

THE STRATHCONIAN



Lord Strathcona's Horse
(Royal Canadians)

CANADA'S TANK REGIMENT
2024

With pride, Spruce Meadows remembers and honours the brave men and women of Canada who serve.

We salute and thank you.



**SPRUGE
MEADOWS**

sprucemeadows.com

'Continental'

June 05 - 08, 2025

'National'

June 11 - 15, 2025

'Pan American'

June 26 - 29, 2025

'North American'

July 01 - 06, 2025

'Masters'

September 03 - 07, 2025



The Strathconian

Is the annual journal of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)
and is a LdSH(RC) Regimental Society publication published by permission of

Lieutenant-Colonel D.M. Gray, CD Commanding Officer

Colonel of the Regiment	3	Community Relations	49
Senior Serving Strathcona	4	Regimental Sports	50
Commanding Officer's Message	5	Calgary Stampede and Spruce Meadows	51
Regimental Sergeant-Major	7	Moreuil Wood	52
Editor-in-Chief Forward	8		
		Regimental Society & CMT Foundation	
		Strathcona Mounted Troop	56
		CPKC / Regt Society Student Scholarship Program	57
		Historical Vehicle Troop	58
		Pipes and Drums	59
		Regimental Museum and Archives	60
		Regimental Association - National Branch	61
		Left Coast Lancers	62
		Edmonton Chapter	63
		Extra Regimentally Employed	
		Strathcona's in Gagetown	65
		Strathconas in the NCR	66
		Strathconas in Kingston	67
		Strathconas in 5 th Canadian Division	68
		Strathconas at 1 CMBG	68
		Strathconas in 3 rd Canadian Division Headquarters	70
		Strathconas in 3 CDSG	71
		Extra Regimentally Employed	72
		Messing & Social	
		Mariner Room	76
		Sarcee Room	77
		Green Point Lounge	79
		The Track Pad	79
		Subbie's Corner	80
		Strathcona Spouses	81
		The Royal Lancers' (Queen Elizabeths' Own)	82
Year in Review			
Births and Marriages	11		
Honours and Awards	12		
Promotions	15		
Regimental Roll	16		
The Squadrons			
Regimental Headquarters	22		
A Squadron	24		
B Squadron	26		
C Squadron	28		
HQ Squadron	30		
Operations & Training			
Op REASSURANCE R24-02	34		
Ex SILVER ARROW	36		
Multinational Battlegroup Latvia Transfer of Command Authority	37		
Op UNIFIER	38		
Ex STEELE BEASTS	39		
Ex STEELE Virtual	41		
Ex PARATUS RAM	42		
Ex STEELE SABRE	43		
Regimental Events			
NSLA/Remembrance Day	46		
Tank Centralization	47		
Holiday Celebrations	48		



**Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)
Battle Honours**

South Africa

South Africa, 1900 - 1901

First World War

Festubert 1915, Somme 1916, '18; Brazentin, Pozières, Flers-Courcelette,

Cambrai 1917, '18; St. Quentin, Amiens, Hindenberg Line,

St. Quentin Canal, Bearevoir, Pursuit to Mons,

France and Flanders 1915 - 1918

Second World War

Liri Valley, Melfa Crossing, Torrice Crossroads, Gothic Line,

Pozzo Alto Ridge, Coriano, Lamone Crossing, Misano Ridge, Casale,

Naviglio Canal, Fosso Munio, Italy 1944-1945, Ijsselmeer

North-West Europe 1945

Korea

Korea 1951-1953

Afghanistan

(Battle Honours approved for emblazonment are in heavy type)



*Bearer: MWO M. Gratto,
Escorts: WO M.F.C. Colliers & WO K. Chuback
Orderly: Sgt R. Paquette*



Colonel of the Regiment

Colonel (Retired) Jamie Cade



We should take pride in celebrating our Regiment's achievements. For almost a quarter century, the Strathconas have distinguished themselves not only in war but also in "winning the peace." We have faced challenges all over the globe, including Southeast Asia, Africa, in the Middle East and Cyprus, and in the Balkans. The list of peacekeeping and stabilization missions continues to grow. Each generation of Strathconas adds to our legacy of operational success.

As you'll read in this edition of the *Strathconian*, the tradition of Strathcona excellence continues. C Squadron is in back-to-back tank squadron rotations to Latvia as part of the NATO Enhanced Forward Presence (EFP) mission. Additionally, the Multinational Battle Group is under the capable leadership of our Commanding Officer, LCol Darryn Gray, with strong support from our Regimental Sergeant Major, CWO Nathan Mills, Regimental Headquarters, and Headquarters Squadron.

In these uncertain times, the commitment and professionalism of our deployed Strathconas provide a great measure of certainty and reassurance.

For any family, celebrations are important. I want to extend my gratitude to everyone in the Regimental Association and those serving at the Regiment who are working tirelessly to organize *Reunion 2025*. Twenty years is far too long between family gatherings, and I am thrilled that our reunion is happening. As a young officer, I had the privilege of attending reunions and rubbing shoulders with those who built the proud legacy we uphold today. It was that early experience that taught me Regimental gatherings aren't just for the "Old Guard"; they are for all Strathconas.

Regrettably, we find ourselves in a turbulent world with an uncertain future. Over the past year, however, I have been deeply moved by witnessing the extraordinary accomplishments of both our serving and retired Strathconas. Our soldiers dedicate themselves to their duty with unwavering commitment; training rigorously to uphold the highest standards. Meanwhile, our retired Strathconas remain pillars of their communities, actively engaged in charitable endeavors. The achievements of our Regimental Family continue to inspire and fill me with immense pride.

Perseverance,

Col (Ret'd) Jamie Cade presenting a Colonel of the Regiment Commendation to Sgt (Ret'd) Paul Krulak.





Senior Serving Strathcona

Lieutenant-General Stephen Kelsey



NDC Commandant, LGen Max A.L.T. Nielsen (right), welcoming the then Deputy Commander of Allied Joint Force Command Naples LGen Stephen Kelsey.

Like all good things... so too the Italian adventure came to an end this past summer. Naples, Italy lived up to its “cry twice” reputation - once when you arrive, once when you leave. A riot of personalities and events with a few triumphs and yes, the occasional gaff - all fond memories that will bring a smile or twinkle to the eye for many years.

The best souvenir was pride in watching the Regiment continue to excel in a variety of roles and surge activities here in Europe. In large groups and small, as individuals and as told through the memories of towns that continue to honour the past – our soldiers, NCOs and officers are making a difference wherever they find themselves. From obscure corners of the Alliance, remarkable stories were recounted to me about the impact made by individuals. Most recently it was in Bydgoszcz, Poland, home of the NATO Joint Force Training Centre. Amongst others, a few Ukrainian tankers were present at a forum to convey to NATO leaders

the vitality of innovative approaches to training. A quiet word with these two revealed a strong connection to the Regiment spanning several years but more-so the power individual Strathconas have had. Perhaps one of the most meaningful exchanges I’ve been privileged to be apart of these past few years.

With an abrupt slap of reality, the arrival home was the expected blessing and curse. The promise of settling into our old neighborhood, reconnecting with friends, and a chance to try to make a difference for just a little longer put a spring in the step. Clearly there is a lot to do, to fix, and to prioritize. The Force is modernizing but at the same time cutting. Nowhere is it felt more than at the Regiment and through our families. In the short time back in Ottawa I realized that almost everyone has an answer, but at the same time no one does. Know that I draw inspiration from the Regiment about getting back to basics, building trust and finding a way to get the job done. More than ever, perseverance is needed.



Change of appointment ceremony alongside outgoing Vice Chief of Defence Staff, LGen Frances Allen and Chief of Defence Staff, Gen Jennie Carignan.

Commanding Officer's Message

Lieutenant-Colonel Darryn Gray

This year's edition of the Strathconian is truly motivating as it continues to showcase the amazing work that our Strathcona soldiers and officers have done across the world. We have had personnel deployed in many countries, in support of many operations, and I am currently writing this article from Latvia, as the Strathcona's formed the Multinational Battle Group (MN BG), formerly known as the enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) Battle Group.

Our Regiment continues to be "all in" and focused on Operations, as everything we do is with Operational purpose. From deploying and supporting Regimental personnel abroad on Op IMPACT (Iraq), Op UNIFIER (Ukrainian Training mission in the United Kingdom, Latvia, and Poland), and Op REASSURANCE (Latvia); or continuously poised to support domestic operations as part of Op LENTUS and Op CADENCE, it is evident that all efforts are directed towards operational readiness.

I am incredibly proud of everything that our Regiment accomplished this past year, including three PCF Training Cycles (with up to six courses each iteration) to ensure our personnel were trained and prepared for operations, the B Fleet training cycles that saw 15 different courses run in order to sustain the BG overseas, the myriad of community relations events showcasing our personnel across Western Canada, Primary Reserve integration in PCF Cycles, and continuous Sqn/BG readiness training. This year also reinforced the requirement for simulator training in Texas for C Sqn (Cheddar), ahead of their Tank Sqn deployment from June to December 2024 for Op REASSURANCE 24-02. In Fall 2024, the RSM and I, along with a team of Strathcona's, deployed to Latvia in support of the NATO Combat Readiness Evaluation (CREVAL) for Op REASSURANCE 24-02, and we were thoroughly impressed to see 'Cheddar' in action throughout the exercise. They performed incredibly well, and set the standard for the other Tankers in the BG.



TF WARHORSE

The name and logo chosen in a nod to LdSH(RC) acting as the lead mounting unit.





In December 2024, the Regiment deployed RHQ, HQ Sqn and the second wave of C Sqn (Caesar) for Op REASSURANCE 25-01 as the MN BG. Our BG, Task Force WAR HORSE which consists of eight contributing countries and over 1000 personnel, continues to raise the bar for the MN Bde, reinforcing the Combat Readiness purpose of this operation. In everything we do, the soldiers across all Coys and Sqns exemplify the BG motto *Train to Fight, Fight to Win; Strength and Honour*.

It is evident across all operations, that our Soldiers, Sr NCOs, and Officers alike, are extremely proud and enthusiastic about the challenges on the horizon and working with our NATO partners, as we look down the barrel of continuous deployment opportunities every six months for the foreseeable future.

This past year, there have been many monumental changes to the Leopard Family of Vehicles which saw Leopard centralization come to fruition with all Leo MBTs from Gagetown shipped to Edmonton. This has enabled the parts to be prioritized in two locations, (Montreal in support of Latvia and 202 workshop, and Edmonton in support of the Strathcona's). This year also saw the Repair and Overhaul of the Leo 2A6M fleet in Bathurst, New Brunswick and those MBTs are scheduled to be complete in the next two years. The Leo 2A6Ms will likely see their way to Op REASSURANCE shortly after completion. Lastly, after years of negotiations, the Leopard Long Term Support Contract (LTSC) was signed, which not only enables future parts procurement, but also the opening of a Civilian Regional Maintenance Centre in Edmonton run by a subsidiary of KMW. All in all, the conditions are set for increased serviceability for the years to come.

For the team in Edmonton, they are knocking it out of the park in preparation for future Tank Sqn Rotos, continuous Leopard maintenance and exercises, Reunion 2025, and our Regimental 125th Anniversary. Your collective efforts are truly appreciated and none of what our Regiment has accomplished this year could have been done without the dedicated team in Edmonton. I'd also like to express my appreciation to the editorial team that has changed many times this past year due to the deployments of C Sqn. I know that picking the reins back up following the redeployment was not easy, but this year's Strathconian is truly a remarkable product. Thanks to all involved throughout the year: **Maj Blake Tapp, Maj Ali Mansour, Maj Steve Couture, Lt Chelsea Stephen**, and the remarkable creativity of **Mrs. Kathy Batty**. Our Strathconian continues to be the envy of many units, as it showcases the importance of our Regiment, our history, our annual accomplishments, and continuously demonstrates there is no better Regiment to be part of, domestically or abroad; than the Strathcona's.

Perseverance.



Regimental Sergeant-Major

Chief Warrant Officer Nathan Mills



2024 was unsurprisingly busy for the soldiers and officers of the Regiment. The year started with a robust Primary Combat Function (PCF) cycle of courses run by A Sqn. This saw the Mobile Training Teams (MMT) from the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps School (RCACS) deploy to Edmonton and Wainwright in order to augment as instructors on the Leopard 2 Tank Driver Course, and the Leopard 2 Crew Commander Gunnery for the newly graduated lieutenants. The MMT deployed to Edmonton a total of 3 times in 2024 to support the Regiment in qualifying our soldiers on the Leopard 2.

C Sqn was able to conduct lvl 4 and 5 (Squadron and Combat Team) training on the tank simulators in Texas on Ex STEELE BEAST in March. The first C (Cheddar) Sqn deployed to Latvia in June as part of the 2 R22R Battle Group. The second C (Caesar) Sqn and the Mounted Troop represented the Regiment during the Calgary Stampede and Spruce Meadows in July. A number of WOs, MWO, Officers, the CO, and I deployed to Latvia in September as part of the Combat Readiness Evaluation (CREVAL) team for the in-place Battle Group. A Sqn ran another round of PCF courses and, the CO and I then flew home and then went directly to the Wainwright to observe the A Sqn lvl 3 live fire training.

Throughout this time, A Sqn, B Sqn, and Caesar Sqn continued to develop and hone their tanker skills using our internal simulators and newly purchased remote control tanks which are a much better training aid than I thought they would be. The freshly formed B Sqn represented us during the No Stone Left Alone and Veterans Week activities, and the Regiment deployed 135 soldiers and officers as part of the Strathcona led Multinational Battle Group-Latvia, known as War Horse in late November/early December. We formed the Battle Group HQ, CSS Coy, and of course, the Tank Sqn known as Caesar. We even sprinkled in some Strathconas into Recce Platoon within Combat Support Coy.

During, after, and in-between everything, HQ Sqn spilled sweat, blood, and maybe even some tears to keep the Regiment moving, training, and deploying. Long hours, creative thinking, hard work, and soldier's determination by our supporting Strathconas is what kept us afloat.

The distinguished service of the soldiers and officers of this fine regiment over the past year has been a testament to the enduring strength and capability of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), who remain a proud symbol of excellence in Canada's military history.

From operational excellence to community engagement, the Regiment has continued to build upon its proud legacy throughout 2024, marking another year of success and service to both Canada and the world.

Perseverance.





Editor-in-Chief Forward

Major Blake Tapp

The Strathconian, our way of keeping our extended yet tight Regimental family informed of key events and milestones, has reached its 110th edition. If that sounds familiar then you have read my same opener from last year. As the time old saying goes in the army, you're only asked to do something twice if you are good at... or need a second run to improve on all your mistakes. Whichever my case may be, here we are again this year.

At the very least my experience from writing this has been entirely different from last year, and that is likely the reflection of what the Regiment is going through right now. Deployments to Latvia are set to be our collective future, and it definitely feels like being one of the first OCs to deploy on it will be the high point of my career. The one experience that was very much the same as last year has been the great work from those that have had to suffer from working with me. Both **Capt Ali Mansour** and **Lt Chelsea Stephen** have yet again led the charge with putting this edition together, with **Lt Zorawar Sohi** eagerly picking up where they have left off upon our return to the office following the deployment to Latvia.

Same as last year, I hope this addition finds you well and you get to reflect on a good memory or have a laugh. Keep up the great work and take care of yourselves!

Perseverance.



Lt Chelsea Stephen & Capt Ali Mansour



*Maj Blake Tapp and
Lt Zorawar Sohi*



Cpl Marshal "Boom Box Specialist" MacNeil and MCpl Pierre-Oliever "PO" Borne offloading tank implements for the Leopard D&M course

Year in Review



Maj Tapp, Tpr Bezanson & MWO Charette



WO Rob Kearns getting distracted.



LCol Matt Johns receiving the Chief of Defence Staff Commendation.

January 2024

15 – 19 Jan: Ex STRONG CONTENDER – (All Sqns)

15 Jan – 14 Feb: Winter PCF Cycle (A Sqn)

March 2024

Ex UNIFIED RESOLVE: **1 -18 Mar** (RHQ)

Ex STEELE BEASTS 24: **1 – 16 Mar** (C Sqn)

Moreuil Wood: **18 – 21 Mar** (All Sqns)

May 2024

Spring PCF Cycle: **12 May – 18 Jun** (A Sqn)

July 2024

Spruce Meadows / Calgary Stampede: **5 – 14 Jul** (C Sqn & HQ Sqn)

September 2024

Ex STEELE SABRE: **3 Sept – 9 Oct** (A Sqn)

Ex PARATUS RAM: **1 Sep – 23 Oct** (RHQ)

Spin for a Veteran: **21 Sep** (Selected members)

November 2024

Ex STEELE VIRTUAL: **13 -15 Nov** (B Sqn)

NSLA Ceremony and Gala: **4 – 9 Nov** (B Sqn & Selected members)

Regt'l Society Casino: **30 Nov – 1 Dec** (Volunteer members)

February 2024

Ex VIGILAN RAM: **12 – 16 Feb** (RHQ, B Sqn)

Ex STEELE LANCE: **20 Feb – 8 Mar** (A Sqn)

April 2024

RQ MCpl Course: **22 Apr – 16 May** (A Sqn)

June 2024

Op REASSURANCE 24-02 Deployment: **9 Jun** (C Sqn)

August 2024

Summer PCF Cycle: **29 Jul – 29 Aug** (A Sqn)

Ex STEELE STALLION: **12 – 28 Aug** (HQ Sqn)

October 2024

CotR / FotR Visit: **4 – 7 Oct** (A Sqn)

December 2024

Op REASSURANCE Roto 24-02 Re-deployment & Re-integration: **4 Dec** (C Sqn)

Op REASSURANCE Roto 25-01 Deployment: **2 – 18 Dec** (TF WARHORSE - RHQ, C, HQ Sqns)

Multinational Battlegroup Latvia, Transfer of Command Authority: **13 Dec** (TF WARHORSE)

Ex STEELE RESILIENCE: **2 – 6 Dec** (A, B, HQ, RHQ Sqns)

SAD, Tpr Funk, At-Home: **9 – 13 Dec** (A, B, HQ, RHQ Sqns)

Births and Marriages

Cpl Wesloski married Maddy on 4 February.

Sgt Grubber's daughter, Nora, was born on 13 February.

Capt McCloy's son, Rei, was born on 16 February.

Tpr Nixon's son, Lukas, was born on 3 March.

MCpl Schemenauer's daughter, Charlotte, was born on 9 March.

Cpl Guilderson married Terri on 22 April.

Cpl Wilson married Linda Katherine Murphy on 04 May.

Capt Patt's son, Andreas, was born on 9 May.

WO Davidson's son, Lukas, was born on 10 May.

Maj Jung married Youngeun (Jenny) Choe on 11 May.

Cpl Ross' son, Wyatt, was born on 12 May.

Capt Dorjee married Amna Amin on 18 May, in Toronto, Ontario.

MCpl Munro's daughter, Riley, was born on 28 May.

Cpl Dykhuizen married Mariah on 5 July.

Tpr Peters married Taylor on 9 July in Georgetown, Ontario.

MCpl Fitzpatrick married Breann on 13 July in Beaver County AB.

Tpr Desrosiers married Mehak on 25 July in Kelowna, BC.

Maj Simpson married Cayce Simpson on 10 August in Kinblethmont, Scotland.

Cpl Lutz's daughter, Ayla, was born on 19 August.

Cpl Kelcey's daughter, Diedre, was born on 19 August.

MCpl Hamilton married Ayden on 12 August in Calgary, Alberta.

Sgt Dobson's son, William, was born on 20 September.

Capt Gervais married Delaney on 21 September.

