayor Denzil Minnan-Wong; Markus O'Brien Fehr, executive assistant of Willowdale Councillor John Fillion; York Cemetery Manager, Nelson Boaventura and architect Jeff Dennis.



Association Member Richard Gunn joins with others in placing his poppy on the plaque of a Victoria Cross recipient.



Following the ceremony, members of the public took the opportunity to have a closer look at the memorial plaques. The design of the memorial is such, that when viewed from above, resembles a stylized Maple Leaf.

# ASSOCIATION OUTINGS



The Ontario Regiment Association, again played host to this year's D-Day Dodgers Dinner in Oshawa. GGHG President Craig Anhorn has already made the commitment to hold next year's dinner at Denison Armoury and plans are underway.



LCol Tom Esser and his wife Judith were among the regular attendees at the Dinner and this year, the overwhelming response to the invitation resulted in a limit being placed on the guest list.



Two generations of Tapleys represented in the Horse Guards Association by Riley and daughter Anne. As always, with Riley, his presence made for lively conversation at the dinner table.



Each year, the Black Hat Barbecue has a surprise visit from former Horse Guards and the appearance of Bob Racki (left) and Sean Ward made for a mini reunion of the gang from the old Denison Armoury.



For several years, Captain Terrance Shaw ran the Black Hat BBQ at CFB Borden and now takes great pleasure in seeing how the event has grown at its new home in Oshawa's Ontario Regiment Museum.



Here's a moment when everyone wanted to be a Horse Guard at this year's Black Hat Barbecue. The fantastic turnout is a good indicator of how successful this annual gathering has become.



# *know* BEFORE YOU GO

ONLINE INFORMATION TOOL FOR  
RELEASING AND RETIRED RESERVISTS

THE CDS AND THE CHIEF RESERVES AND CADETS ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH OF THE “BEFORE YOU GO” WEBSITE.

THIS WEBSITE, BUILT BY RESERVISTS FOR RELEASING AND RETIRED RESERVISTS, PROVIDES KEY INFORMATION INCLUDING THE RELEASE PROCESS, MEDICAL RELEASES, PENSION PROCESS, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA SERVICES AND BENEFITS, TRANSITION SERVICES, AND A LIST OF OTHER SERVICES, PROGRAMS AND BENEFITS THAT RESERVISTS CAN ACCESS AS THEY LEAVE THE CAF AND AFTER RELEASE.

THE CURRENT SECOND CAREER ACCESS NETWORK (SCAN) PROGRAM IS NOT DESIGNED TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF ALL RELEASING RESERVE MEMBERS. “BEFORE YOU GO” IS THEREFORE INTENDED TO BE A PRIMARY RESOURCE TO INFORM THE ENTIRE CAF COMMUNITY ABOUT THE SERVICES, PROGRAMS AND BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO RESERVISTS.

THE WEBSITE CAN BE VIEWED ON AN ACCESSIBLE INTERNET-BASED PLATFORM FROM ANY COMPUTER OR MOBILE DEVICE. THIS APPROACH WILL ENABLE INDIVIDUALS TO ACCESS THE INFORMATION IN A PRIVATE SETTING, PLUS HAVE THE ADDED BENEFIT OF CONTINUED ACCESS EVEN AFTER RELEASE.

THIS MESSAGE IS TO HAVE WIDE DISTRIBUTION THROUGHOUT THE CAF RESERVE COMMUNITY INCLUDING RETIRED PERSONNEL WHERE EVER POSSIBLE.