WO Bolzan's son, Linden, was born on 23 September.

Tpr Carlos married Jamie Rae-Lyn Kemble on 28 September in St. Albert, Alberta.

Cpl Vitone Mossman's daughter, Alexis, was born on 29 September.

Maj Hevenor's daughter, Evelyn, was born on 2 October.

WO Richardson married Stephanie Rushton on 19 October in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Cpl Kim's daughter, Yuri, was born on 11 November.

Sgt McQueen's son, Wyatt, was born on 30 November.

PO2 Cunningham's twins Sophie and Myles were born on 19 December.



Lukas Davidson



Honours and Awards

Legion of Merit, Degree of Officer (USA)

LGen Macaulay

Meritorious Service Medal (USA)

Maj Lewis

General Campaign Star - Expedition

Maj Hevenor

Special Service Medal - NATO

Bore Sqn
Cheddar Sqn

Special Service Medal - Expedition

Capt Suresh
Capt Mahdi

Canadian Forces Decoration, First Clasp

LCol Gray
Capt Hume
Capt McAtasney
Capt Van Heerden
CWO Mills
MWO Charette
WO Chuback
Sgt Giberson
Sgt Martin
MCpl Forestell
Cpl McIntosh

Canadian Forces Decoration

Sgt Armstrong
Sgt Dempster
Sgt McNair
Sgt Paquette
Sgt Pecarskie
Sgt St-Onge
Sgt Williams



Maj Owen Lewis receives the Meritorious Service Medal (USA)

PO2 Eil
MCpl Bedard
MCpl Blair
MCpl Brousseau
MCpl Loiselle
MCpl Moore
MCpl Moceton-Velasquez
MCpl Reymers
MCpl Trudel
Cpl Ford
Cpl Gauthier
Cpl Goodwin
Cpl Hodgins
Cpl Rayment
Cpl Vitone-Mossman

King Charles III Coronation Medal

BGen Parsons

Order of Viesturs, 3rd Class (Republic of Latvia)

Col Kirstein

Korea Service Medal (Republic of Korea)

LCol McMurachy

Chief of Defence Staff Commendation

LCol Adams
LCol Johns
Capt Clubine
Cpl Andrade-Meza
Cpl Forster



*CWO Mills, MCpl Pierre-Olivier Borne,
Capt Ziad Hmaidan & LCol Gray.*

Commander Canadian Army Commendation

Cpl Tonon

Commander Canadian Joint Operations Command Commendation

WO Davidson

MCpl Kibler

3rd Canadian Division Command Team Commendation

WO Bolzan

Sgt Gross

MCpl Borne

MCpl Burke

MCpl Schemenauer

Cpl Erickson

Cpl Kaufman

Cpl Kurpers

Cpl Miller

Cpl Purkiss

Cpl Riley

Commander 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group Commendation

WO Collier

WO McMurtry

Commander Multinational Brigade Latvia Commendation

Sgt Grubber

MCpl St-Onge

Cpl Burke

Commander Mechanised Infantry Brigade Commendation (Republic of Latvia)

MCpl Braconnier

MCpl St-Onge

Cpl Englebrecht

Cpl Burke



*WO Colin Davidson presented with the Commander CJOC
Commendation by 3rd Can Div Comd & SM.*



*Capt Harry Delaney receiving a Certificate of Appreciation
from the CO during their Depart with Dignity ceremony.*

Commander Canadian Army Coin

Cpl Henderson

Commander 3rd Canadian Division Coin

Cpl Beckland

Cpl Pernell

Commander 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group Coin

Sgt Andrews

MCpl Bishop

MCpl Page

Cpl Purkiss

Cpl Webber

Commander Multinational Brigade Latvia Coin

Cpl Aberle

Sergeant-Major Multinational Brigade Latvia Coin

Cpl Plamondon

Commander Multinational Battlegroup Latvia Coin

MCpl Bitcon

MCpl Robinson

Commanding Officer's Coin

Capt Hedegaard

WO Young

Sgt Comeau

MCpl Cruickshank

Cpl Andrade-Meza

Cpl Kuypers



Cpl McNeil
Cpl Paes
Cpl Petherick
Cpl Rice
Cpl Smith
Cpl Worden

Regimental Sergeant Major's Coin

Cpl Kaufman
Cpl Siemens
Cpl Steele

Colonel of the Regiment Commendation

Col (Ret'd) Eddy
Col (Ret'd) Roderick
Col (Ret'd) Snell
Maj (Ret'd) Scandrett
Sgt (Ret'd) Kruhlač
Sgt Paquette
Cpl Blanco

Prince of Wales Squadron

B Squadron

Hessin Sword

Capt German

Macaulay Sword

Capt Lacroix

Neatby Pace Stick

WO Davidson

Milroy Cross Belt

Sgt Gross

Colonel of The Regiment Silver Stick

MCpl Crackle-Skulason

The Fox Bugle

Cpl Janzen-White

Ross Gear

MCpl Buaga

Olympic Torch

Lt Munson

Trooper Willoughby Memorial Award

Cpl Senff

Hug Perseverance Award

Cpl Mullens



Cpl Rice and Cpl Andrade-Meza after receiving the CO's coin.



MCpl Moore receives their Canadian Decoration.



WO Bolzan receiving the 3rd Can Div Comd Team Commendation.



CWO Mills, MWO Hamilton, Maj Shumka, Maj Lee, LCol Gray.

Promotions

Capt Dorjee
Capt Lauterbacher
Capt McAtasney
Capt McCloy
Capt Misner
Capt Munson
Capt Olson
Capt Snetzko
Capt Suresh
Capt Wiesenfeld
Lt Bogya
Lt Brophy
Lt Issa Moussa
Lt Johnston
Lt Lee, C.
CWO Mills
MWO Murdoch
MWO McLoughlin
MWO Charette
MWO Bouillon
WO Adby
WO Collier
WO Perron
WO Richardson
WO Talty
WO Weir
WO Young
Sgt Houde
Sgt Otis Monat
MCpl Cruickshank
MCpl Demeulenaere III
MCpl Duke
MCpl Fitzpatrick
MCpl Jones
MCpl Kelly
MCpl Morris
MCpl Nolet
MCpl Rayment
MCpl Robinson
MCpl Smith
MCpl Steele
MCpl Swanson
MCpl Van Dijk
MCpl Young
Cpl Banavage
Cpl Braun
Cpl Bryson
Cpl Chudy
Cpl Covacci
Cpl de Boer
Cpl Desaulniers
Cpl Dockery

Cpl Eaton
Cpl Ellis-Hopewell
Cpl English
Cpl Frantz
Cpl Gallagher
Cpl Gordon
Cpl Heron-Sampson
Cpl Hunter
Cpl Januszewski
Cpl Kaufman
Cpl Lanouette
Cpl LaRose
Cpl Laughland
Cpl Leblanc
Cpl March
Cpl McLeod
Cpl Mylymuk
Cpl Nelson
Cpl Nixon
Cpl Occleston
Cpl Pasternak
Cpl Rathwell
Cpl Redhead
Cpl Sellman
Cpl Sugarman
Cpl Sutcliffe
Cpl Swan
Cpl Tikkanen
Cpl Vincze
Cpl Webster-Varughese
Cpl Willcott
Cpl Williamson
Cpl Young
Tpr Johnson
Tpr McDonald
Tpr Savard
Tpr Wall



CWO Mills, WO Corina Collier, LCol Gray.

Regimental Roll

*Background Picture:
LAV 6.0 conducting night shoots under the
northern lights, CFB Wainwright.*

Colonel-in-Chief

His Majesty King Charles III

Colonel-of-the-Regiment

Col (Ret'd) Cade

Commanding Officer

LCol Gray

Regimental Second-in-Command

Maj Hevenor

Regimental Sergeant Major

CWO Mills

Adjutant

Capt Patt

Commanding Officer's Secretary

Kathy Batty

Operations Officer

Capt Mansour

Regimental Headquarters

Command/Op Cell

Maj Lewis
Capt MacLean
Capt Suresh
Capt Snetzko
Capt Tompsett
Lt Johnston
Lt Munger
Lt Gill
MWO Murdoch
WO Davidson
Sgt Comeau
Sgt Nieuwhof
MCpl McKenzie
MCpl Jones
Cpl Crouse
Cpl Deslauriers
Cpl Gray
Cpl Lagarde
Cpl Li
Cpl Long
Cpl MacQuarrie
Cpl Otolorin
Cpl Wesley
Cpl West

Regimental Orderly Room

WO Coupal
PO2 Cunningham
MCpl Cooper
Cpl DeRuiter
Cpl Eckert
Cpl Saeed
Cpl Wilkins
Pte(B) Neshcov

Training Cell

Capt McAtasney
Sgt McNair
Sgt Meaney
MCpl Price
Cpl Becklund
Cpl Mancini

60 Troop

Lt Dennis
MCpl Hamilton
MCpl Van Dijk
MCpl Rayment
MCpl Reymers
Cpl Amoroso
Cpl Dykuizen
Cpl Fordham
Cpl Harding
Cpl Maher
Cpl Mayer
Cpl Swan
Tpr Murphy

Signals Cell

Capt Stang
WO MacDonald
Sgt Owen
MCpl Renneberg
Cpl Abraham
Cpl Crozier
Cpl Despres
Cpl Tonon

Intelligence Troop

Capt Tsui
Lt Marriott
Lt Thill
Cpl Amoroso
Cpl Gray

A Squadron

Officer Commanding

Maj McHugh

Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO McLoughlin

SHQ

Capt Smith
Sgt Andrews
MCpl Smith
Cpl Marcelli
Cpl Weekes
Cpl Jankowitz
Cpl Craig
Cpl Hodgins
Cpl Genge
Tpr Hunter
Tpr Stein

1st Troop

Lt Roberts
WO Bolzan
Sgt Williams
MCpl Lockhart
MCpl Tong
Cpl Edgson
Cpl Janzen-White
Cpl Nobes
Tpr Bunnett
Tpr Chumak
Tpr Herron-Sampson
Tpr March
Tpr Rathwell
Tpr Sellman
Tpr Sutcliffe
Tpr Vanderzwaag

2nd Troop

Lt Sellers
WO Young
Sgt Harding
MCpl Dauphinee
MCpl Young
Cpl Beck
Cpl McGrogan
Cpl Redcalf
Tpr Buchanan
Tpr Dougherty
Tpr Gordon
Tpr Gibbons
Tpr McLeod
Tpr Paha Sapa

3rd Troop

Lt Wiesenfeld
WO Perron
MCpl Reymers
Tpr Baceda
Tpr Nelson
Tpr Sugarman

Admin Troop

WO Collier, M.
Sgt Armstrong
MCpl Belanger-Smith
MCpl Fitzpatrick
MCpl Graystone
MCpl Kelly
MCpl Loiselle
Cpl Banavage
Cpl Bellamy
Cpl Cocker
Cpl Gallagher
Cpl Gibson
Cpl Headrick
Cpl Laughland
Cpl Losier
Cpl Lutz
Cpl McLeod
Cpl Occleston
Cpl Siemens
Cpl Smith
Cpl Yasinki
Tpr Binegas
Tpr Townshend
Pte(B) Agiropoulos
Pte(B) Chesne
Pte(B) Duff
Pte(B) Hedges
Pte(B) Jones
Pte(B) Lawrence
Pte(B) Norman
Pte(B) Tarbet
Pte(B) Thiessen
Pte(B) Thomson
Pte(B) Turner
Pte(B) Weetman
Pte(B) Widerman

B Squadron

Officer Commanding

Maj Rogozinski

Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO Williams

SHQ

Capt Van Heerden
Cpl Vincze
Cpl Brousseau
Cpl Rice
Cpl Westcott
Pte(B) Davies
Pte(B) Mikkelsen
Pte(B) Roundsky
Pte(B) Smits

1st Troop

Lt McCloy
WO Richardson
Sgt Wheeler
MCpl Farquharson
Cpl Spence
Cpl Buchanan
Pte(B) Fortin
Pte(B) Htoo
Pte(B) Kellehar
Pte(B) Kumar
Pte(B) McKeown
Pte(B) Reid
Pte(B) Starcevic

2nd Troop

Lt Lee
WO Weir
Sgt Partridge
MCpl Clauson
Cpl Finch
Cpl Rodrigues
Pte(B) Bischoff
Pte(B) Borizki
Pte(B) Kozlik
Pte(B) Lawrence
Pte(B) Martin
Pte(B) O'Brien
Pte(B) Pysarchuk
Pte(B) Redcalf

3 Troop

Lt Brophy
WO Collier, C.
Sgt Job
Cpl Taylor
Cpl Schmidt
Cpl Wesloski
Pte(B) Andal
Pte(B) Andrews
Pte(B) Peters
Pte(B) Fortier
Pte(B) Carlos

Pte(B) Desrosiers
Pte(B) Warren

Admin Troop

Capt Hu
Sgt Villeneuve
MCpl Swanson
MCpl Allard
Cpl Jaun
Pte(B) Buronda
Pte(B) Cacho-Wolfe
Pte(B) Duff
Pte(B) Duggan
Pte(B) Friesen
Pte(B) Jones
Pte(B) Munro
Pte(B) Thistle
Pte(B) Van Horne
Pte(B) Wideman

C Squadron

Officer Commanding

Maj Tapp

Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO Charette

SHQ

Capt Hedegaard
Capt Neshcov
Sgt McQueen
Sgt Dobson
Sgt St-Onge
MCpl Cox
MCpl Steele
MCpl Meena
MCpl Morris
Cpl Andrade-Meza
Cpl Becklund
Cpl Currie
Cpl Forster
Cpl Hutchinson
Cpl Janke
Cpl Kuypers
Cpl Melnyk
Cpl Park
Cpl Thomas
Cpl Warburton
Tpr Heinemann
Tpr Pasternak

1st Troop

Capt Lauterbacher
WO McKenzie
Sgt Braconnier
MCpl Crackle – Skulason
MCpl Nolet
Cpl Dockery
Cpl Ellis-Hopewell
Cpl Guilderson
Cpl Plamondon



Cpl Vu
 Cpl Webster-Varughese
 Cpl Wilson
 Cpl Wittman
 Tpr Braun
 Tpr Wall

2nd Troop

Capt Olson
 WO Hayes, HA
 Sgt Grubber
 MCpl Schemenauer
 MCpl Robinson
 Cpl Alegro
 Cpl Auvigne
 Cpl Baclayo
 Cpl Cameron
 Cpl Chudy
 Cpl Engelbrecht
 Cpl Kaufman
 Cpl Kataquapit
 Cpl LaRose
 Cpl Redhead
 Cpl Semwal

3rd Troop

Capt Dorjee
 WO Popoff
 Sgt Pecarskie
 MCpl Moceton
 MCpl Tanner
 Cpl Briggs
 Cpl Guignard
 Cpl Jackson
 Cpl McIntosh
 Cpl Nixdorf
 Cpl Oliverio
 Cpl Shortt
 Tpr Cho
 Tpr Frantz
 Tpr Leblanc
 Tpr Morellato

4th Troop

Lt Stephen
 WO Adby
 Sgt Paquette
 MCpl Friel
 MCpl George
 Cpl Addison
 Cpl Burton
 Cpl de Boer
 Cpl Gedge
 Cpl Heath
 Cpl Knutsson
 Cpl McIntyre
 Cpl Mutia

Cpl Parsons
 Cpl Williamson
 Cpl Wing

Admin Troop

Lt Sohi
 Lt Issa Moussa
 WO Bell
 WO Kearns
 Sgt Houde
 MCpl Laparriere
 MCpl Thibault
 Cpl Bakos
 Cpl Covacci
 Cpl Corlay-Savard
 Tpr Deagnon
 Cpl Henderson
 Cpl Kelcey
 Cpl Johnson
 Cpl MacNeill
 Cpl McBroom
 Cpl Miguel
 Cpl Miller
 Cpl Solverson
 Cpl Sutherland
 Cpl Szabo
 Cpl Trenholm
 Tpr Bryson
 Tpr Eaton
 Tpr Gakhar
 Tpr Kolenosky
 Tpr Johnson
 Tpr MacDonald
 Tpr Savard
 Tpr Sexsmith

HQ Squadron

Officer Commanding

Maj Couture

Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO Christopoulos

SHQ/Admin

Capt Berube
 Capt Clubine
 Capt Bear
 2Lt Cornell
 MWO Murphy
 WO Chuback
 Sgt Gross
 MCpl Allman
 Cpl Barry
 Cpl Ross
 Cpl Ruiz
 Cpl Vahey
 Cpl Worden

Maintenance Troop

Capt Munson
 2Lt O'Brien
 MWO Denvir
 MWO Turnell
 WO Blackburn
 WO Dobbs
 Sgt Cross
 Sgt Gaudet
 Sgt Giberson, CA
 Sgt Lussier
 Sgt Micyck
 Sgt Palmateer
 Sgt Ruta
 Sgt Veltmeyer
 MCpl Bedard
 MCpl Bell
 MCpl Bishop
 MCpl Bitcon
 MCpl Borne
 MCpl Boyd
 MCpl Brousseau
 MCpl Buaga
 MCpl Burke
 MCpl Demers
 MCpl Gill
 MCpl Harvey
 MCpl Lapid
 MCpl Laurin
 MCpl Lavoie
 MCpl McGuire
 MCpl Moore
 MCpl Page
 MCpl Parnell
 MCpl Savard
 MCpl Trottier
 MCpl Wiggan
 MCpl Wilson
 Cpl Aberle
 Cpl Allen
 Cpl Anderson
 Cpl Breustedt
 Cpl Bristow
 Cpl Brown
 Cpl Cantwell
 Cpl Catton
 Cpl Chaine
 Cpl Cosens
 Cpl Cote
 Cpl Davis
 Cpl Gillmore
 Cpl Gordon
 Cpl Hedlin
 Cpl Hoveland
 Cpl Isberg
 Cpl Kim
 Cpl Kleemaier



Cpl Kozack
Cpl Langenberg
Cpl Leprohon-Deblois
Cpl Luhuang
Cpl MacCrimmon
Cpl Mazurenko
Cpl McLean
Cpl McNeil
Cpl Mylymuk
Cpl Palfrey
Cpl Panzica
Cpl Paradeza
Cpl Parratt
Cpl Poitras
Cpl Purkiss
Cpl Riley
Cpl Schenk
Cpl Smith
Cpl Tikkanen
Cpl Tinnion
Cpl To
Cpl Trinh
Cpl Walker
Cpl Webber
Cpl Wiest
Cpl Willcott
Cpl Yoo
Pte Bone
Mr Loseth
Mr Cooke
Mr Hogan

QM Troop

Capt Latulippe
Capt Fairholme
MWO Gratto
MWO Bouillon
PO1 Fields
PO2 Ell
Sgt Galway
Sgt Martin
Sgt Mahar
Sgt Otis Monat
MCpl Blair
MCpl Cruickshank
MCpl Kibler
MCpl Gong
MCpl Odgen
Cpl Chapman
Cpl Dinh
Cpl Fikkert
Cpl Grillone
Cpl Klassen
Cpl Kok
Cpl MacDonald
Cpl Maciel
Cpl McGowan

Cpl Petherick
Cpl Ripley
Cpl Shulba
Cpl Steeves
Cpl Sterritt
Cpl Sullivan
Cpl Sylvester
Pte(B) Manuel

Transport Troop

Lt Meldrum
WO Crowe
WO Patterson
Sgt Arens
Sgt Favreau
MCpl Demeulenaere III
MCpl Harvey
MCpl Kimmell
MCpl Martin
MCpl Maw
Cpl Bériau Landry
Cpl Carle
Cpl Charron
Cpl Clarke
Cpl Cutteridge
Cpl Dickens
Cpl Ducharme
Cpl Howes
Cpl Lang
Cpl Layugan
Cpl Macisaac
Cpl Phipers
Cpl Redcalf
Cpl Schmidt
Cpl Van Lune
Cpl Vitone Mossman
Cpl Watson
Tpr Bergen
Tpr Dandy

Regimental Support Troop

Capt Renouf
Capt Webster - Museum
Capt Mahdi
WO Mijares
Sgt Giberson, TW - Museum
Sgt Wright
Cpl Blanco - Museum
Cpl Elliott
Cpl Frizzel
Cpl Clendennin
Cpl Maendel
Cpl Parsons
Cpl Rutledge
Cpl Solomon
Cpl Wysocki

Strathcona Mounted Troop

Capt McBride
WO Talty
MCpl Duke
MCpl Maddison
Cpl Annaert-van der Werf
Cpl Byers
Cpl Choquette
Cpl Duncan
Cpl English
Cpl Gauthier
Cpl Januszewski
Cpl Laffeur
Cpl Miller
Cpl Salvador
Cpl Senff
Cpl Taylor
Tpr Fytopoulos
Tpr Lanouette
Tpr Young



Maintainers seen keeping the fleet going during C Sqn's level 4 dry.



A Sqn conducting dismounted patrols during the in-house RQ MCpl course.



The Squadrons







Regimental Headquarters A Year in Review

Master Corporal Dorian Hamilton



MCpl Karnbir Chauhan assess members of IVP on inaugural GPUAS course.

The heartbeat of the regiment RHQ includes members of the command team, Ops and training, the Regimental Orderly Room, 60 Troop, and the intelligence cell. All endeavour to ensure to regiment is ready and capable to answer the needs of the brigade and CAF commitments. This year saw a rapidly changing environment with members deployed overseas, domestic commitments here at home, fast ball taskings that did and didn't come to fruition, and administrative challenges that our very capable team in the ROR oversaw. Throughout 2024 the squadron was challenged in their mental and physical resilience and overcame these challenges in stride.

2024 saw the amalgamation of 60 and Command troop in daily tasks and training opportunities. Specifically, RHQ took the lead for IBTS and PDT requirements. While 60A, **WO Liam Talty** took the lead in getting the regiment requalified in CBRN defence using 60 troop as the guinea pigs. A part of me believes he enjoyed the immediate aftermath.

Under **WO Liam Talty's** watchful eye all members of the regiment who required CBRN for deployment and IBTS were thoroughly tested and successfully prepared. In an all-hands effort to ensure the regiment met its IBTS requirements RHQ also took the lead on C7/C8 IBTS ranges, ran by 60 and command troop. Members of RHQ, having had the most range time this year were able to add value to training and ensure all members of the regiment were highly proficient with the weapon system by the end of their range time.

We live in a constantly evolving world and as we are all aware modern warfare is an ever-changing playing field. With the dominance of drones in the battle space 60 has become the eye in the sky and the leading edge in this expertise throughout the year. With 3 detachment commanders and several operators 60 has maintained its currency and developed relationships throughout the brigade in respect to UAS operation and surveillance. 2024 brought us the roll out of the GPUAS across the CAF and updated TTPs that are evolving each time we fly. The troop has also



Members of the ROR (From left) Sgt Jennifer Iskiw, WO Susan "Superwoman" Coupal, Cpl Jennifer Wilkins, Cpl Alexander Eckert, Cpl Vincent DeRuiter, and Cpl Jawwad Saeed.



fostered relationships throughout the brigade with our partners in the combat arms and support trades.

This year the troop was extra regimentally tasked with supporting primarily the infantry in their training and introduction to the UAS platform. During this time several members of 60 were deployed on Ex Stealthy Ram in support of the sniper gun camp and basic sniper course qualification. The members conducted themselves professionally and added several layers of value to their training including drone detection, avoidance, and integration into their mission. In doing so the members have rekindled an often-strained relationship with our friends down the road. As a result of this renewed relationship, we have been able to integrate ourselves into their team on many occasions which has fostered a mutual respect as well as given us the opportunity to not only train with our counterparts but also, try out our counterpart's equipment (specifically, their rifles).

60 also had the opportunity to influence the selection of and as a result receive the first batch of commercially available UAS in the brigade. With the roll out of the TEAL 2 GPUAS our capabilities extended to not only long range ISTAR tasks but also close reconnaissance tasks with the aid of UAS. Leading the way in SOP development and use case scenarios also put us in the forefront of training for the brigade. This allowed us to train members of the IVP Recce platoon in their integration of the system, support Field ambulance in their drone evasion training, cooperate with our civilian counterparts, and expand our expertise in the modern battle space.

Members of the command team, Ops cell, and training cell all endured a busy 2024. They spent their year preparing for the constant rotations of our squadrons to Op REASURANCE as well as the busy PCF cycles. They ensured exercises, pre-deployment training, and the PCF cycle was able to be run seamlessly, they handed over their positions to ensure seamless continuity in the regiment in their absences, they handled the intake of new members to the regiment as well as reservist augmentees. Through their hard work and dedication, the regiment was at all times prepared to meet the needs of any tasks handed our way.



MCpl William Rayment demonstrates the proper application of a tourniquet.

The Squadron also planned and took part in the armoured PCF cycle ensuring all members were qualified or kept current in their respective positions. **Cpls Mayer and Deslaurier** were thrust into the world of being a tanker. Both were given the opportunity to further expand on their tank qualifications and take part in the leopard D&M course. **Sgt Nieuwhof**, a tanker through and through, **MCpl Hamilton**, and **Capt Snetzko** took part in the LAV 6.0 CC gunnery course. Though the Sergeant was skeptical of a weapons system that lacked the 120mm gun he was used to, he eventually came around and all were rewarded by an incredible showing of the northern lights during the night shoots.

This year saw many members of the squadron deploy, notably the **CO, LCol Gray, RSM CWO Mills and SSM, MWO Murdoch**. Under their steadfast leadership the regiment and squadron were prepared both mentally and physically to meet our NATO commitments and support our allies in the defence of international rule of law in the face of our adversaries persistent testing. With them, several Officers, NCOs and NCMs also deployed in various positions spanning across RHQ. We wish them and all their families the very best and as always offer our support.

2024 kept us on our toes, but in an unpredictable world and an unpredictable job the one constant remained: RHQ's readiness and preparedness to support the regiment and the brigade and conduct all tasks to the highest of standards. As should and can be expected of the regiments senior squadron.



A Squadron Year in Review

Lieutenant Gesse “No Comment” Roberts

Despite a frigid and cold start to the year, following a successful Ex STEELE SABRE 24

A Sqn hit the ground running with various tasks and training.

Skills Canada

At the beginning of May, A Squadron was tasked with supporting Skills Canada: Edmonton, a major event held at the Edmonton EXPO Centre. The event attracted over 12,000 high school students, providing them with a valuable opportunity to explore various career options. Second Troop played a key role by showcasing the Regiment’s capabilities, providing a Leopard 2 tank for display. The tank not only highlighted the Regiment’s advanced armored operations but also served as a platform to discuss career opportunities within the military. The event was an excellent chance to engage with the next generation and promote careers in the Canadian Armed Forces.

Yellow Ribbon Gala

May brought the Yellow Ribbon Gala in Edmonton, where Third Troop took on a unique role as a “living display” of the Regiment’s Leopard 2 tanks for a VIP crowd, including the Chief of Defence Staff. Despite initial concerns that they might just be a side attraction, 3rd Troop’s interactive displays of the tanks caught the attention of guests, even prompting one enthusiastic attendee to ask if they could “take it for a quick spin.” **Lt Brad “Lt Dan” Wiesenfeld** politely declined, citing “traffic laws” and the risk of hitting a flag car. The Chief of Defense Staff brought a touch of humor, joking about our “distinctive parking style”—because if there’s one thing tanks aren’t built for, it’s street parking. The evening showcased the Regiment’s blend of tradition and innovation, with the Ceremonial Mounted Troop offering a stunning contrast of precision and grace alongside the raw power of the tanks. The gala provided a rare opportunity to highlight the Regiment’s history and evolution, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.



Tpr Ashley “I am smiling, what do you mean?” Dougherty after a successful battle run.



Tpr Matthew “Nelly” Nelson and MCpl Brandon “What is my role today?” Lockhart setting up a Leopard 2 tank display for the Yellow Ribbon Gala.

Defence Research and Development Canada Imaging Exercise

From June 13-16, TerraSense, an AI company specializing in computer imagery, partnered with Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC) at CFB Edmonton. Using Leopard 2A4s from A Squadron, TerraSense and Canadian UAVs conducted extensive drone operations to capture high-resolution imagery of the base and its vehicles. The drones provided invaluable data, allowing military personnel to analyze tank movements, operational strategies, and recovery techniques. The exercise even involved some unintentional lessons in tank submergibility, as **Capt Liam “Who put that trench there?” Misner** learned the hard way that Leopard 2A4s are even submersible on



*Sgt Sean “Zoolander” Andrew taking a much-needed break from all the paparazzi *cough cough* public affairs photo teams.*

land. By the end of the exercise, the collaboration had not only provided cutting-edge data for future tactical planning but also introduced soldiers to the evolving role of drone technology in military operations. As **Lt Wiesenfeld** noted, the exercise offered soldiers a chance to experience firsthand the technological advancements shaping Canada’s defense strategy.

PCF Cycle: Essential Tank Training

The PCF Cycle was another crucial aspect of 2024, focusing on training new tank drivers, gunners, loaders, and crew commanders. The course began in garrison, where trainees honed their skills in precision, teamwork, and communication. Whether mastering the art of maneuvering the 60-ton Leopard 2 or managing live-fire exercises, the program emphasized the need for coordination under pressure. The course also highlighted the importance of understanding the intricate roles of each crew member,

and the critical difference between intercom and transmit. In addition, trainees gained valuable experience in adapting to changing battlefield conditions and learning to react swiftly to orders while staying calm under fire. Overall, tanking skills were both developed and refined by everyone involved with the PCF courses; including instructors such as **MCpl Stephen “I’ve never crew commanded at night, please no” Graystone**, who is proof that trial by fire is a great way to achieve proficiency very quickly. As A Squadron continues to develop the next generation of tankers, the Squadron remains committed to maintaining the highest standards of excellence in armoured warfare training. Through rigorous evaluation and continual improvement, the PCF cycle ensures that every crew member is ready for the challenges of modern combat.

Honouring Our Fallen: Remembrance Day Observance

This Remembrance Day First Troop participated in a solemn ceremony at the Fort Saskatchewan Legion, where veterans and active-duty members laid wreaths in remembrance. Third Troop attended a similar ceremony at the Nanton Legion, reflecting on the sacrifices of those who came before. The Squadron Remembrance Day observance was a reminder of the profound cost of freedom and the importance of carrying on the legacy of those who served. Lest we forget.

As 2024 comes to a close, the Squadron can look back with pride at a year of athletic achievement, training milestones, and moments of camaraderie. As we look ahead to the next year, A Squadron remain committed to fostering unity, fitness, and esprit de corps—both on and off the field. Here’s to another year of success, sportsmanship, and service.



Newly Promoted Cpl Marshall Gordon, Cpl Mason Sutcliffe, and Cpl Roan with OC-A Maj Timothy McHugh.



Capt Miles “Not Kilometers” Smith giving arcs at the Friends of the Regiment demonstration range.



B Squadron

Lieutenant Chris M. Lee

In 2024, B Squadron began by redeploying from Latvia, marking the start of a significant period of transformation. The Squadron underwent comprehensive reconstitution, which included changes in leadership at every level. This was followed by an intensive training period, designed to enhance the readiness of both the soldiers and the leadership. The Squadron also deployed personnel to support a variety of strategic objectives, demonstrating their versatility and commitment to mission success. This was balanced with having an ongoing commitment to Operation LENTUS and supporting Regimental endeavors. The year culminated with an intensive round of Primary Combat Function (PCF) courses to ensure all new soldiers after reconstitution were ready and able for deployments to come, with the Squadron eager to resume their role as a deployed tank Squadron.

As the year began, **Maj Matt Shumka** and **MWO James Hamilton** transitioned from tank operations to lead the Squadron's return from Latvia, supported by **Capt Tom Hume**. The summer then ushered in a period of significant change, with **Maj Shaun Rogozinski**,



Cpl Marshall Buchanan whispering devilish ideas to Tpr Cerro Smits, as he's pretending to be the Number 1 driver. Meanwhile Tpr Ryan Kozlik has flashbacks to his time in Farnham.



Tpr Keenan Kellehar is covertly trying to figure out which tank is his, while Cpl Marshall Buchanan and Cpl Rylan Taylor listen to Lt Kuhn-Mook Lee giving last minute remarks before commencing their advance.

with **Maj Shaun Rogozinski**, **MWO Matt Williams**, **Capt Yuan Hu**, and **Capt Leon Van Heerden** stepping into key leadership roles. At the same time, Troop Leaders **Capt Henry Loun**, **Capt Leah Ahenakew**, **Lt Kuhn-Mook Lee**, and **Lt Jon Barton** were succeeded by **Lt Reva Gill**, **Lt Larissa Bear**, **Capt Cole McCloy**, and **Lt Chris Lee**. As the year progressed and Task Force War Horse was established, further leadership transitions occurred. **Maj Carsten MacLean** assumed the role of Officer Commanding B Squadron, while much of the leadership team was reassigned to the task force. A special acknowledgment goes to the B Squadron NCO core, whose adaptability and leadership were instrumental during times when flexibility was crucial. Their unwavering dedication and skill were key to navigating the year's challenges and changes.

From spring through fall, B Squadron engaged in training, with a particular focus on developing troop-level capabilities. The reconstitution of the Squadron brought in a significant number of new Troopers, and despite limited resources, priority was placed on enhancing fundamental soldiering skills such as weapons handling and navigation. This was accomplished through rigorous Individual Battle Task Standard (IBTS) exercises. Alongside A Squadron, troops underwent driver and gunnery



Cpl Rylan Taylor, MCpl Jesse Clauson, and Cpl Seth Wesloski standing vigil during No Stone Left Alone.

courses, focusing on the Leopard 2 main battle tank. These courses covered key areas including operation, maintenance, tactical movement, and the destructive capabilities of the tank. In the fall, members of B Squadron had the opportunity to mount the Honour Guard, and the Vigil party of the No Stone Left Alone ceremony at Beechmount Cemetery. This allowed the soldiers to take pause and reflect on the sacrifices made by our comrades.

One of the standout training exercises involved the use of a newly acquired remote-control (RC) replica of the Leopard 2. Under the leadership of **Sgt Billy Goodwin** and **MCpl Jesse Clauson**, a team constructed a large-scale map model within the hangar. This innovative setup allowed the Squadron to use the RC tanks to enhance understanding of battle procedures, tactical maneuvers, gunnery skills, command and control, and tactics, techniques and procedures — providing invaluable practical experience for both Troop Leaders and soldiers alike.

In conclusion, 2024 marked a year of transformation and growth for B Squadron. From its redeployment from Latvia to its comprehensive reconstitution, the Squadron demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability as it navigated a period of significant leadership transitions, intensive training, and high-level operational engagements. The Squadron's

unwavering commitment to readiness was reflected in its thorough preparation for future deployments, with a focus on enhancing both individual and collective capabilities. The integration of new soldiers, innovative training methods like the RC Leopard 2 exercise, and the dedication to supporting Regimental endeavors underscored the squadron's versatility and strength. Additionally, B Squadron's participation in the No Stone Left Alone Ceremony highlighted the deep sense of honour and responsibility it carries for Canada's military legacy. As the year concluded, B Squadron stood not only prepared for future challenges but also deeply connected to the values that define its mission and purpose, ensuring its readiness to serve both in operations and in its commitment to remembering the sacrifices of those who came before.



Tpr Ryan Kozlik marching up to read Act of Remembrance in front of the Sqn, and the public, on Remembrance Day.



C Squadron

Captain Woosal Dorjee and Lieutenant Chelsea Stephen



"2nd Troop Best Troop" (Opinions might vary).

As the year unfolded, C Squadron embarked on a demanding and rewarding series of exercises, deployments, and preparations that underscored their dedication to operational readiness. From rigorous training exercises to high-profile international deployments, the past year was eventful for C Sqn to say the least.

Things kicked off with Ex STEELE BEASTS 24. Held at Fort Cavazos, Texas, this simulation-based exercise provided the squadron with the opportunity to train using American Abrams simulators.

The exercise tested the squadron's ability to conduct operations across a variety of terrains and scenarios, from desert environments to dense forests. Days were filled with intense simulations, where soldiers honed their tactical skills, familiarized themselves with foreign terrain, and adapted to the demands of virtual warfare. Despite the grueling schedule, the team found moments to unwind, enjoying the BBQ, beer, karaoke, and the southern hospitality of Texans. By the end of the exercise, C Sqn had successfully validated its readiness for future operations, proving once again it was ready for anything to come.

With the new calendar year came the start of the Pre-Deployment Training (PDT) cycle. This phase ensured that the squadron was prepared for immediate deployment, with personnel and equipment verified and ready for operation. Throughout the first PDT cycle, C Sqn focused on sharpening individual soldier skills and personal admin to ensure the seamless shift from garrison life to operation. By the end of this phase, the squadron was fully prepared to take on its next mission.

In June, the first rotation of C Sqn personnel, affectionately dubbed "*Cheddar Squadron*", deployed to Latvia under the command of **Major Blake "Big Cheese" Tapp** as part of Op REASSURANCE 24-01.

This deployment was part of Canada's ongoing commitment to NATO's enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) initiative, aimed at deterring aggression and reassuring NATO allies. During their time in Latvia, Cheddar Squadron participated in a series of multinational exercises alongside NATO allies. These exercises demonstrated the cohesion and interoperability of the NATO battlegroup (BG), showcasing C Sqn's ability to integrate seamlessly into a multinational force. From



C Sqn celebrates the successful completion of Ex STEELE BEASTS at the "Tankies" pub.



Capt Jesse “Captain Canada” Olson, being a lethal operator during CFA training.

joint live-fire exercises to complex tactical scenarios, the squadron played a pivotal role in reinforcing the alliance’s cohesion and tactical readiness. Their professionalism and skill sent a clear message to allies and adversaries alike that the NATO battlegroup, including its Canadian contingent, was prepared to meet any threat. Beyond the rigorous training exercises, the deployment also provided opportunities to build camaraderie with allied forces. Near the end of their tour, Cheddar Squadron participated in friendly competitions with their NATO counterparts. These events ranged from vehicle maneuvering challenges to marksmanship contests,

fostering a spirit of teamwork and mutual respect among the multinational forces. The competitions were not only a chance to showcase individual and team skills but also an opportunity to strengthen relationships within the alliance, solidifying the bonds that underpin NATO’s collective defence strategy.

While Cheddar Squadron carried out their mission in Latvia, the second rotation of C Sqn personnel, known as “Ceasar Squadron”, remained in Canada under the command of **Maj Steve “Top Ape” Couture**. Here they maintained a relentless focus on preparation and the deployment of the LdSH(RC) battlegroup on Op REASSURANCE 25-01. Their dedication to operational excellence was demonstrated through two additional PDT cycles... so many PDT cycles... designed to validate and integrate personnel from across the BG. The PDT cycles were intensive, ensuring that every member of the BG was proficient in their respective roles and prepared for the complexities of deployment. Through rigorous validation processes, Ceasar Squadron not only sharpened its own operational capabilities but also played a vital role in elevating the readiness of the entire LdSH(RC) battlegroup. By focusing on seamless coordination and tactical cohesion, they played a pivotal role in ensuring that the BG could function as a unified and highly effective force, ready to face the challenges of deployment. Through rigorous training, successful deployments, and unwavering commitment, C Squadron proved its readiness to face any challenge, solidifying its role as a cornerstone of operational excellence within the Canadian Armed Forces and NATO.