THE “BEFORE YOU GO” SITE CAN BE FOUND AT:

<http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/caf-community-support-services-for-members-reservists/before-you-go.page>

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## ANNUAL MEMORIAL DINNER

**Friday 03 November 2017**

**1800hr for 1900hr**



**Price: \$45.00 incl.**

*Dress: Regimental Blazer / Jacket & Tie /  
or Business Attire with Medals*

George Taylor Denison III Armoury  
1 Yukon Lane  
Toronto, ON M3M 3J5

## GGHG Remembrance Day Ceremony

**Saturday 11 November 2017**

**1030hr**



**Dress for Association  
Members:**

Blazer, Flannels, Medals,  
Regimental Tie, Beret,  
White Gloves

SEATING AVAILABLE &  
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS  
SERVED AFTER THE CEREMONY

Veterans' Section "D"  
York Cemetery  
160 Beecroft Rd  
North York, ON M2N 5Z5





# VIMY 100

by Brian Macdonald  
Vice-President GGHG Association



April 9th 2017 was the one hundredth anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge in France. I had the honour of being a part of the delegation chosen by Veterans Affairs Canada, along with eighty four others, to represent the Veterans of Canada. This was special to me, as my grandfather served with the Canadian Army Service Corp and the 4th Canadian Mounted Rifles, and was one the reasons my name was selected by the GGHG Association to represent the Association and the unit at this historical occasion in France.

We all spent a week in France, leaving on Wednesday the 5th of April and returning on the 12th. There were Veterans from all over Canada with the youngest being 28 and the oldest 93 years of age.

With no WW 1 Veterans left and only a small number of those from WW II who could still travel, Veterans Affairs reached out to all the Regimental Associations across Canada to look for those who could attend. There were many who traveled with me who had grandfathers, and other family members who served and fought at or

near Vimy and some brought along family photos and medals to honour them. However, the main event was only one day and I was there for a week. Veterans Affairs had every hour and day planned for us. Our first Day started with a full tour of Vimy, the trenches and the tunnels. We visited several sites which included Commonwealth Cemeteries, Beaumont Hamel and the Menin Gate. There were also several receptions with local French and Canadian officials.

Accompanying the Veterans were the Minister of Veteran Affairs, the Deputy Minister, several Senator's and Members of Parliament from all parties. I was seated at one luncheon with a Senator on one side and an MP on the other and we all had to be on our



**The empty boots on the hillside during the ceremony were a poignant reminder of the price Canadians paid in the Battle of Vimy Ridge.**

best behaviour. This also resulted in very heavy security during our entire trip; some visible and others not so visible.

We also participated in a First Nation sunrise ceremony at Vimy Ridge for which special permission had to be given so a fire could be lit at the site. Those of us who attended the ceremony had to attend an information session two nights before, so we could understand the meaning and the importance of the ceremony. I found it very informative and prepared me for what was going to happen at sunrise. Even though we had to be up at 4:00 am to go, almost everyone attended it.

The big day, 9th of April, was much different from what the Canadian Corps faced 100 years ago. Instead of cold weather, snow and rain, we faced 30°C, and not a cloud in the sky. We started off early in the morning and moved close to Vimy where we had lunch. During lunch, our buses were inspected by the French police and police dogs. When we reboarded the buses, we had to be checked out by the police and their dogs. This plan quickly



**While older Vets were not considered a threat by the French police, that does not appear to be true in the case of Capt MacDonald.**

fell apart as several of our party had carried some snacks from lunch and the dogs were more interested in the food. In the end, they decided we were not a security threat and were allowed to board the buses. I guess a group of old Veterans were not going to be a threat.

We arrived three hours before the main event was to take place. Our buses dropped us off close to the monument and we had a short walk to our front row seating. With some time before the start of the main event, we walked about on the grounds and were greeted with handshakes and clapping from those who came from all over

Canada to be there. Something that we were not used to.

The main event started on time with the arrival of the “Royals”, the Governor General, Prime Minister and the President of France. By then, we all were getting sunburnt, but thanks to the excellent planning by Veterans Affairs, we had lots of water and umbrella’s.

Once the main event was finished, we set off to board our buses. As we waited, we entertained the crowd near us with Army songs and pipe music since we had our own piper with us. This was well received by all. As you can well imagine, it took some time for the buses to arrive to pick up everyone.

It was a trip of a lifetime for us all. I met several others on the trip that I knew and had worked with over the years and made some new friends. In closing I would like to thank Veterans Affairs Canada, the Minister and his staff on the trip, for an excellent job looking after us. Any request or question was handled quickly and with a smile.

RL



Members of the GGHG Association Executive and their spouses/partners, enjoying a well deserved R & R at a BBQ hosted this summer by President Craig Anhorn.



No anxieties shown by Chuck Vondercrone or Craig over the smoke coming off the grill, so we can conclude that the burgers were fine.

# Canadian soldier single-handedly saves tractor trailer from being struck by train

Rushad Bharda, 21, has been serving in the Canadian Forces since 2014

By Tania Mehta, CBC News Posted: Mar 01, 2017 5:00 AM ET



Rushad Bharda, a member of the Governor General's Horse Guards, helped free a tractor trailer from a railway crossing just moments before it could be struck by an oncoming GO train. (Emily Burton and Jamie Saunders)

A soldier with the Canadian Forces is being hailed as a hero after he helped free a tractor trailer that was stuck at a railway crossing, saving it from being struck by an oncoming GO train, but Rushad Bharda thinks he was "just being a good person." Bharda, 21, was on his way to visit his girlfriend in Oakville when the incident happened Tuesday afternoon.

Bharda is from Mississauga and is a member of the Governor General's Horse Guards, a reserve regiment based in Toronto. He was approaching the railway crossing on Kerr Street just north of Speers Road in Oakville when he noticed an 18-wheel tractor trailer up ahead.

Bharda saw the truck slowly beginning to cross the tracks when the barrier came down and got stuck right between the tractor trailer's cab and exhaust pipe. "Immediately, I noticed something was wrong," Bharda told CBC Toronto. "I pulled over, got out of my car and started sprinting towards this guy." The cab of the truck was so high that Bharda thinks the driver didn't realize the barrier was stuck. The driver began repeatedly moving forward and then reversing in an attempt to free the tractor trailer.

This movement made the arm snap off its pole and the weight of it prevented the truck from moving. In the span of around 30 seconds, Bharda said he grabbed the barrier from behind the truck's cab and hurled it to the side of the road, giving the driver just enough time to clear the tracks. "The train had slammed on its brakes and it was about 20 metres, maybe closer, to the truck," said Bharda.

## 'I felt like I had an obligation'

A witness, waiting a few cars behind Bharda in a line of about 40 vehicles, says he saw the soldier run towards the tracks to help. "I thought it was just too dangerous at the time but clearly he didn't think so," said the witness, who didn't want to be identified. "He just pulled over and he just started running towards it. I think that was really heroic."

But Bharda, humbled by the cheers and handshakes he got from those who saw the rescue unfold, feels otherwise

"I don't think my actions today were heroic, I don't think they were anything but just being a good Canadian, being a good person."

He credits his military training and his upbringing. "When we see danger we don't run from it, we run towards it," said Bharda of his work in the army. "From a very young age we [were] taught to go and help people. I felt like I had an obligation."

## Metrolinx educating drivers on rail safety

Metrolinx was alerted to the incident and sent crews to fix the barrier shortly after. According to spokesperson Anne-Marie Aikins, there were no major delays.

She doesn't consider the incident a close call but wants to thank Bharda and use this as an opportunity to remind people of what they need to do to stay safe at rail crossings.

"Trains can come at any time and it can take up to two kilometres for a train to stop even under full emergency braking," Aikins said. "The human eye can't really judge how fast it's coming at you. It comes much faster at you than you think," she told CBC Toronto.

She says in this case the driver could be charged because it's illegal to fail to stop at a level crossing.

Metrolinx is currently running an educational campaign called Killer View that reminds drivers to always use caution when driving over train tracks.

RL

# Memorial Weekends



## Friday November 3 & Saturday November 11

### **FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3 - GGHG MEMORIAL DINNER - DENISON ARMOURY**

#### **1800 hrs**

Bar opens at 1800 hrs and Dinner will commence at 1900 hrs

Dress: Regimental Blazer / Jacket & Tie / Business Attire with Medals

The cost is \$45 per person and all former serving GGHG WW II Veterans are free, compliments of the Regiment. Veterans requiring assistance are encouraged to attend with partners or care-givers, and their dinner is also complimentary. This is an annual event that all Horse Guards should make every effort to attend and enjoy a great evening of remembrance, fun and camaraderie.