*Members of Cheddar Sqn being addressed by **LCol Darryn “War Horse” Gray**, and **RSM CWO Nathan “KILL KILL KILL” Mills** prior to their departure. In the foreground you can see, **WO Hugh “There’s No Minefield Here” Hayes** and **Sgt Patrick “All Bark No Bite” Grubber**.*



HQ Squadron

The Origin of the Roughnecks

Captain Stephanie “89A two of three” Clubine

Someone styled a “roughneck” is someone who works hard, is tough, and consistently gets their hands dirty to get the job done. Headquarters Squadron’s main effort in 2024 was supporting the Regimental Battle Group, Task Force War Horse, in deploying on Operation REASSURANCE rotation 25-01 to Latvia. In doing this, the Squadron became two separate squadrons. One, Roughneck Company, which has deployed with the Regimental Battle Group, and Headquarters Squadron itself, which remains in Edmonton to support A Squadron in preparing for rotation 25-02.

This experience began with the Squadron supporting C Squadron as they prepared to deploy on Operation REASSURANCE rotation 24-02, ultimately deploying a significant chunk of Maintenance Troop alongside them. This was followed by multiple iterations of leading pre-deployment training, teaching Combat First Aid, Road to Mental Readiness, and numerous other courses to ensure Task Force War Horse was ready to deploy on 25-01. Ultimately, Headquarters Squadron also ran an incredible number of driver courses across multiple platforms to ensure Roughneck Company was ready to sustain Task Force War Horse in Latvia. This was end capped by a deployment to Wainwright where the Roughnecks participated in austere ranges and other good field training.

Quartermaster Troop Narrative

Capt Charlie “Temp QM” Fairholme

Quartermaster Troop punched above their weight; they have spent the year supporting both the Regiment and the larger Edmonton military community across numerous tasks. The year saw **MCpl David “Oggy” Ogden** cooking for hungry gunners, deployed on Operation PALACI in the Rocky Mountains preventing avalanches. Closer to home we had the cooks in a continuous door of supporting the kitchen to ensure troops are being fed. During Ex STEELE SABRE 24, the military kitchen trailers were bursting continuously to ensure the Regiment had great meals, as the famous

saying goes, there is no faster way to lose morale than raw chicken. Supply and Financial Sections were kept extremely busy with keeping up with the rigorous training requirements and day-to-day consumables. While undertaking massive stock taking, the team was also able to get pens out to the Squadron Quartermasters as quickly as they could so junior officers were able to minute and spell check memos. **MCpl Jyvon “Booky” Kibler** has been doing a great job of managing the financial constraints of meeting targets in this less-than-ideal financial fiscal year, whilst simultaneously ensuring that the candy jar never goes empty.

Maintenance Troop Narrative

Cpl Jack Purkiss

This year proved to be a demanding yet rewarding one for the maintenance teams supporting the squadrons. Through the bone-chilling -32°C conditions of Exercise STEELE LANCE 24 to the sweltering heat and tent-wrecking thunderstorms of Exercise STEELE SABRE 24, the crews displayed unwavering resilience and adaptability. Operating in extremes, they rose to the challenge of maintaining the squadron’s 13 Leopard 2 Main Battle Tanks they sent to the field, ensuring they were mission-capable and combat-ready. Their meticulous efforts enabled all 13 tanks to be fully operational for a brief but critical period, a testament to our technical expertise and commitment. The maintenance teams worked tirelessly, in field conditions, supporting drivers’



BGen Rutland and CWO Clarke, the 3rd Canadian Division command team, serve members alongside the Strathcona cooks on Ex STEELE SABRE 24.

courses and ranges and guaranteeing the readiness of the squadron. This year highlighted their indispensable role in sustaining the combat effectiveness of the Regiment under the harshest conditions. As we look forward to 2025, we are met with the same challenges we faced this year albeit with less people as we are in the cycle of sending guys and gals out the door to support the squadron deployments to Latvia, but we will continue to meet this challenge head on, as we always have. ARTE ET MARTE.

The Strathcona Mounted Troop attended numerous events across Western Canada this ride season, which included a few trips to Spruce Meadows, participating in the Museum of the Regiments' Summer Skirmish, attending the Cavalry Football Club Playoffs, and completing numerous other rides. They were honoured to attend the Alberta Legislature's Service of Remembrance in November. As we approach the close of the calendar year, the new Basic Equine Rider Course is underway with several new riders completing their training in preparation for next year's ride season!

The sausage factory (or Regimental Accounts, if you prefer) has done splendidly this year, with **Cpl Dane "The Don" Frizzell**, **Cpl Alex "The Professional" Parsons**, and **Sgt Ken "The Father" Wright** putting together a killer All Ranks Dinner and Dance and Kids' Christmas Party. They've also secured new suppliers for Regimental Physical Training gear, gotten lunch options into the canteen, and brought in a few more awesome options for the Regiment. **Cpl William "Billy the Kid" Clendennin** continues to be the Regiment's encyclopedia, and **Cpl John "You Gonna Buy Something" Maendel** continues to push the brand. **Cpl Hamilton "The Wise Guy" Elliott** is a new, but very welcome add from the Mounted Troop.

Museum Narrative

Capt Phil "Wordsmith" Webster

The Regimental Museum team, composed of **Capt Phil "The Doctor" Webster**, **Sgt Todd "No Nicknames This Year, Please!" Giberson**, and **Cpl Miguel "BBQ" Blanco** has been steadfast, working hard to properly care for our Regiment's artifacts and archives. This year they are focusing on our Gallery update and modernization while subsequently working with our partners at the University of Calgary to support their upcoming **Sir Alfred Munnings** (of "The Charge of Flowerdew's Squadron" fame) exhibition in 2025. All the while doing our part to train the Students of Calgary's Museology programs in the fine art of archiving, collections management, and **Gordon Lightfoot** lyrics. The Director of Land Requirements caught wind that we had an excellent collection of dress regulation manuals down here (mostly thanks to **Maj Phil "Buck" Buckingham**) and as such we're assisting with future versions of the regulations. Not bad for a team of eccentric historians.

The Squadron's preparations for deployment culminated in October 2024, with the split between the two groups complete. **Maj Shaun "Rogo's Roughnecks" Rogozinski** and **MWO Bryson "Murph" Murphy** sent the Roughnecks on pre-deployment leave, with **Maj André "I'm only 89er for some things, it's complicated" Bérubé** and **MWO Laki "out for a smoke" Christopoulos** leading Headquarters Squadron into another deliberate sustainment push to ensure A Squadron has all they need to deploy on rotation 25-02 next summer.



The maintenance team for Ex STEELE SABRE.



*Cheddar Sqn's UNDEFEATED-at-losing tug of war team. Foreground from left to right, **Capt Jesse "Fanny-Pack" Olson**, **Cpl Allister "9:54" Baclayo**, and **MWO Laurent "Why would you drive back into it after I just recovered you?" Charette**.*



***LCol Darryn Gray** receives the MN BG-LVA flag from **Col Cedric Aspirault**.*

Operations & Training



***Sgt Brandon "The tuna keeps falling out every time I open the door" St-Onge** seen as he considers a career pivot towards modeling while acting as FPO during EX PALADIN LANCE.*



***WO Jeremy "Jet Boil Barista" Doherty** having mobility issues while on OCT duty.*



*Heroes of 51B crew in their infamous "zoo-keeper" crew suits. From left to right: **Cpl D'Andre "Get my name right" Webster-Varughese**, **Cpl Brendan "Best drill in the Squadron" Dockery**, **MCpl Dylan "Is That The Final Drive Smoking?" Braconnier**, and **Cpl Thomas "I have another hole in my pants" Wittman**.*



Tpr Matthew "Nelly" Nelson and Tpr Blaine "Selly" Sellman debating over Warhammer 40,000 while MCpl Trevor "Just Trev" Kelly tunes them out while waiting for their level 2 shoots.



Left to right, Cpl Timothy "59Chips" Miller, Capt Jesse "Goinz" Olson and Lt Zorawar "Did you read my email?" Sohi, pose during EX DEATH BEFORE DISMOUNT - Close Quarter Battle training conducted alongside Eagle Coy of 2R22R.



2 Pistolas! Capt Ali "was a major until he allegedly punched someone" Mansour and his new best friend Antonio "Que pass carbon?" Ruiz.



3 Tp, C Sqn display their cohesion.



Capt Moe Mahdi and MCpl Morgan Kamstra (1PPCLI) observing Battle Inoculation completed by Ukrainian recruits.



MCpl Jordan "Throws track every hour" Schemenauer and 12e RBC's WO Dominic "Works out harder than you" Goulin pose after completing the 40 km Czech Death March competition, placing 6th out of 120 teams.



Op REASSURANCE R24-02 It Ain't Easy Being Cheesy

Captain Jesse Olson & Lieutenant Zorawar Sohi



T4 (Raptor Coy) and T5 (Cheddar Sqn) after competing EX BALTIC WARRIOR, consisting of a 16 km ruck, 2km portage, 11km canoe, and a 1.5 km run to the finish line. Regimental flags from British Army's The Royal Lancers (Queen Elizabeth's Own); Polish Army's 23rd Regiment of Field Artillery; Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians); and The Saskatchewan Dragoons.

On 09 June 2024, CHEDDAR Squadron set off from Edmonton to the Adazi Military Base (AMB) in Latvia for OP REASSURANCE Roto 24-02, serving as the Canadian Tank Squadron(-) for the Multinational Battle Group – Latvia (MN BG-LVA). The BG, commanded by LCol Jean-Francois Labonte, was christened, in a nod to its lead mounting unit, as TF PALADIN. Upon our arrival to AMB, a few things quickly became evident.

First, 2R22eR, commanding the BG, love tug-o-war just as much as they love talking over the radios during exercises. Second, no Strathcona

was going to escape the scrutiny of **SSM Laurent “Roll Your F’n Sleeves Down” Charette** for the dress and deportment of our stylish off-the-shelf crew suits. Third, we had a monumental task ahead of us. We had to get a Squadron(-) worth of tanks up for our first range, patriotically scheduled on Canada Day. With five major exercises and countless ranges, CHEDDAR was about to face the reality of deploying as a tanker. The mantra was simple: “coveralls, tank barn; let’s go!”. It would be unforgivable for us to not acknowledge that the squadron would not have seen the success it saw, if it were not for the hard work of Maintenance Troop, led by **Sgt Chance “Chancellor” Giberson**, which worked tirelessly and stoically to get the tanks up to Squadron(-) strength.

CHEDDAR started BG training off with a bang; hosting a multinational range featuring the Polish PT-91, Italian Ariette and Centauro, and the Spanish Leopardo. Surprisingly, the most entertaining part of the range was not seeing four different types of tanks sending hate down range, but counting how many Canadian Leopard tanks popped track in the ammo area. **Cpl James “I popped track again” Kataquapit** set a squadron record for not just popping track a staggering five times in an hour, but also for managing to pop both tracks off at the same time.

CHEDDAR deployed 5 tanks for their first exercise, Ex PALADIN FORGE, beginning with First Troop (51) led by **Capt Tom “Mature Cheddar” Lauterbacher**. During an assault on the objective 51 bravely strayed from his fireteam partner, stumbling across the enemy’s countermoves hide and annihilating multiple T-72’s and BMPs to secure the BG’s northern flank. A true warrior. Second Troop, led by **Capt Jesse “Cheese Wiz” Olson** took over from 51 for the countermoves; having to launch multiple times to reinforce the Italians from being overrun by the enemy. Evident from the first exercise, CHEDDAR established themselves as the BG’s most versatile and lethal asset on the battlefield.

A constant throughout the deployment was the extensive Physical Resilience opportunities. This began with an Officer Physical Team Building Activity organized by Recce Platoon, Ex RESILIENT LEADER, and was followed by the challenging Ex BALTIC WARRIOR, the Czech Military Death March, Tactical Games, Ex PALADIN PRIME and the DANCON March. Another constant was the special relationship CHEDDAR shared with our Polish tanker counterparts (T4 – RAPTOR), which led to numerous cohesion events together, as well as a weekly Officer’s Mess meetup - ‘Czołg Wednesdays’.



Soldiers from 1st Troop, recreating the iconic raising of the flag: Not during the Battle of Iwo Jima, but atop their Leopard 2A4M at a multinational tank range hosted by Cheddar Sqn.

Four months of exercises, ranges, breaching, tactical discussions, and inter sub-unit cohesion events led to the Battle Group’s Combat Readiness Evaluation (CREVAL). The exercise saw many Strathcona’s come to Latvia acting as OCTs; including **MWO James** “Where’s My Sleeping Kit?” **Hamilton**, **WO Kevin** “Where’d My Hair Go” **Crowe**, **Maj Marshall** “You’re Dead” **Douglas**, **MWO Matt** “I Think You’re Dead” **Williams**, and **Lt Patrick** “I Forgot My Computer” **Munger**. **CHEDDAR**, again, demonstrated excellence during the CREVAL despite the OCTs aggressively (some might feel unfairly) targeting us at every opportunity, and the OPFOR featuring dismounts that were immune to tanks. Following Strathcona tradition, numerous memes were made to commemorate the occasion. The joyous LdSH(RC) reunion wrapped up with a dinner hosted by the CO and his new Royal Lancers (Queen Elizabeths’ Own) tattoo at ‘Two More Beers’ in Old Town Riga.

Throughout the deployment, many thanks were extended to the colonial connections of **Capt Nicholas** “Grilled Cheese” **Hedegaard**, due to who’s efforts the Squadron had opportunities to visit our British armoured peers in Poland and Estonia for information-sharing sessions that involved discussing tactics and working in a multinational environment.

The next bound for **CHEDDAR** was hosting and running Ex IRON SPEAR, a tank and IFV competition between 10 nations: Canada, Poland; the United Kingdom; Denmark; Netherlands; Norway; Germany; France; Spain; and Italy. NATO journalists reported the event as the largest massing of Allied armour in the world. It saw many high-ranking military and civilian guest spectators including Commander of NATO Multinational Corps Northeast, **LGen Jurgen-Joachim Von Sandrart**.

CHEDDAR’s redeployment back to Canada was bittersweet. Saying goodbye to new and old friends was difficult, but the eagerness towards returning home and starting new adventures awaited each one of us. We hope the squadron’s dedication and efforts left a mark on the battlegroup, and that our peers can undoubtedly agree, “Everything is better with **CHEDDAR**” (**Maj Blake Tapp**, circa 2024). So, in the name of **CHEDDAR** let us pray, “C! C! C! C! C!”



***Maj Blake** “Big Cheese” **Tapp** carries **Cpl Andrew** “Sir, I can fireman carry you” **Bezanson** during MN BG-LVA Cohesion Day.*



Ex SILVER ARROW

Lieutenant Patrick “You don’t need to bring your computer you’re fine” Munger

On September 8, our team arrived in Latvia to participate in Ex SILVER ARROW, an intense multinational military exercise designed to test the capabilities of various military units in real-time combat scenarios. After a day to acclimatize, we divided into three specialized groups: the CREVAL Team (Combat Readiness Evaluation), the OCT Team (Observer, Controller, Trainer Team), and the Duty Officer Team, each with distinct and crucial responsibilities.

The **CREVAL Team**, led by **LCol Darryn “The Boss” Gray**, took on the demanding task of evaluating Task Force Paladin, the current battle group. This team, composed of personnel from multiple units—including the Canadian Manoeuvre Training Center, Lord Strathcona’s Horse (Royal Canadians), 5e Régiment du génie de combat, and even one Spanish Army representative—evaluated over 700 criterias, ranging from administration to field operations. The team rigorously assessed the battle group before, during, and after field exercises. Special recognition goes to **Capt Ali “Go Get My Power Cord NOW!” Mansour**, whose support and assistance proved invaluable to the team’s success.

The **OCT Team**, led by **Maj Marshall “CHÉDDAR” Douglas**, played a critical role in the field by acting as referees. Always following the battle group, the OCT Team’s task was to observe, assess, and control battle maneuvers, providing real-time feedback to ensure operational accuracy and cohesion. Their around-the-clock commitment ensured that every action was closely monitored, reflecting the high level of discipline and dedication required.

Lastly, the **Duty Officer Team** diligently tracked the progress of the battle throughout the exercise, maintaining a clear operational picture for all participating units.

The exercise concluded with two memorable dinners that celebrated camaraderie and cooperation. The first was a Strathcona dinner at the 2 More Beers brewery, where over 25 members, including **WO Ayrton “I Brought My Bike Here” Balfour** and **Maj Ali Raju**, gathered to unwind and share stories. The second event was an impromptu karaoke night with our multinational colleagues at the Czech Brewery Stargorod, adding a light-hearted end to the intense training as part of the Tactical Reconnaissance. We even got the Regimental Sergeant-Major **CWO Nathan “King of Karaoke” Mills** to sing (photographic evidence banned from publication).

Ex SILVER ARROW was a challenging and enriching experience, testing our skills and strengthening international bonds. This exercise underscored the importance of readiness, teamwork, and adaptability in multinational operations.

*Members of Cheddar Sqn, the Tac Recce team and Strathconas posted OUTCAN to Latvia unite over drinks hosted by the Commanding Officer; featuring **Capt Nicholas “I have to shave cuz my gran doesn’t like my beard” Hedagaard’s** new LS tattoo.*



Multinational Battlegroup Latvia Transfer of Command Authority

Captain Desmond Wong

On 13 December 2024, the Multinational Battlegroup Latvia (MN BG-LVA) conducted a Transfer of Command Authority (TOCA) parade in the International House of Peoples (IHOP). Incoming CO, **LCol Darryn Gray** took over command of the MN- BG-LVA Roto 25-01 from **LCol Jean-François Labonté**, outgoing CO of Roto 24-02. The Reviewing Officer (RO) for the parade was **Col Cedric Aspirault**, Commander of the Multinational Brigade Latvia (MNB-LVA). This historic event marks the first time that the regiment has deployed a force of this size to the Battlegroup in Latvia.

The parade consisted of 60 soldiers from the battlegroup and numerous guests included Senior National Representatives (SNRs) from all sending nations. There were numerous Strathconas on parade including, **Maj Stephen Couture** and **MWO Robert Kearns** as No. 2 Guard Commander and Sergeant-Major. The parade started with the arrival and general salute for **Col Aspirault**. **LCol Labonté** then came forward to speak to the battlegroup as CO for the final time. In his speech, he recounted all the achievements and challenges that the battlegroup was able to accomplish and overcome. He concluded his speech by sending words of encouragement to **LCol Gray**.

It was followed by the signing of the scrolls which certified the transfer of command authority from **LCol Labonté** and **LCol Gray**. At the same time, **CWO Daniel Bonhomme**, outgoing Battlegroup Sergeant-Major, passed the Battlegroup Sergeant-Major's pace stick to incoming Battlegroup Sergeant-Major, **CWO Nathan Mills**. To symbolize the transfer of command between the incoming and outgoing commanders **Col Aspirault** received and transferred the Multinational Battlegroup Flag from **LCol Labonté** to **LCol Gray**. Once the flag ceremony was complete, **LCol Gray** assumed command of the parade and the MN BG-LVA, Roto 25-01.

Col Aspirault was invited to the podium to present his speech. He thanked **LCol Labonté** for his work as the previous commander and discussed the growing challenges and threats that **LCol Gray** and his new battlegroup will face. **Col Aspirault** also spoke about what he expects from the battlegroup under the command of the new Multinational Brigade. After **Col Aspirault's** speech, **LCol Gray** was invited to address the battlegroup for the first time. In his speech, he praised **LCol Labonté's** efforts as the battlegroup commander and noted the huge responsibility ahead of him. **LCol Gray** expressed how he felt prepared and excited to lead the battlegroup, and working with all the sending nations in building a strong and interoperable fighting unit.

After **LCol Gray's** speech, he assumed command of the parade again and delivered the final general salute to **Col Aspirault** before his departure. Once the RO had departed, **LCol Gray** handed command of the parade over to the DCO, **OF-3 Francisco Naranjo**. The parade was dismissed shortly after, concluding the TOCA ceremony.



*In front, from left to right are LCol Jean-François Labonté, Col Cedric Aspirault, and LCol Darryn Gray.
In rear, from left to right are CWO Daniel Bonhomme, CWO Dave Limon, and CWO Nathan Mills.*



Op UNIFIER

Lord Strathcona's on Roto 18: Tanks and Infantry Playing Nice on British Soil

Captain Shankeerth (Shawn) Suresh



Capt Shawn Suresh embracing the British 'Dogs In The Office' culture.

Operation UNIFIER, the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) mission to bolster Ukraine's defenses, brought personnel to Europe. From June 2024 to January 2025, **Capt Shawn Suresh** and **Capt Moe Mahdi** joined members of 1 PPCLI C-Coy, 1 CER, 1 Field Ambulance, and other CAF units to train Ukrainian civilians into capable soldiers in the United Kingdom in support of the British-led Operation INTERFLEX. The mission, conducted in partnership with forces from 13 nations, emphasized survivability, lethality, and fighting spirit.

By its second year, Operation INTERFLEX had successfully trained 50,000 Ukrainian recruits, transforming ordinary citizens into combat-ready soldiers prepared to face significant challenges. Through rigorous instruction, the training teams ensured that recruits left the United Kingdom with enhanced skills in shooting, movement, communication, and casualty treatment - essentials for survival on the modern battlefield.

The mission's multicultural nature highlighted NATO's depth and unity, as participants exchanged knowledge, experiences, and camaraderie. Collaboration with the Ukrainian General Staff provided valuable insights from the frontlines, blending strategy with personal

connections over shared meals and moments of laughter. Representing North America, **Capt Shawn Suresh** introduced international colleagues to Canadian staples like Tim Hortons coffee, s'mores, poutine, maple syrup, and spikeball, fostering a sense of home abroad.

Drones played a critical role in the operation, offering a cutting-edge perspective on integrating new tactics into training. The mission proved as educational for the instructors as it was for the recruits, refining skills essential for future joint operations.

Strathcona's stepped outside their traditional armoured roles to make significant contributions at both multinational headquarters and local command levels. **Capt Moe Mahdi** served in the United Kingdom Training Delivery Unit Headquarters as the Visits and Transport Officer. His role was pivotal in managing one of the most visited operations in Europe, underscoring the importance of training provided to the Ukrainians and the CAF's commitment to supporting its allies. Meanwhile, **Capt Shawn Suresh** served as the Liaison Officer within the Op INTERFLEX Headquarters, coordinating efforts in the planning cell. Working closely with Ukrainian staff officers, he absorbed vital lessons and helped bridge cultural differences to maintain focus on the shared mission.

Although only a small contingent of Strathconas participated in Operation UNIFIER, their work reflected the regiment's professionalism and Canada's unwavering dedication to supporting its allies in pursuit of common goals.



Capt Shawn Suresh and Capt Moe Mahdi after completing the 22KM 'Ruck for Remembrance' in support of Wounded Warriors Canada.



Ex STEELE BEASTS

Captain Woesel Dorjee



An American Abrams with a name that perfectly illustrates what many crew commanders told themselves during technical errors.

The exercise kicked off in Killeen, Texas, where the first two days unfolded in a setting far from the virtual battlefield. Stationed at a Holiday Inn outside of Fort Cavazos, the troops enjoyed what felt more like a brief vacation, while the heavy lifting fell on the shoulders of **Maj Blake “Big Cheese” Tapp**, **Capt Nicholas “Just Shoot It!” Hedegaard**, **Capt Catherine “Are you going to finish that?” Lacroix**, and **MWO Robert “I Always Wanted a Cult” Kearns**. C Sqn’s leadership worked tirelessly to iron out the logistics, ensuring that every detail of the exercise went smoothly and that any potential mishap, especially those with international ramifications, was avoided.

On the third day, the exercise began as C Sqn arrived at the Close Combat Tactical Training (CCTT) Centre. The troops launched into a comprehensive “buttonology” session, learning the ins and outs of operating an Abrams tank in a simulated setup. Despite all their drills being from the Leopard 2, everyone made their “adjustments” to make themselves effective in an Abrahms. After getting used to the simulators the squadron began with work-up training on Fort Irwin’s simulated desert grounds, familiarizing themselves with the unique challenges of maneuvering in an environment many young American lieutenants found themselves lost in. For **Lt Chelsea “Tech Support Please” Stephen**, technical difficulties added another layer to the exercise, as she found herself consistently without a full troop. Meanwhile, **Sgt Richard “Mars Rover” Paquette**, maneuvering at a steady 5 km/hr, explored the vast expanse hundreds of kilometres from the rest of the squadron. The desert simulations were grueling but successful, as C Sqn gradually adjusted to the dusty, open environment and honed in their skills. They systematically cleared the area, eliminating all simulated enemy forces in their path.

As the second week rolled in, C Sqn transitioned into more complex terrain, with their sights set on validation in a forested German battlefield. Here, they encountered a different kind of test: navigating and engaging in combat within thick forests and uneven terrain. **Capt Tom “Slingshot” Lauterbacher** possessed an unusual level of confidence, claiming to feel “the blood of his ancestors” energizing him for the missions to come. **Capt Jesse “I’M NOT DEAD YET” Olson**, meanwhile, turned his experience into a series of impressive last stands,



3 Tp, C Sqn pose in front of the super clean and not certainly cockroach infested accommodations.



showcasing his refusal to back down even when he claims to be dead. Among the soldiers, **Cpl Cody “Deadshot” Nixdorf** stood out, earning the title of top gunner with a staggering number of kills, sometimes destroying enemies at 8 kilometres. However, the exercise was far from a walk in the park, as **Capt Nicholas “Stop Shooting Me!” Hedegaard** learned when tasked with leading C Sqn in an attack against an enemy objective that found the squadron heavily outnumbered. Against all expectations, **MCpl Emma “One Woman Army” Crackle-Skulason** emerged as the sole survivor of the squadron, accidentally pushing past the objective and single-handedly neutralizing the entire enemy countermove force.

The exercise culminated in a final simulation back in the deserts of the National Training Centre: a force-on-force battle that pitted the fighting troops against their 2IC, **Capt Ali “So how’d that feel?” Mansour** and his merry band of Arianans made up of Admin/SHQ, RHQ, and a seasoned LCol from the United States Military who possessed extensive knowledge of the area. As the simulated battle commenced, the troops cautiously probed enemy positions, exchanging sporadic fire while advancing into hostile territory. Progress was interrupted by a very inconvenient tactical pause which left the fighting troops vulnerable in the open field as the defending team peered down at them from mountain ranges. Once the pause ended, the battle rapidly intensified, with heavy casualties on both sides, including the loss of Command for both factions. The relentless conflict finally reached a climax when **Capt Jesse “Rambo” Olson** declared on the net that he was going to “TAKE THE TOWN!” where **Sgt Gabriel “Guerilla” Houde** led an insurgency. However, just as he prepared to close in on his objective, **Capt Woosal “Sardines” Dorjee** intervened, pleading for a halt as higher elements had called in artillery. In the end, the fighting troops of C Sqn found themselves victorious.

Overall, Ex STEELE BEASTS 24 unfolded seamlessly, with credit to the leadership of C Sqn, RHQ’s EXCON Team, and the CCTT staff. Their efforts allowed for the exercise to conclude with C Sqn’s successful validation, affirming the squadron’s readiness for their tours to come. Though the exercise had a rocky start, the troops showed their resilience, excelling in simulated warfare and proving their skills under conditions where the enemy shot back. Proving that C Sqn is ready to Persevere throughout whatever comes their way in the future.



Capt Jesse “AMERICA!” Olson shows off his thunder thighs while posing in his new red, white, and blue ranger undies.



Members of Admin, SHQ, and 3 Tp enjoying the hot tub in their Airbnb villa.



Lt Chelsea “Voice of an Angel” Stephen serenading a whole pub with her karaoke skills as the rest of C Sqn hype her up.



Ex STEELE Virtual

Captain Cole McCloy



Tpr Munro trying to determine if that rock did, in fact, move.

Ex STEELE Virtual 24, held from November 13-15, 2024, was an intensive three-day training event that provided B Squadron with the opportunity to enhance our skills at every level. The exercise began with crew-level training, progressed to troop-level coordination, and culminated in a mission execution that tested everything we had learned. This approach allowed us to build progressively, ensuring we were well-prepared for the challenges ahead, especially as we gear up for upcoming courses in January 2025.

The first day of the exercise focused on refining crew-level skills. Tank crews worked on core tasks such as tank handling, positioning, and communication. This foundational training was critical for ensuring that each crew member was

proficient in their role, establishing the necessary cohesion for future phases. Once we were confident in our individual crew abilities, we moved on to the next step: troop-level training. This phase involved coordinating our efforts as a troop, practicing synchronized movements and tactical maneuvers. It was essential for ensuring that our tanks could operate seamlessly together during enemy engagements, with effective communication and teamwork at the core of every action.

On the final day, we applied everything we had practiced during the previous sessions to execute a full mission scenario. This mission required us to engage the enemy, maneuver through challenging terrain, and adapt to real-time changes. It was the perfect way to test our abilities in a practical context, as we simulated real-world operations and faced dynamic challenges under pressure.

The importance of maintaining these skills cannot be overstated. Training ensures that we remain operationally ready and capable of performing at our best, no matter the situation. Ex STEELE Virtual 24 was not just about improving individual skills, but about ensuring we are always ready to operate effectively as a team.

Looking ahead, the skills developed during this exercise are crucial for our preparations for Op REASSURANCE 26-01. As part of NATO's mission to maintain peace and stability in Eastern Europe, we will need to be at our best to contribute to the mission. From refining crew-level skills to executing a full mission, it gave B Squadron the tools we need to remain operationally ready and to tackle the upcoming challenges.

MCpl Rice (right) admiring Tpr Bischoff's (left) skill behind the wheel.



Tpr Meininger testing out how long it will take to burn 999 horns.





EX PARATUS RAM

Captain Joseph Stang

Ah yes, PARATUS RAM 24, where the Regimental Headquarters, in their infinite wisdom, decided to take a little break from the action. While the heavy-hitters were off doing “RHQ things”, we were left to carry the torch – **Capt Joe Stang**, Regimental Signal Officer and **Lt Nick “Ah, Man” Dennis**, Regtl Recce Troop Leader. Naturally, these two (91 and 60, respectively) are the heart and soul of RHQ and obviously, the only ones who *really* needed to be on the ground. Who else could keep everything running smoothly while the rest of RHQ did their thing?

So, where did we end up? Shilo, Manitoba, of course. Home of cold, isolation, sand (who knew), and the 2nd Battalion Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry, who could not have been more welcoming (I am actually not joking). We spent three weeks with the battalion for pre-deployment training for OP REASSURANCE 25-01, meaning plenty of time to learn from each other and get comfortable with Base Shilo (Base Commander being another Strathcona, **LCol David Cronk**, I will have you know). I was forced to take command of the 2nd Battalion’s Signal Platoon as apparently the troops fed their last Signals Officer to the carnivorous deer herds occupying the training area before I arrived (they exist and will eat everything, including our Tactical Fiber Optic Cable Assemblies, which left my lineman quite miffed). Meanwhile 60, who was shocked and utterly appalled that the Patricias don’t have a mess in the unit lines (barbaric to be honest) and even worse, no subbies slaving away making coffee (civilized to be honest), spent his days rubbing elbows with the snipers and the *real* recce officers. Now, he is very *bytch* - if you see him, don’t look him directly in the eyes; it’s safer that way.

After that, it was time for the main event - PARATUS RAM itself. We moved out to the Shilo Training Area (what a treat!), and the next three weeks were spent on dry and live training for the 2nd Battalion’s C Coy and Combat Support Coy as they prepped for our shared deployment to Latvia. Things were going pretty smoothly, minus the infamous *GREASEGATE* incident (don’t ask, just know it grounded the whole LAV6 fleet for a half-week). 60 added his usual flavor by somehow breaking, fixing, and breaking my Bison Command Post. Why was the Recce Officer at the Command Post you may ask? In fact, he was delegated to the rear after correcting (in his typical highly analytical manner) the Infantry Combat Support OC on *proper* LAV6 Tactics. I quote, “Sir, you use them as a taxi *we* actually fight with them”.

As the days of training wore on, something truly magical happened (Yes, I do have a heart). During the final attacks, the night sky lit up with the incredible Aurora Borealis. It was absolutely stunning - bright, waves of color stretching across the bitter cold sky and above the dark frozen sands. From Illumination Rounds, LAV6 Fire, and Northern Lights (and for me on night shift, relaxing with my coffee in the warm Special Equipment Vehicle (SEV) we used as the Battalion Command Post [red lights *ON*, of course]) - the experience was pretty hard to beat.

And so, after a lot of fun, *challenges*, and a few small disasters, we wrapped up PARATUS RAM. If anyone asks, tell them we were the two most essential officers for the job and honestly, we had more fun without RHQ anyways!



Video feed from the Sig Pl's Tethered Drone looking over our tremendous camp.



Ex STEELE SABRE Trials, Triumphs and Mysteries

Lieutenant Brad “Lieutenant Dannnnnn” Wiesenfeld



Porta Potty Bandit Wanted poster put up by Sherriff Sgt Jason “Suspect #1” Comeau.

Exercise STEELE SABRE 24 began in mid-September with a variety of essential gunnery and Leopard 2 Driver & Maintenance (D&M) courses. First on the docket were the Leopard D&M, 25mm, and 40mm Remote Weapon System courses. As is tradition, the vehicles were reluctant to cooperate, leading to some extended night shoots. Yet, the candidates made the best of the situation, using the extra hours to practice - and perhaps more importantly, to play rounds of Euchre. Despite the delays, all candidates successfully qualified, and the ranges were deemed a success.

Once the smaller weapons courses concluded, the focus shifted to the Leopard 2 Gunnery candidates, with over 40 crew commander and gunner candidates arriving at Centurion Field to put their simulator skills to the test. The A Squadron troops and instructors worked tirelessly to ensure everything ran smoothly. Special recognition goes to **Sgt Jason “Suspect #1” Comeau**, who was up late and early, ensuring the range was prepared. Meanwhile, our ammunition team, led by **MCpl Brandon “What is my role today?” Lockhart** and **Cpl**

Colten “The Keeper of Ammo” Siemens, worked around the clock for four days, coordinating and managing the rounds. With only one thrown track, it was fair to say that this cycle was a relative success.

Gunnery training demanded the greatest resources from A Squadron. Every member contributed, with drivers transporting vehicles, instructors delivering training, and the administrative team handling logistics. These collective efforts ensured the high throughput of training, which had a lasting impact on the unit’s overall deployability. Once the gunnery training wrapped up, the exercise moved into its next phase - an intense 24-hour cross-country exercise, with the final stretch being night operations.

Maneuvering through the dark is hard enough, but doing so while bushwhacking through dense forest or navigating the Badlands? Let’s just say that “stealth mode” wasn’t exactly stealthy. The limited visibility led to some entertaining moments: “Did Bravo just cross the road again?” and “We’ve circled this tree at least three times now!” Navigating a tank at night requires more than just skill - it requires trust in each other and, in our case, a healthy sense of humor. Despite a few missteps, some crew swaps, and even a mild case of pink eye, we finished the exercise with stronger bonds and a deeper appreciation for the third purpose of gun drills.

But just as we were basking in the glow of our accomplishment, a new challenge emerged: the “Porta Potty Bandit”. As we celebrated our success, this mysterious figure wreaked havoc with toilet paper and sabotaged the blue rockets. **Admin Sgt/Sherriff Sgt Jason “Suspect #1” Comeau** led the investigation, recruiting Head Deputy **MCpl Trevor “Just Trev” Kelly** to track down leads and question suspects. Despite their best efforts, the identity of the Bandit remains a mystery to this day.



Tpr Sean “THOMson not THOMPson” Thomson, Tpr Trevor “Townie” Townshend, and Lt Griffin “Undercover Newfie” Brophy after a successful level 3 dry run.



Amid all this, A Sqn enjoyed a brief morale boost with the **LCol Darryn Gray** and **Major Timothy McHugh's** birthday celebrations. The highlight? A Leopard 2 tank-shaped cake, complete with camo icing and edible “tracks.” The cake provided much-needed humor and a break from the field. Even the antics of the Porta Potty Bandit couldn't dampen our spirits, and everyone enjoyed a slice (or two) in honor of our leaders' special day.

As Ex STEELE SABRE 24 came to an end, and the level 3s wrapped up, we turned our attention to our final mission: hosting the Friends of the Regiment (FotR) from Canada Pacific Kansas City (CPKC). This event gave them a chance to experience the Leopard 2's firepower firsthand. Upon arrival, they were greeted by the Colonel of the Regiment (CotR) **Col (Ret'd) Jamie Cade**, **LCol Darryn Gray**, and **CWO Nathaniel Mills**, and escorted to the range in an ACSV and LAV 6. There, the FotR explored a lineup of armoured vehicles and tanks, getting up close with the equipment used by LdSH(RC) in the field.

After a classic hard rations lunch—with the RSM demonstrating the use of heater bags and beef jerky packs—the FotR witnessed two Leopards firing rounds in a live battle run, showcasing the tanks' impressive mobility and power. The day ended with some quality time spent chatting with members of A Squadron, who shared stories and insights. As a token of appreciation, the FotR presented us with CPKC-branded hats and Yeti bottles—a sign of the strong partnerships our regiment maintains with civilian organizations.

With Ex STEELE SABRE 24 concluding, we took stock of the challenges and successes that had defined the exercise. From the demanding gunnery courses to the intense night operations and the ongoing mystery of the Porta Potty Bandit, there was much to reflect on. But what stood out most were the lessons learned in teamwork, resilience, and the importance of humor in the face of adversity.

As the Squadron looks ahead to Op REASSURANCE 25-02, we're ready for more enlightenment, growth, and hopefully fewer “porta-potty mysteries” in the future!

CO LCol Darryn Gray and OC-A Maj Timothy McHugh celebrating their birthdays in the field during a visit by the CotR, Col (Ret'd) Jamie Cade.



MCpl Stephen “CREED FM Radio” Graystone, Sgt Jason “Suspect #1” Comeau, and Lt Griffin “Undercover Newfie” Brophy celebrate End Ex by singing along to Creed.





MCpl Steele, MCpl George, and Cpl Williamson found a good parking spot.

Regimental Events



Lt Stephen embracing the Stampede spirit.



Cpl Solomon competing in the Powerlifting component of Ex STRONG CONTENDER.



Tpr Liam Banavage showing he's "got dat dawg" in him.



Spin for a Vet Regimental Team post competition.