Please Note that there will be a table set up at the entrance for GGHG Association membership fee which is \$20.00 for the year and \$200.00 for a Life Membership.

### **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11 - GGHG YORK CEMETERY REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY**

#### **1030 hrs**

This year, because of the occurrence of Remembrance Day on Saturday November 11, the Regiment will combine the Annual Memorial Church Parade with the Remembrance Ceremony at York Cemetery.

Members of the Association are invited to participate in this memorial ceremony in the Veterans' section "D" of York Cemetery located near the GGHG Tank in the North East corner of the grounds. York cemetery is north of Sheppard Avenue, south of Park Home Ave., and just west of Yonge St. There will be buses available at the Armoury for transportation to the cemetery at 0900 hrs. The GGHG Association will join with members of the Regiment at 10:30 am, in preparation for Last Post & Reveille at 11:00 am. We are requesting the presence of every able-bodied Association Member at this ceremony in the Association Marching Troop. For those unable to march or stand, seating will be provided for them as well as family members who are invited to join us on this occasion. Light refreshments will be provided by the cemetery staff following the ceremony.

**Dress for Association Members:** Blazer, Flannels, Medals, Regimental Tie, Beret, White Gloves

As there will be limited parking within the cemetery due to other Remembrance Day ceremonies on the grounds, it is recommended attendees park along Becroft Road or the parking lot on Becroft.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Governor General's Horse Guards Association

**Tue Oct 10, 2017**

**7:30am GGHG ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE MEETING**

**Where:** WOs & Sgts Mess, Denison Armoury, 1 Yukon Lane, Downsview, ON M3M 3J5,

**Fri Nov 3, 2017**

**6pm GGHG MEMORIAL DINNER**

**Where:** WOs & Sgts Mess, Denison Armoury, 1 Yukon Lane, Downsview, ON M3M 3J5

**Sat Nov 11, 2017**

**10:30am YORK CEMETERY REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY**

**Where:** Veterans' Section "D" of York Cemetery, 160 Beecroft Rd., North York, M2N 5Z5

**Sat Dec 2, 2017**

**5pm GGHG ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Where:** Katz's Deli 3300 Dufferin Street Toronto, ON M6A 2T7