NSLA/Remembrance Day

Captain Cole McCloy

Veteran's Week got underway on November 7th with a meaningful start. Members of B Squadron had the distinct honor of serving as the Honour Guard and Vigil Party at the annual No Stone Left Alone (NSLA) Ceremony at Beechmount Cemetery in Edmonton. This moving ceremony is part of a larger national initiative that ensures Canada's fallen military members are never forgotten. Every November, Canadians from coast to coast come together to place poppies on the graves of veterans, a simple but powerful way to connect the present with the past and show deep gratitude for those who gave their lives to protect our freedoms. This act of remembrance serves as a reminder of the profound legacy left by those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

On Remembrance Day, the Regiment continued its efforts to honor our fallen members, attending services across the province. For B Squadron, this year's Remembrance Day ceremony was especially significant. They conducted a heartfelt tribute at Evergreen Cemetery, where we gathered in memory of one of our own, Trooper Michael Hayakaze. Surrounded by friends and family, the ceremony not only paid tribute to Tpr Hayakaze's sacrifice but also highlighted the sacrifices made by all those who have served our country.

Being part of a regiment with such a rich history brings with it a deep sense of responsibility. It is not just about honoring the past - it's about staying connected to the history of our nation and sharing that respect with the community. Veterans Week serves as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made by our veterans, and it reinforces our commitment to ensuring their stories and legacies continue to inspire future generations.



Tpr O'Brian reads In Flanders Fields during the Remembrance Day Ceremony.

B Sqn test their resolve standing at attention during technical difficulties while waiting for the national anthem to play.





Tank Centralization

Captain Colin Munson

In June 2023, the Commander of the Canadian Army ordered the centralization of the Leopard 2 Family of Vehicles (FOV), to Edmonton in order to maximize its efficiency. The biggest take away from this decision was all of the Main Battle Tanks (MBT) being moved to LdSH(RC). After the donation of tanks to Ukraine and deployment of 15 A4Ms to Latvia on Op REASSURANCE, the fleet was looking very bare. The injection of an additional seven MBTs and one Armoured Recovery Vehicle (ARV) from RCD C Squadron and Royal Canadian Armoured Corps School (RCACS) in Gagetown, and those leaving the Repair and Overhaul (R&O) line at 202 Workshop in Montreal has created a bigger pool of vehicles to train on prior to deployment overseas.

This expanded maintenance requirement has led to the creation of an additional six technician positions within the regiment, and although not all filled yet allowed the maintenance troop to better support regimental training goals. A combination of extra tanks and some dogged arduous work by maintenance troop has seen a rise in available tanks in each of the last three Primary Combat Function (PCF) cycles, and allowed for a better overall training experience for the training squadron on successive exercises.

Looking forward into the next year, we will see the step up of the Long Term Support Contract (LTSC) which sees a vast injection of finances into the support provided to the Leopard 2 FOV. This contract will improve procurement of spare parts and replace some of the previously failing contracts that could not be provided at the rate in which we needed to keep vehicles serviceable. Most notably, within the LTSC framework is the standing up of a Regional Maintenance Centre (RMC) located in the greater Edmonton area (Nisku) where civilian support will be provided to the repair and maintenance of the Leopard 2 FOV.

When the RMC hits full operating capacity, they will aim to complete a complete overhaul on two platforms per year as well as completing all F6, F5, and F4 inspections and 25% of all F3 inspections. This assistance to the heavy Leopard 2 maintenance package will free up a significant amount of maintainer time to concentrate on the real first line work the fleet requires and we should see an even bigger rise in the amount of serviceable MBTs available for training in the coming years. Two fully functioning tank squadrons may have seemed like a pipe dream over the last few years but, all going to plan could be a reality in the near future!

Crews boresighting their tanks prior to going live on range 25.





Holiday Celebrations

Master Corporal Dorian Hamilton

A week we all look forward to for one reason or another, whether it be to take part in Trooper Funk, Spectate the controlled chaos of Trooper Funk, or begin the countdown to our much-anticipated holiday leave block. This is the week we all come together to celebrate the years conclusion and wish each-other well as we often go our separate ways coast to coast to be with our distant friends and families.

The highly celebrated and anticipated annual Trooper Funk games is a time to welcome our new members to the regiment. This year, we were able to welcome more than we have in recent memory, and while all gave their best, only one could reign supreme and take the Trooper Funk title for another year. This year saw participants take part in several events including gunnery simulations, maintenance, relays, and a ferret pull. Through it all **Tpr Mikkelson** of B Squadron won the day and was awarded the Tpr Funk Belt for 2024.



Subalterns pose for a photograph with Santa.

During the week we were also graced by the arrival of Santa for the Kid's Christmas party. A day where we invite the families and their children of the regiment in to visit with Santa and claim their presents. Members of the regiment joined in the fun whether it be bringing their families to enjoy the festivities or acting as one of many Santas helpers throughout the day. The regiment ensured our extended family felt welcomed and taken care and offered a sense of relief during a year of high operational tempo.

A tradition dating back to the 18th century in the Canadian Armed Forces, the Soldier's Appreciation Dinner. A day wherein roles are reversed, and senior members of the regiment serve dinner to the



Tpr Mikkelson (B Sqn) receives the Tpr Funk belt.

non-commissioned members while our junior officers rejoice in their opportunity to grace the regiment with their gleeful carols (or in the case of this year, whatever they came up with on the spot). The last day of 2024 where members of the regiment still at home can all come together and share in a wonderful meal prepared by our cooks and entertainment provided by our junior officers and their questionable rendition of Christmas carols. This year in the absence of **LCol Gray** and **CWO Mills**, we had **Maj Hevenor** and **MWO Gratto** to oversee the festivities. By the end of the day with predictable anticipation we all welcomed the highly revered words from the regiment's youngest member and acting CO "Friday Stand Down".



The highlight of the Party was the bouncy castle.



Community Relations

Lieutenant Shawn Meldrum



Spin for a vet team cheering on Tpr Justin Desaulniers during one of the mini competitions.

This year has been a very busy year for LdSH(RC) with Cheddar Squadron deploying for Operation REASSURANCE Roto 24-02 and other members of the regiment doing Pre-Deployment Training (PDT) to prepare to deploy for Rotation 25-01. Even though the tempo has been high, members have still been able to get out and show their support by taking part in various community events such as Spin for a Vet, Calgary Stampede, and Spruce Meadows.

The Strathconas took part in the Calgary Stampede, kicking things off with the opening parade. Wearing their combats and dashing new black cowboy hats, they marched through the streets of Calgary, exciting the crowds of civilians with their marching and prideful chants (the Armoured

Fighting Vehicles behind them also provided a small bonus). There was a contingent that set up a static display featuring the Leopard 2 tank right on the Stampede Grounds, where **MCpl Chris "TC" Steele** and his group found themselves entertaining just as many undercover Strathconas as civilians. Their efforts gave visitors from Calgary and around the world a chance to get up close to the best weapon the Canadian Armed Forces has to offer. Meanwhile, every day on the other side of the Stampede grounds, **MCpl Phoenix "I'll fight you" George** and her group of prestigious flag bearers rose and lowered flags in between their partying.

Beside the Stampede, the Strathcona's were present at Spruce Meadows. Under the leadership of **Capt Jeremy "Tater Tot" McBride**, the Ceremonial Mounted Troop showcased the regiment's history to the community through their annual musical ride. Meanwhile, C Squadron, led by **Maj Ali "So how'd that feel?" Mansour**, served as the game's honour guard, proudly continuing a tradition that has been upheld every year since the Spruce Meadows competitions began.

LdSH(RC) also took part in Spin for a Vet. This is a charity event where 12 members spend a total of 12 hours on a spin bike competing against other teams for the most distance covered on the spin bike all while raising money to help build homes for homeless veterans. Leading up to the event members from the LdSH(RC) team canvassed the regiment for donations and the Strathcona's come out to support in full force, raising a whopping \$6,400 in one week.

The event itself took place on 21 Sep 24 at Canadian Pacific and Kansas Southern (CPKC) in Calgary. Lead by **Capt Colin "Legs of Steel" Munson**, the team showed up ready to put on a show. Strathcona's set the stage for a fun day at the very beginning breaking into chants of "C!, C!, C!, C!" when **Lt "Hot Gummy Bear" Issa Moussa** would jump on the spin bike and dance parties led by **Sgt Kyle "Mr Nice Guy" Meaney**. While the spin competition was going on, outside of the CPKC building a static display featuring the Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle (TAPV) was set up. **Cpl Chloé "No Nonsense" Bériau Landry** spent the day teaching children and adults all about the capabilities of the TAPV. After 12 grueling hours the Strathconas finished the spin bike event completing 451.3 km, taking second place, and winning the team spirit award.

Overall, it's been a busy year, but Strathconas are always eager to lend a hand in their communities. Whether it's participating in the events mentioned or helping out in uniform with small tasks like carrying groceries, we are committed to being helpful. We take pride in representing the Regiment with a positive and supportive presence.



Regimental Sports

Lieutenant Griffin “With Arms Wide Open” Brophy

As 2024 draws to a close, the Regiment reflects on a year filled with camaraderie, competition, and community spirit through a variety of sports events. This past year, members of the Regiment demonstrated commitment to military excellence while fostering strong bonds between peers through friendly athletic challenges.

The year kicked off with Ex STRONG CONTENDER, where the Regiment demonstrated both physical strength and teamwork in a competitive environment that tested endurance and resilience. Whether navigating grueling obstacle courses or stick handling a puck, the members of the Regiment proved that their skills extend well beyond the battlefield. Each member pushed their limits, all while supporting one another and strengthening the collective bond within the unit. Most notably, the Regiment took home 3rd place in Tactical Athlete and 2nd place in Volleyball. The event left everyone with a renewed sense of pride, not to mention a few well-earned bruises.



Lt Shawn Meldrum, Lt David Sellers, Capt Jesse Olson, and MCpl Cody Laurin sweating hard in the “worm event” for Tactical Athlete.

The Regimental softball tournament also stood out as a key event, providing an opportunity for Strathcona’s to showcase their skills on the diamond. With spirited competition between soldiers, this tournament not only promoted fitness but also encouraged team-building and friendly rivalry. One of the highlights of the tournament occurred when **Lt Griffin “With Arms Wide Open” Brophy** rounded third base on-route to an inside the park homerun, when he blew out both of his hamstrings before making it home. **Capt Woestal “Door Guy” Dorjee** made a valiant effort to casualty drag him over home plate, but the cries of pain and bouts of laughter rendered them both ineffective. Whether hitting home runs or making diving catches, the sense of pride and achievement was evident throughout.

There was no better example of the connection between sports and community than the “Spin for a Veteran” fundraiser organized by Canada Pacific Kansas City to raise awareness for veterans experiencing homelessness.

Capt Colin “Cardio” Munson was instrumental in building a team of volunteers from the Regiment to participate and raise awareness toward this excellent cause.

In addition to these annual events, weekly sports afternoons were a staple of life at the Regiment. These sporting afternoons presented members the opportunity to participate in a variety of sports such as basketball, ball hockey, soccer, softball, and dodgeball. Additionally, these afternoons gave members on organized base teams to take a break from work and practice with their team.

Looking back, 2024 was a year where sports served as a cornerstone of tradition and unity within the Regiment. As the year closes, the Strathcona’s can look forward to another year of sportsmanship, service, and support for their comrades, both on and off the field.



Major Stephen Couture arm wrestles Major Blake Tapp to prove who is the strongest OC during Moreuil Wood Week.



Calgary Stampede and Spruce Meadows

Lieutenant Chelsea Stephen

This year, C Squadron had the honour of representing the regiment at the Calgary Stampede and Spruce Meadows' North American event. Events at both locations spanned several days, with troops having the opportunity to demonstrate their weapons handling abilities during Drill, embracing their "Army of the West" persona in black cowboy hats as they paraded the streets of Calgary, and showing off their technical skills and knowledge at various static displays.

The weekend kicked off with the annual Calgary Stampede parade through the downtown core. Troops proudly marched to beat of the Royal Canadian Artillery band, and cheers from the crowds of people that had descended upon Calgary for the weekend's festivities. Children were keen



4th Troop presents a Quarter Guard for the arrival of BGen Wade Rutland at Spruce Meadows.



Capt Dorjee hands out high-fives to children attending the Calgary Stampede parade.

LdSH(RC) is fortunate to be invited every year to parade at Spruce Meadows during their annual North American event. Led by **Major Ali "livin' la vida loca" Mansour**, Troop Leaders **Captain Woesal "the coolest (self-proclaimed) Captain in the world" Dorjee** and **Lieutenant Chelsea "goodbye C Sqn...just kidding" Stephen** marched their contingents onto the grounds as part of a larger military tattoo performance. On parade, LdSH(RC) welcomed Alberta's Lieutenant-Governor, Salma Lakhani, to the event and invited her to inspect the ranks. The main event, however, was a 50-rifle Feu de Joie that rang through the grounds so satisfyingly, that we did it all over again the next day.

The regiment looks forward to next year's festivities!

to run up to snap photos and encourage high-five trains down the street. **Captain Woesal** "the Army is way cooler than the Navy" **Dorjee** even challenged the Royal Canadian Navy contingent to a "yahoo-off", which – currently unchallenged – we'll claim we were the clear winners of.

For the following two weeks, soldiers were stationed at the Stampede grounds to meet with Canadians from across the country, allowing people to get inside the Leopard 2 and learn about its role in the CAF. These same soldiers also had the privilege of being recognized nightly at the Stampede's evening show, providing a Flag Party to the procession of special mentions before the live music and fireworks.



C Sqn performs a Feu de Joie at Spruce Meadows.



Moreuil Wood

Lieutenant David Sellers



Cpl Timothy Senff walks Sportster into the parade.

The Strathcona's most storied battle needs no introduction. Our Regiment's vivid history is well encapsulated by Lt Flowerdew's brazen cavalry charge. Such sacrifice and bravery is worthy of celebration and commemoration, and the Strathcona's oblige.

The Moreuil Wood splendor kicked off with a Regimental sports day. Members competed in floor hockey, dodgeball, and basketball, the results of which were added up before the commencement of a series of arm-wrestling duels to decide a winner. **Cpl Chay Lang** dominated the competition leading into a final face-off between C Sqn and HQ Sqn, where **Maj Blake Tapp** secured a C Sqn victory in a battle of wills against **Maj Stephen Couture**.

In typical fashion, the unit came out in style for a parade. Graced by the presence of **Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Salma Lakhani**, the parade

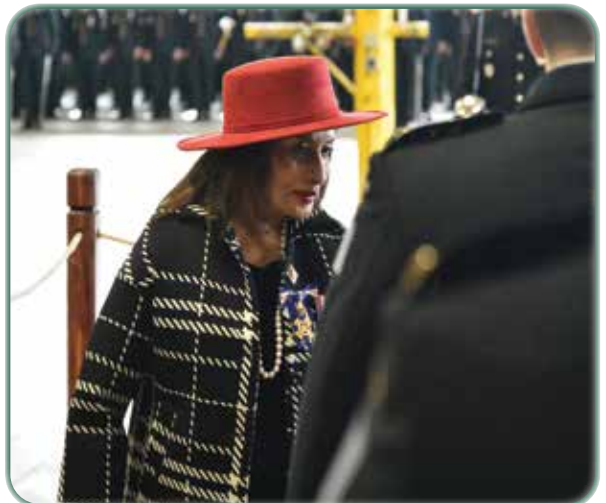
gave the Regimental leadership a chance to thank soldiers and the Regimental family for their efforts. The Colonel of the Regiment unveiled the new Hug Perseverance award, presented to worthy members who have displayed poise in the face of adversity. Commendations were also handed out to members and Regimental affiliates for their support and dedication. We also honoured **Sportster**, the Mounted Troop's longest serving steed, for 26 years of service as the boss of the herd.

Finally, the Regiment's leadership collected at the Edmonton Inn and Conference Centre, graciously joined by leadership from our friends at the The Royal Lancers (Queen Elizabeths' Own), the 10th Armoured Cavalry Brigade, the Fort Garry Horse, as well as Strathcona's past and present. The festivities were an excellent way to bring the Regiment together before the imminent Latvia rotations.

With the events complete, the unit fondly reflected on all that had been accomplished, and what better way to celebrate than with the whole Regimental family. A special thanks to all those who made the events a success.



Prince of Wales Squadron presented to B Sqn



Lieutenant Governor Salma Lakhani



Hessin Sword - Capt Philip German



Neatby Pace Stick - WO Colin Davidson



Milroy Cross Belt - Sgt Steven Gross



CoTR Silver Stick - Master Corporal Emma Crackle-Skulason



Fox Bugle- Cpl Justus Janzen-White



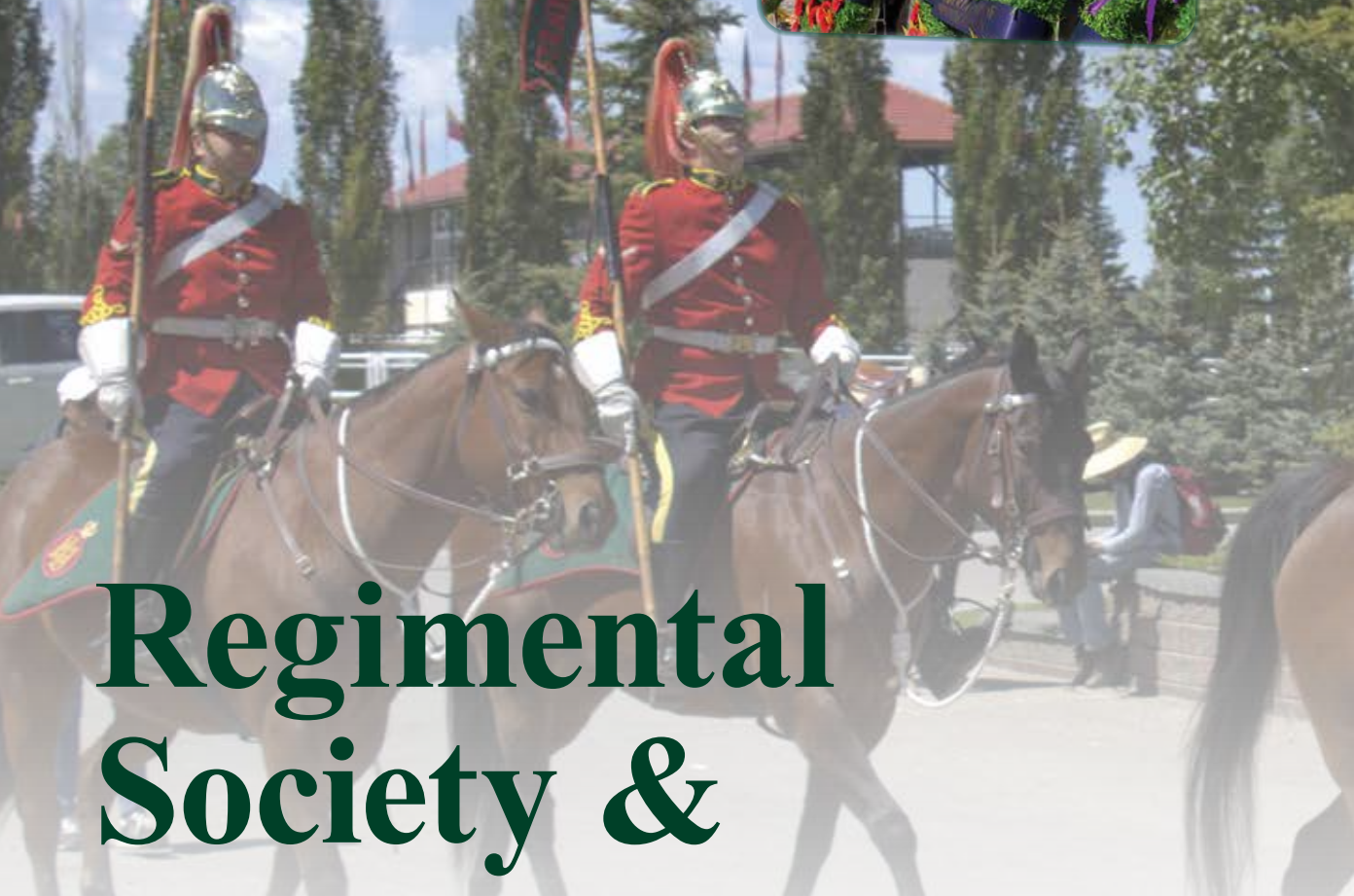
Olympic Torch - Lt Colin Munson



Macaulay Sword - Capt Catherine Lacroix



Ross Gear - MCpl Marius Buaga



Regimental Society &



Col of the Regt Commendation - Sgt Curtis Paquette



Hug Perseverance Award - Cpl Lucas Mullins



CMT Foundation



Tpr Willoughby Award - Cpl Senff



Pipe Major MCpl Adam Davies, CPO Lt Dino Visaya and Maj (Ret'd) John McNabb supporting Alberta Community Peace Officer Graduation at Kingsway Legion.