**Sat Mar 10, 2018**

**6pm 4th ANNUAL ASSOCIATION DARTS NIGHT**

**Where:** Royal Canadian Legion - Br. 527, 948 Sheppard Ave W, North York, ON M3H 2T6

**Fri Apr 6, 2018**

**11:30am 46TH ANNUAL CAVALRY LUNCH**

**Where:** Royal Canadian Military Institute, 426 University Ave, Toronto, ON M5G 1S9

**Sat May 5, 2018**

**11am ANNUAL BLACK HAT BBQ**

**Where:**  
Ontario Regiment (RCAC) Museum, 1000 Stevenson Road North (exit HWY 401 at Stevenson)

**Sat Jun 2, 2018**

**6pm D-DAY DODGERS DINNER**

**Sat Jun 9-10, 2018**

**9am AQUINO TANK WEEKEND**

**Where:** Ontario Regiment Museum, 1000 Stevenson Rd N, Oshawa, ON L1J 5P5

## GGHG ASSOCIATION

# Life Members

MCpl	Paul	Acquaah	Capt	J.	Hendricks	MCpl	Candace	Richardson
Maj	Clayton	Ahrens	Rev.	J. Alvin	Hingley	Mr.	Michael	Roberts
MCpl	A.	Akintunde	Cpl	Terry	Hlywka	Sgt	Colin	Rowe
Sgt	Gareth	Anderson	Capt	Carlo	Jeffery	Mr.	John	Ryder-Burbridge
Sgt	Sheila	Andrews	Mr.	Alec	Jeffrey	WO	Ronald	Serkies
Lt	Craig	Anhorn	Capt	Ingmar	Jimenez	Sgt	Gary	Shackleton
Capt	Furquan	Azam	Sgt	Helen	Jolly	Cpl	Mohan	Singh
MWO	Bob	Bartlett	Mr.	Kevin	Joyce	MCpl	Al	Smith
Mrs.	Jean	Bell	Col	Chris	Judd	WO	Garry	Smith
Lt	James	Brady	MWO	Kevin	Kalk	MCpl	Donald	Smith-St.Kitts
Capt	Kevin J.	Brady	Sgt	M.	King	MWO	Mark	Stephens
Maj	Robert	Brain	Sgt	Jeff	Knights	Cpl	Andrew	Thompson
Sgt	Leslie	Brenham	MCpl	Patrick	Krawczyk	Capt	John	Thompson
Capt	Chris M.	Briggs	Maj	Gregory	Laing	Capt	Patricia	Van Auken
Capt	James	Burton	Mrs.	Diane	Latto	MWO	Charles	Vondercrone
Cpl	Michael	Clarkin	Capt	Sienna	Leung	MWO	Janet	Walker
Mr.	Brent	Clarkson	MCpl	Victor	Leung	MWO	Lloyd	Walter
Lt	Bruce	Corley	Capt	Brian	Macdonald	Maj	Edwin	Wellstood
Capt	Peter	Crngarov	Sgt	Faye	MacLachlan	Col	Timothy	Zack
CWO	William	Davidson	Cpl	Daniele	Mariani	Cpl	Aaron	Zaretsky
Bandsman	Paul	Davis	Sgt	Rob	McKichan	Capt	Andrew	Zeitoun
Capt	Daniel	Dionisio	Tpr	Gerhard	Meissner	Maj	Mike	Zeitoun
Mrs.	Faye	Dorfman	Maj	David	Mezzabotta			
Tpr	Terry	Duff	Cpl	A.	Milenovic			
Ms.	Janice	Duncan	LCol	Alex	Moseanu			
Sgt	Castel S.	Edmond	2Lt	Glenn	Moss			
Capt	Peter	Edwards	Mr.	Royce	Nettleton			
LCol	Tom E.	Esser	2Lt	Yiu Cho	Ngai			
MCpl	Cindy	Favreau	Tpr	Douglas	Ouimet			
MWO	James	Fisher	LCol	Bruce	Palanik			
MCpl	Italia	Furfaro	2Lt	Flynn	Paquin			
Capt	Branko	Gasperlin	MWO	Doug	Peel			
Lt	Richard	Gunn	Capt	Scott	Plumley			
CWO	Dave	Hall	Capt	Jan	Popko			
Capt	Ian D.	Hamilton	MCpl	Colin	Powell			
Tpr	Bruce	Hampson	Tpr	Ross	Rennie			

## Veterans

Veteran	Sgt	Brian	Colwell
Veteran	Tpr	Peter P.	Hires
Veteran	Tpr	Fred	Hood
Veteran	Tpr	S. Mickey	Kaneko
Veteran	Tpr	Jack	Lusty
Veteran	Tpr	William H.	Lyons
Veteran	Tpr	Harry	McCreery
Veteran	Capt	Douglas	Scythes
Veteran	Tpr	Larry	Small
Veteran	Tpr	Harry J.	Smith
Veteran	Tpr	Ed. A.	Stafford

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He may be the Drum Major of the Royal 22e Regiment (Van Doos), but he is a product of the Horse Guards. Former GGHG Bandsman, Sergeant Kevin Fleming, seen here with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau following a Guard of Honour parade at La Citadelle de Québec. Kevin has become somewhat of a celebrity after his appearance in Holland in 2015 with his band, for the 70th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands, then leading a combined CF Band at Vimy earlier this year and more recently, on stage with the Van Doos band for the opening ceremonies of the Invictus Games at Toronto's Air Canada Centre.



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