Strathcona Mounted Troop

Corporal Samuel Lafleur

This year Strathcona Mounted Troop (SMT) conducted the 2024 ride season predominantly in Calgary for the 50th anniversary of the troop's reinstatement. Prior to the season beginning, the troop bid a warm farewell and retired the two longest serving horses, **Sportster** and **Stinger**, after 25 and 23 years served by each horse, respectively.

The first performance of the year began in the field across from the Harvey Building for the Regiment, their friends and family followed by a demonstration down at the stables before a road move to Calgary to kick off the first tournament at Spruce Meadows. The ride season began under the troop leadership of **Capt Jeremy "McMoldy" McBride** and **WO Ayrton Balfour** with the officer taking his position as a rider during the demonstrations.

Throughout the season SMT conducted a number of displays for the public in Calgary and the surrounding area. All while Calgary was experiencing a water shortage due to faulty water mains, the troop participated in events such as the Museum of the Regiments' 'Summer Skirmish' and community outreach events like Can Praxis. SMT alongside members of LdSH(RC) and military attachments from across the Canadian Armed Forces rode in the Calgary Stampede Parade to kick off a very busy stampede for the City of Calgary.

During the season the troop enjoyed some laughs as **Cpl Tristan "Stepdaddy" English** enjoyed the waterslide at the hotel and **Tpr Nathan "Lanny" Lanouette** had a tooth knocked out by a crosstie while at Spruce Meadows.

For the second half of the season SMT leadership was taken over by **WO Dave McMurtry** as **WO Balfour** was posted to Latvia. Under the new leadership the troop conducted the remaining tournaments at Spruce Meadows finishing the Masters tournament alongside members of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery and The Royal Household Cavalry. The last performance of the season was also the last ride for **Cpl Jason Barrett** and **Capt Jeremy McBride** before both moved on from the troop and finished their last season as riders at SMT.

With the ride season finished the troop leadership was handed to **WO Liam Talty** as the troop moved into starting the Basic Equine Rider's Course for our new members. **MCpl Callum Duke**, **Cpl Dave Miller**, **Cpl Justin Januszewski**, **Tpr Nathan Lanouette** and **Tpr Madison Young** were joined by **Tpr George Fytopoulos** and **WO Talty** to begin the task of learning how to ride as the offseason officially started for SMT.



Cpl Lanouette, MCpl Duke and, Cpl Taylor at the Alberta Legislature Remembrance Day Ceremony



CPKC / Regt Society Student Scholarship Program



It brings me great pleasure to bring to your attention the results from the 2024 Regimental Society and Canada Pacific and Kansas City Southern (CPKC) Railway scholarship program. This program was developed to provide educational assistance to family members of Strathconas (both serving and retired) as well as Strathconas taking part in training for railway technical trades. These scholarships offer annual subsidies totaling \$15,000 toward costs incurred through enrolment in bona-fide educational programs at the post-secondary level.

Scholarship A: Service/Community Involvement.

A \$5,000 scholarship for post-secondary education to the child or spouse of a Strathcona, on active duty or retired from the CAF who has supported their community. This scholarship will be awarded based on the impact of their involvement to the community. The 2024 winner, **Kimberly Wood**, was presented the award by **LCol Gray** and **CWO Mills** in early November.



Scholarship B: Academic.

A \$5,000 scholarship for post-secondary education to the child or spouse of a Strathcona, on active duty or retired from the CAF, who has demonstrated academic excellence. This scholarship will be very heavily weighted on grades and financial need. The 2024 winner, **Victoria Miller** was presented the award by **Maj Lund** and **MWO Eady** in Gagetown on November 5th.

Scholarship C: Career Focused.

A \$5,000 scholarship for post-secondary education to the child or spouse of a Strathcona, on active duty or retired from the CAF, who has a desire to work in the railway. For this scholarship to be awarded, the recipient must be enrolled in a directedly transferable post-secondary program and will be eligible for an internship within CPKC Operations. On November 17th, **Evelyn McMurachy** was presented with the award by **LCol Nitu** at Carleton University.

On behalf of the wider Strathcona family, our warmest congratulations to **Kimberly**, **Victoria** and **Evelyn**. We wish you continued success in your education. Our very sincere thanks to #CPKC for their generous support to this program.





Historical Vehicle Troop

Lieutenant David Sellers



Tpr Thompson behind the wheel of a 2 ½ tonne GMC CCKW.

The Historical Vehicle Troop (HVT). Overworked, and underappreciated - the dedicated soldiers keeping the Regiment's history rolling, one piece at a time.

With only one day a week to pull together a varied and temperamental fleet of vehicles, the Troop's off hours frequently go into the study and care for these beloved machines. Despite the challenges, the team has brought more vehicles back to the running fleet. The Ferrets are being improved upon weekly, with **Cpl Joshua "The Colonel" McLeod** pushing them to their limits. The universal carrier is universally loved, the M37 pickup runs like a dream, and the Harley is being painted and reassembled by **Cpls Billy "Young Fella" Clendennin** and **Shaun "Red Green" Sullivan**. With the Regimental Society and the Historical Vehicle Troop both committed to finding adequate track for Catherine, the work is certainly cut out for the team.

HVT was proud to bring two of our Ferrets for a static display at Yesterday's Auto Gallery in honour of D-Day. Thanks to The Valour Park Association, members of the Troop were able to pass on their enthusiasm for the vehicles to the public and connect with a like-minded historical preservation charity.

With so much on the horizon, one might forget to reflect on the milestones that have passed. This year saw the departure of **Capt Harry Delaney**, whose knowledge of the fleet has been vital to restoration and preservation. His leadership and commitment will be sorely missed, but he has passed the torch to us and given us the tools to succeed.

The Troop has seen a surge in new membership, bringing with it enthusiasm and opportunity. The legacy of historical stewardship is alive and well in the Strathconas, and we are all excited about what we can get rolling next.



The Harley, fully assembled.



Driver compartment of a Ferret armoured car.



Dagger, static outside of the white whale.



Pipes and Drums

Master Corporal Adam Davies

Pipe Major Master Corporal Adam Davies, a dedicated member of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) Pipes and Drums, has been instrumental in maintaining the regiment's proud musical tradition. Often joined by a motley crew of musicians including WO Lance McFadzen (LER), Major John McNabb (PPCLI), Captain Mike Tholl (1 CER), and Lt Dino Visaya (LdSH(RC)), Pipe Major Davies tirelessly led the band throughout the year.

One might wonder why a group of soldiers would willingly subject themselves to the ear-splitting cacophony of the bagpipes. Perhaps it's the camaraderie, the challenge, or the sheer absurdity of it all. As one band member once quipped, "It's the only instrument where you can sound like a herd of angry geese and still get an applause."

The band, composed of soldiers from various regiments; RCEME, LER, 1 CER and LdSH(RC), has graced numerous events. From solemn military funerals to raucous hockey games, their music has provided both reverence and entertainment. They've even been known to serenade startled moose during exercises.



Pipe Major Adam Davies supporting the LER taskings during the Edmonton 5km, Army 10km, Half Marathon and Marathon sponsored by the Running Room in August.



Pipe Major Adam Davies, Lt Dino Visaya, WO Lance McFadzen, Maj John McNabb at Rogers Place in support of Soldier On Edmonton Oilers Experience.

Lord Strathcona's Horse Pipes and Drums have been a constant presence in the Edmonton community, supporting various events throughout the year. The band has proudly marched alongside soldiers from Soldier On at the Edmonton Oilers Experience, honoring veterans at the WOs and Sgts Mess Veterans Night, Service Credit Edmonton Marathon and celebrating the achievements of new Alberta Community Peace Officers at their graduations. Additionally, the band has paid tribute to fallen heroes at countless cenotaph ceremonies.

Pipe Major Davies has been instrumental in fostering strong relationships with other service bands in the Edmonton area. Collaborations with the K Division RCMP, Edmonton Police Service, Strathcona Fire Department, and Edmonton Fire Department have not only strengthened the local music scene but also fostered a sense of camaraderie among the various organizations.

As the band continues to evolve, Pipe Major Davies' leadership, coupled with the support of his talented bandmates, will ensure that the tradition of bagpiping in the Canadian Armed Forces lives on. After all, what army is complete without a few kilts making a racket?



Regimental Museum and Archives

Captain Phil “The Doctor” Webster

As two thousand and twenty-four draws to a close, those of us down here at the Regimental Museum and Archives have a lot to be thankful for. Interested, skilled and trained volunteers, students seeking to improve or develop their museology skills, and good old-fashioned serendipity all serve us well in the day-to-day running of your Regimental Museum. As our reputation for excellence and scholarly bearing precedes us, we find ourselves being called to lend our expertise further and farther afield, to organizations from the Canadian Army to scholars and PhD students in diverse fields of study. Quite the change from our humble beginnings in one room in the basement of B-7, Currie Barracks.

The year proved to be full of our usual workload of requests for histories, pictures and documents from all over the Regimental family, with **Sgt. Todd “All that and more” Giberson** overseeing one of the greatest influxes of new artifacts in recent memory. Luckily for him, **Ms. Dani “California” Sanchez**, decided she could handle another year of sudden **Gordon Lightfoot** sing-alongs and has found herself the Museum’s Assistant Collections Manager. Her expertise in Collections Management made overseeing the priceless artifacts of the Regiment that much easier. Over in Archives, **Cpl. Miguel “BBQ” Blanco** found himself working with a dream team of archivists and specialists. This auspicious group included **Ms. Michelle “I love stairs” Walz**, **Mr. Mike “Detecting Detective” Belliveau**, **Ms. Shona “The (Actual) Librarian” Gouray**, **WO (Ret’d) Dan “LASER is an acronym” Leblanc** and **Mr. Jordan “Negative Negatives” Strate**. Over on the academic side of things, we somehow convinced **Ms. Ming Sum “the Dragon” Choi** to show us how social media (actually) works for once. We happily worked alongside **Ms. Karen “Always Accurately Ardently and Audaciously Auditing” Hong** and **Ms. Evangeline “The Educational Angel” Carriere**. Hosting our Gallery and guiding visitors through the finer points of Strathcona history is **Mr. Dan “No Parking” McDonald**, taking time out from his bicycling adventures to do so. We’re lucky to have **Ms. Jackie “That belongs in a Museum!” Jansen van Doorn (von Doom)** assisting with photographic work on our team, who also brings her staff from **The Military Museums Foundation** to artifact handling sessions in our Gallery.

The next year should see us complete our overhaul of the Gallery, bringing it up to modern standards and continuing the hard work of **WO (Ret’d) Ted Macleod** to ensure we have the best museum in all **The Military Museums**. What adventures, possibly involving ghosts and hauntings, will we find in twenty twenty-five? Only time will tell, I suppose. Finally, I’ve added this ending line to specifically mention the Regimental Second-in-Command, **Maj Nathan Hevenor**, hopefully against his will.

*Staff and Volunteers of the Regimental Museum and Archives in the Hall of Honour,
L-R: Ms. Michelle Walz, Ms. Karen Hong, Capt Phil Webster, Sgt Todd Giberson,
Dani Sanchez, Cpl Miguel Blanco, Evangeline Carriere, Mike Belliveau.*





Regimental Association - National Branch

Brad Norman

Hello all from Calgary. We have had a busy year with visits from the COTR, CO and RSM who provided updates on what is happening with the Regiment.

Summer was busy and many of our members attended Spruce Meadows to watch the Musical Ride and to see our members on parade for the Feu De Joie (fire of joy).

On August 3 we had our Toast to our Fallen at my house in Calgary and we had a great turn out with numerous veterans from out of town. We had our toast to the fallen and the evening continued with stories from the past where laughs and some tears were shared.

I know Brian Talty is busy planning the Reunion for next July. Our members are excited to attend the functions where they can meet and catch up with old buddies and pals, oh the stories will be good.

Remembrance Day was attended well and I enjoy seeing photos of our association members all over our great country attending different ceremonies.

Our next meeting is in January 2025 which will be our AGM and I will seek another term as president however it will be short, the planning of the association headquarters being moved closer to the regiment in Edmonton is ongoing and will happen shortly after the reunion. So, this will be my last update for the Strathconian. I want to thank everyone for their support to the Association and I will state that our memberships is getting smaller and I encourage everyone to pass on the details to our veterans and lets try and get more members.

I want to personally thank the following members for their support and teamwork for the past number of years:

Peter Wonderham and **Howie Owen** (both former association presidents) for their mentorships and guidance when I had questions;

Jason Moran for his vice president duties;

Clair Lane for his continuous support as our treasure who ensures all our monies are accounted for and ensuring our audits are completed on a yearly basis;

Shaun Fullerton as secretary;

Slider and Mary Welch for their continuous volunteering as our membership committee and keeping our nominal roll in check.

I hope everyone is doing well and please keep looking out for each other.

Perseverance.





Left Coast Lancers

David "Ops O / Adjt / Maître De" Scandrett

Background

The Left Coast Lancers formally meet twice in the "Cavalry" year, which is the Fall and the Spring, and contains overlapping calendar years. We are an eclectic group, all ranks and all regiments. The Fall lunch is pin wheeled around The Action at Leliefontein of 7 November 1900. The Spring luncheon encompasses the Battle of Moreuil Wood of 30 March 1918. This is not to offer offence to any of the other regiments on the RCAC Order of Battle. We graciously receive spouses and friends of the RCAC.

Please remember that the LCL operational tasks are to on order, expunge the King's enemies, look after each other and conduct a good lunch. We anticipate mobilisation any day as Ottawa "revives" defense spending in light of various global circumstances. A phone call from the HRH King Charles III is all we need to set things in motion. Our motto is Endurance.

Execution

We gathered on 7 November at the Sidney North Sannich Yacht Club (SNSYC), an amiable location that allows for Island members and those from the Mainland to marry up via POMV and ferry. We have those who make the journey from Comox, Chilliwack, the Okanagan and stragglers who wonder over the mountains from Alberta, seeking moisture and green trees and some on occasion from The Yukon.

We had thirty-three souls grace us with their presence and it was a effervescent as ever. There are the requisite regimental photos and sit down lunch. It is the Strathcona format: two hours max at table and no speeches. Announcements of course, as the next gathering is on **27 March 2025**, a quarter of the way into the 21st century.

We sadly announced the death of Yvon Savoie RCD and 12RBC who died in July 2024. He along with others were toasted at lunch: "The Fallen". The empty chair in the picture is for "Absent Friends", as they are always welcome. We of course had the Loyal Toast to HRH King Charles III who is the Colonel-In-Chief of both the Dragoons and the Strathconas.

Recommendations

We will proceed as per trace, reconvene in the Spring, check our sixes and on each other.

As always: "**Load Sabot, Make Safe.**"

PERSEVERANCE and ENDURANCE.





Edmonton Chapter

Tom Falls

The Edmonton chapter of the association is in full planning mode for Strathcona Week 2025. Under the direction of Brian Talty, a team consisting of **Tony Batty, Tony Mayfield, Anthony Sowards, Al Luomala, Dave Proctor, Bill Kingston, Steve Januszewski,** and **Tom Falls** have been making steady progress. **Paul Peters** keeps a watchful eye on the proceedings and offers sound advice.

During our monthly meetings, **Mike Hogan** has been keeping us updated on veterans' issues. **Steve Januszewski** has been working full time, hosting the summer Black Hatter at his ranch, and juggling association tasks, including dining out nights.

Phil Friday continues to organize **Alex Graf's** Wing Night At The Bears' Den, a task complicated by the venue's band schedule. We try and avoid band nights. Deaf Tankers are intolerant of background noise.

Wing Nights and the monthly meetings host wide ranging conversations on military life. Our members have many shared experiences yet also have individual memories of events largely forgotten. We reflect on an era of Canadian history that will never be repeated. Oddly enough, there seems also to be time to discuss motorcycles, stereo equipment of the 1980s, VW Rabbits that ran on homemade bio diesel, and target loads for Long Branch Lee Enfields.

The regiment has now been in Edmonton for twenty-eight years (that is longer than it spent in Calgary after redeploying from Germany in 1970). A young soldier who joined the Strathconas in Edmonton at the dawn of the year 2000 is now approaching a quarter century of service, having known no other home station. As those once young soldiers retire, the Strathcona retirement community in Edmonton grows and so does the Edmonton chapter of the association.





Lt Nathan "Nobody said the SEV wasn't a Sears Portrait Study" **Bogya.**



Maj Islam Elkorazati introducing the simplicity of OPP to an international audience (Nairobi, Kenya, Feb).



Sgt Dan 'Scout Leader' Lacey giving a tank gunnery lesson on the MTT.

Extra Regimentally Employed



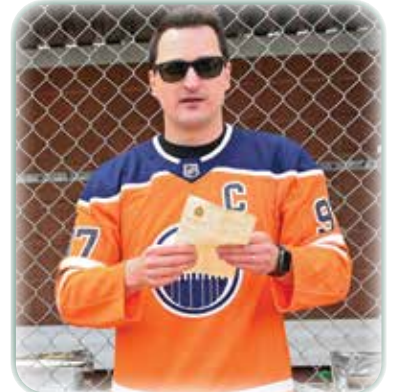
Lt Brad "I caught the knife with my foot" **Weisenfeld** receiving his certificate from **Maj Michael Selberg.**



WO Aly Alwani with Canada's ambassador to Israel, **Lisa Stadelbauer.** (Op ION).



Capt Jon Vickars, overseeing a successful winter exercise in CFB Kingston Training Area in March along with **Cpl Hugh McMillan** (left) and **Capt Maria Zhurov** (centre) from CA Int Regt.



Maj Rogozinski receiving a message from the future: "Oilers lose in seven".

Strathcona's in Gagetown

Captain Nikolas Dragatakis

The instructors in Gagetown have been busy doing the Lord Strathcona's work, given the flexible nature of staffing at the Royal Canadian Armored Corps School. **WO Jeffrey "Red Chit" Hayes** went from ILP at CMR in Quebec with **WO Schafer**, to teaching on the Mobile Training Team (MTT) & conducting the live range in Wainwright, before returning to be Course Warrant and instructor for the recent iterations of the Armored Troop Leader (ATL) course. **WO Henry "Chenbot" Chen** also taught on the MTT this year. However if that wasn't enough, together with **WO Justin "Jacked Rabbit" Monge**, they taught the most recent Ar,u Dorect Fire Specialist (ADFS) course, (including the practice of semi-indirect fire for tank), as well as further developing current & upcoming Strathconas in the fall RQ Sergeant & RQ Warrant Officer courses (featuring the return of Troop Leading).



WO Jeffrey Hayes waits for his MTT student to fire on the range in Wainwright.

Capt Scott "Baby Beef" Veale has been doing a bang-up job as A Squadron 2IC, regrettably at the cost of many-a-follicle. As of now he is no doubt crushing Army Operations Course and will be ready for the biggest of leagues in no time. **Capt Sheldon "Fun Fact" Smith** has been actively engaged in A Squadron from teaching on ATL serials to managing the Basic Training List, as well as managing administration for the Squadron.

Capt Phil "Helpful Sarcasm" German now resides in B Squadron, teaching on the Armored Crew Commander & Armored Troop Warrant Course. Since taking up his position, he has gone underground and has successfully evaded all interaction with human beings. **Capt Leah "Neck Tattoo" Ahenakew** took up her position at D Squadron training the soon to be Strathcona DP1s. Her troop wasted no time in proving themselves by being the only troop to earn the Commandant's pennant.

Over at the Canadian Army Trials and Evaluation Unit (CATEU), **Maj Ali "It will be just a 10-minute meeting" Raju** relinquished command and moved to Latvia to the Task Force Headquarters. Good luck to you and your wife in your new position in Latvia! **Capt Cory "Mark 3 boots" Bulmer** transferred to the dark side by commissioning in the summer and taking over as the Chief Trials Officer. **Cpl Chris Kipot** and **Cpl Ben Ford** both work at the quartermaster reminiscing over driving AFVs but having to make do with side-by-side UTVs.

L to R, WO Clegg, WO Adby, Sgt Schafer, WO Majorais, WO Brown, WO Hayes, WO Perron, & WO Croxall on ILP at CMR in Quebec.





Strathconas in the NCR

Lieutenant Kuhn-Mook Lee



An ACSV mounted with a Remote Weapons systems (RWS), during its battle run in CFB Gagetown. Capt Timothy Carroll has played a major role in its role out and testing.

Having to write on my fellow Strathconas in the NCR region has been an interesting opportunity, namely because we seem to be a rare and elusive breed out east. The general reaction from staff officers encountering a Strathcona subaltern in the Star Top Campus has varied from mild wonderment to utter disbelief.

Since July, I've had the pleasure of operating as a Continental Watch Officer at the Canadian Joint Operations Command (CJOC) headquarters, under the Canadian Forces Integrated Command Centre (CFICC) team. Tight-knit and prepared to respond to domestic and international situations twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, the CFICC watch floor is always abuzz with real-time analysis, confidential phone conferences with VIPs, and offers for coffee runs late into the twilight hours.

I am not alone at CJOC however, as **LCol James Anderson** is incumbent as the lead planner for African, Latin American, and Caribbean operations in the J5 Cell. Describing his role, **LCol Anderson** says, "My job is to conduct operational planning from three months to three years out for [these] regions, and work with stakeholders and allies to coordinate our efforts." He enjoys his tasks, describing his opportunities to travel abroad to international working groups and relishing working in a joint environment.

Outside of CJOC, **Capt Timothy "Very Respectfully" Carroll** has been aiding the efforts of the Armour Combat Support Vehicle (ACSV) program by qualifying platforms through blast testing. "So far, so good," he says, reflecting on his role on delivering and unveiling the first ACSV Command Posts, and completing the initial cadre training with 2 RCHA. "This week [October] we're set to deliver the Remote Weapon System (RWS) in Gagetown, and expecting the remainder to be delivered in January next year. We've also confirmed the electronic warfare variants' fire-inhibit zones for the RWS during my time in London."

Finally, as part of the Chief of Force Development, **Maj Callum Smith** finds himself thriving outside of a good Strathcona's comfort zone. "[We] grapple with the minor questions of - what threats will the CAF of 2040 face, and what does that mean for the disposition and capabilities required of the CAF?" **Maj Smith** has noted the importance of the experience Armour Officers from across the RCAC bring to the Force Development world, routinely engaging with NATO and FVEY allies to develop a common understanding of future military problems.

To conclude, though our footprint out east is small, our presence is impactful and powerful, representing the CAF's premier tank regiment in whatever odd and interesting roles we fill through our flexibility as Armoured Officers.

The CJOC HQ CFICC Continental team. Left to right, Maj Garrett Toenders, Maj Dominic Drouin, MWO Bradley Williamson, MWO Livain Doucet, WO Jean MacLean, PO2 Raymond Phillips, Capt Michelle Tranquilla, LCdr Kenneth MacLellan, Capt Alan Danardojo, and Lt Kuhn-Mook Lee.





Strathconas in Kingston

Captain Jonathan Vickars

Packing your bags and leaving Regiment is never easy but once you do you quickly realize just how many of us Strathconas there are scattered across the country, supporting various CAF operations and essential functions. Kingston, Ontario is no exception, with a strong contingent of Strathconas making their mark.



Maj Philip Buckingham at the Canadian Army Run completing the Commander Canadian Army Challenge.

The Canadian Army Command and Staff College (CACSC) is a hub of Strathcona activity. **Maj Ian Elkorazati** has been a key player in international engagements, deployed multiple times on the United Nations Staff Officer Course (UNSOC) where he has been impressing foreign peers with his charm and tactical brilliance (or at least his PowerPoint skills). **Maj Chris Fifield**, the CACSC's Operations Officer, keeps the college running smoothly, juggling countless tasks with the grace and efficiency of a seasoned paper pusher. And let's not forget **Cpl Daniel Wynen**, who having just finished PLQ is more often than not the man behind the camera, ensuring everyone looks their best, even if it means some creative angles and flattering lighting.

The Professional Military Education hub has also benefited from the contributions of Strathconas. **Maj Phil Buckingham**, the Content Manager for Line of Sight. He has spearheaded a major project to introduce a 3D Printing Library which would make battle tracking and wargaming models more available to the army. He must have impressed someone since a copy of the Brigade in a Box was requested to be a part of the permanent wargaming collection at the Canadian War Museum.

The Canadian Army Intelligence Regiment Detachment Kingston got a bit more dynamic with the addition of **Capt Jon Vickars** as the Operations Officer for 14 Military Intelligence Company. While Vickars may have been accustomed to the harsh winters of Edmonton, he quickly learned that in Kingston a winter exercise planned in March is more akin to a fall hike with the troops snowshoeing through leaves instead of snowdrifts.

Arriving at 6 Canadian Combat Support Brigade Headquarters, **LCol Tim Day** recently wrapped up his tour as the Chief of Staff with some much-deserved time off with his new baby before heading to Borden, at Canadian Forces Recruiting Group Headquarters. On to more somber news as this year **Maj Cam Meikle** has fallen seriously ill. I believe I can speak for all Strathconas when I say that we are keeping him in our thoughts and prayers.

Strathconas are making their mark in Kingston and beyond. Their dedication and hard work continues to inspire and shape the future of the Canadian Armed Forces. Whether it's on the battlefield, in the classroom, or behind a desk, Strathconas are making a difference and leaving a lasting legacy.

Strathconas at the CACSC:

Left to right, Maj Clayton Fifield, Maj Islam Elkorazati, Cpl Daniel Wynen, LCol Matt Johns, and Maj Philip Buckingham.





Strathconas in 5th Canadian Division The Mighty Maroon Machine

Lieutenant-Colonel Chris Nolan

Never a numerous bunch, the Strathconas scattered throughout the 5th Canadian Division continue to colour Atlantic Canada with a distinctly Western flare.

From the perspective of the RSS Strathcona's in 36 Bde, life at the Halifax Rifles (RCAC) was eventful and certainly not slow paced. **Captain Cam Bond** and **MCpl Willem Evers**, working as Adjutant and Transport NCO respectively, kept busy supporting Regimental training exercises and Brigade initiatives. Included in these were assisting the Force Protection Platoon's workup training over the summer to join Op REASSURANCE in Latvia, the support of Exercise MAROON RAIDER 23 in February, and throughout, the Regiment's first go-round with PaCE as a full Regimental initiative, rather than only applying to the full-time staff. While **MCpl Evers** had been part of Transport Troop out west, **Capt Bond** had never been an Adjutant before and so it was a year of firsts and learning. Especially Defence Learning Network learning, which holds literally hundreds, if not thousands of hours of relevant, engaging content that is crucially applicable to all facets of being an Adjutant.

Capt Corey McLean remains a persistent figure in the Division. After working several years in the Division's G3 shop, some of those under **LCol Nolan**, he conveniently secured himself a yearlong tour on OP Jade. After returning from Lebanon/Israel, his luck held and has since secured two simultaneous jobs within 36 CBG HQ. As the G1 Mgt, he had the pleasure of rolling out PaCE for the Army Reserves. As you may have guessed, the introduction of PaCE in the reserves went through without a single hiccup or complaint (no need to fact check this statement). In his role as the A/G1 for the Bde, newly minted **Maj McLean** played a part in preparing the Bde to deploy a Force Protection Platoon in support of OP REASSURANCE. Reestablishing the SOPs needed for a Reserve Bde to deploy a formed body of troops has proven to be both incredibly frustrating yet oddly rewarding.

After spending a year as the Division G1 dealing with 'the good, the bad, and the ugly' world of Personnel Administration, **LCol Chris Nolan** still managed to retain a slightly off-kilter sense of humour. The days may be long, but the year flew by!

So, if you find yourself in Halifax on a Friday, chances are good you can find one or two Strathconas at the Royal Artillery Park Officers's Mess. Stop in and share some good-hearted gripes, we'd love to see you.

Strathconas at 1 CMBG

Lieutenant Nathan Bogy



Capt Mike "put the quote in French and make sure the seal is in the photo" **Forestell** striking an administrative pose.

The ambiguity of saying "I'm at Brigade," especially as a Strathcona sub-altern is often met with either curiosity. "*Is Brigade a place or a state of mind?*" or contempt... "*I can't believe that order you sent us.*" The institution of a Brigade, at least from my position on the trace, is widely misunderstood by those who have yet to reside within its hallowed halls. Etched into the walls of the G3 shop are the "Rules of Staff Work", stenciled and faded like a newly discovered archaeological dig, each labelled as "Rule #1". It is apropos that the first is *You did this to yourself*.

Staff work is not without a certain level of masochism, a charge that all Strathcona's are guilty of. The throbbing vein in your head, clenching of fists and endless sighs lead us to the next Rule #1: *Never trust the Div Order*. Like a well-run Abattoir, the Strathcona's of Brigade shepherd the newly formed Div Order through the gates of **Maj Darren** "*every day is groundhogs' day*" **Carter-Wright's** G1 shop, the G5 cutting floor of **Maj Matthew** "*don't worry I got Mike for that*" **Shumka** and the G3

packing room of **Maj Michael “sure why not...” Selberg**. Equipped with my shiny new gummy boots, hair net and hose, I have the esteemed responsibility of ensuring those last-minute quality control checks are complete before the order is ready for review. For those keeping track, the Strathcona’s have surreptitiously taken yet another step towards usurping control of Brigade, bringing our own swagger and panache to the filing of the Div Order, ensuring that the tastiest morsels make their way down to the live units within the Brigade, and of course, shamelessly pushing the “Strathcona narrative” to the highest echelons.

All Brigade Headquarters alumni leave with stories of wrangling the toughest animals, waxing tales of battle and fury. Over a cup of cowboy coffee and starry twilight, **Capt Stephanie “see ya, I am off to the Regt” Clubine**, the G5-2, will share her account of Ex VIGILANT RAM 24, a highly detailed computer-assisted exercise requiring coordination across the entire Brigade. **Capt Clubine** ensured 1 CMBG was well prepared for any last-minute changes, preventing any errant details from escaping her purview... or at least telling the subordinate units that they were right out of it!

With the defining features of a Marlboro Man, **Maj Shaun “Rogo” Rogozinski** offered his effervescent leadership and communication to the G1 role. Perhaps his athletic modesty was to prevent the remainder of Brigade Staff from being embarrassed, but his ability to hedge the competitiveness of whatever team drafted him for Thursday physical training was uncanny. Without missing a beat, each day was a new adventure in “I didn’t think soldiers could surprise me anymore but the 5Ws just keep coming.”

Throughout this soliloquy, **Maj Selberg** has continued to exhibit maximal control as the G3. Following the tenet—also a Rule #1: *Everything is an Ops Problem*, the G3’s presence within the office is palpable. Never afraid to “call ‘em as you see ‘em” (also a Rule #1), the G3 slices through tasks, eviscerating objections, delivering Op LENTUS orders with ease, splaying the blood of Word documents, spreadsheets and Sharepoint lists across the corridors.

The fourth quarter of 2024 saw the slaughterhouse establish control of Op TACTICUS RAM, a shakeout for the Brigade Staff and a chance to trial new delivery methods and workflows for a HQ dispersed across three Provinces, and any staff officer’s nightmare... presentations. Under the garbage bag-covered fluorescent lights, between Timbits, cigarettes and Celsius energy drinks, **Maj Shumka** and **Capt Michael “Tom, I finally get it...” Forestell** fastidiously lead the order generation process. Whether duct-taping sheets to block the glare, playing musical chairs for decision briefs or providing much-appreciated guidance to inexperienced pups like me, the Strathconas cooked the whole beast, enabling the regiment to base their OP REASSURANCE 25-01 orders off our hard work.

As the days grow shorter and winter nip starts to creep, the Strathconas of Brigade HQ will continue to work the processing line. Whether the taste of the day is a slurry of COMREL, a tallow of FORCE GENERATION or a baby rack of LIB SURGE, we’ll continue to keep the people fed.

G5: Maj Matthew Shumka, G3 Special Projects: Lt Nathan Bogy, G3: Maj Michael Selberg, G1: Maj Darren Carter-Wright





*Strathconas in the headquarters find a few minutes to visit an 'old friend' outside the headquarters building.
Left to right: Capt Kevin King, CWO Rob Clarke, Capt Matt Hoffart, Maj Bryce Simpson, LCol Mike Mallette, Sgt Brydon Townsend.*

Strathconas in 3rd Canadian Division Headquarters

Major Bryce Simpson

Quartered comfortably in a glass building warmed by the collective exertions of boundlessly enthusiastic staff officers, the unsung heroes of the Regiment – those stalwart members of 3rd Canadian Divisional Headquarters – continue to represent the Strathconas well.

Joining the Headquarters as Division Sergeant Major in the summer after a year-long deployment in the Sinai, was our very own **CWO Rob Clarke**, who after years of leading soldiers as a Regimental and then Brigade Sergeant Major, is now hard at work trying to meet every single soldier in 3rd Canadian Division. He continues to do his best to incorporate close quarter combat into his daily life, but this now largely consists of unprovoked attacks on the Division Commander's Executive Assistant (the author), who does his best to maintain the Commander's calendar in a state of strategic ambiguity.

Speaking of desk jobs, let's talk about **LCol Mike Mallette**, who's spent his year shuttling between two roles: G3 (Operations) and G5 (Plans). There's no denying that being the Regiment's Commanding Officer was exciting, but it turns out that balancing between high-stakes meetings on the Divisional budget and death-defying PowerPoint presentations on incremental tasks might be just as thrilling.

Abandoned in the G3 shop after **LCol Mallette's** ascension to G5-stardom was **Capt Matt Hoffart**. When not buried under a pile of nonsense perfectly reasonable requests from subordinate formations, **Matt** likes to remind everyone that he's still a cool tanker at heart, before weeping salty tears into his well-worn keyboard. **Maj Owen Lewis** arrived at the Headquarters following his firing/promotion from being Regimental Operations Officer. In classic cavalry-style, his title at Division remained nebulous, though Owen did manage to find the time to decorate his cubicle before absconding to Latvia.



Now, from the front lines of a tank regiment to a desk with a view, we find **Capt Kevin King**. Once the mighty Regimental Sergeant Major, **Capt King** has traded in his pace stick for a CFTPO brique (for those not in the know, that's army-speak for 'Can't find troops to put on community-relations-tasks'). But don't let the change in roles fool you - **Kevin** still brings the same fierce spirit to his work in G3 Community Relations. We're sure the community is loving him and fully expect him to have whipped the various charities, municipal and provincial event coordinators who the Division interacts with into Regimental shape in no time.

And then there's our dynamic duo—**Sgts Brydon Townsend** and **John Nancarrow**, the Batman and Robin of the Joint Operations Centre. Whether it's day or night, they're keeping the watch, ensuring 24/7 coverage of the Joint Task Force (West) Joint Operations Centre and keeping higher headquarters apprised on all the shenanigans which divisional soldiers occasionally get up to.

Of course, all of this has been in service of the Division's incredible activities this past year: supporting domestic operations, multiple deployments to Latvia (including two Strathcona tank squadrons) and a series of smaller international missions. At the Division Headquarters, it's been a year of work hard, play hard work harder, but it is always a consolation to know that a divisional staff officer's efforts are universally appreciated by those on the shop floor back in the Harvey building.

Strathconas in 3 CDSG

Captain Tom Underwood and Captain Adrian Droogers

2024 was the year of transformation within 3rd Canadian Division Support Group (3 CDSG). Strathcona officers and NCMs in key positions within the Formation both lead and supported this transformation while continuing to deliver Institutional Support (IS) throughout the four Western Bases, CFBs Shilo, Suffield, Wainwright, and Edmonton in order to support the operations of 3rd Canadian Division during this high tempo year and to prepare it for the "Spring of Friction" in 2025.

Some of you may remember a time when we had Area Support Bases and Units (ASB and ASU) composed of several service branches, back prior to 2012. That year saw the ASB and ASU reformed into Division Support Bases, the birth of 3 CDSG and its detachments. This new 'efficient' organisation consisted of the four stove pipes of information, or "branches"; Operations, Personnel Support, Corporate, and Technical Service. These great services led to the most disastrous Grouping names of the millennia with organisations formally named as "*3rd Division Support Base Edmonton, Operations Service Branch, Detachment Calgary*", (known in short as Base Edm, Det Calgary) this only caused some confusion and a lot of extra typing.

When I asked the 3CDSB Ops Svcs Adjt, **Capt Adrian Droogers**, what the best way to explain the Authority, Responsibilities, and Accountabilities (ARA) Trial was, his response was to quote the great Roman author Gaius Petronius: "Perhaps because we are so good at organizing, we tend as an army to meet any new situation by reorganizing; and what a wonderful method it can be for creating the illusion of progress while producing confusion, inefficiency and demoralization." Petronius was later forced to commit suicide by the Emperor Nero, but I can confirm his logic is sound. Joking aside, under ARA, Base Maintenance, Base Clothing, and Base Transport will now report directly to the Base Commander instead of 1 Service Battalion, marking a significant shift in how these services are managed.

No more. In early 2025 these support services will again reform Canadian Forces Bases (CFBs) and, Command and Control will once again become centralized geographically and contiguously. The fighting Squadrons within the Harvey building should not notice this change if all goes well... Luckily, the sign on the Anthony Henday will not even have to change as it still reads "CFB Edmonton" from the early 2000s.

2024 saw few internal changes during APS: **Maj Marshall Douglas** moved from Pers Svcs to Ops Svcs; **Capt Tom Underwood** became the Personal Assistant to the Formation Commander; and **Capt Adrian Droogers** was promoted; and **OCdt Paul Nicholson** took a commission and transferred to Public Affairs Officer.

We Enable Success.



Extra Regimentally Employed

LGen S.R. Kelsey	VCDS	Maj C.E.J. Prince	41 CBG
LGen D.A. Macaulay	United Nations Command	Maj A.A. Raju	TFL HQ
MGen J.J. Major	4 Cdn Div HQ	Maj J.N. Rickard	CFC Toronto
MGen P.J. Peyton	NATO DIANA	Maj J. Salter	CALWC
BGen D.R. Parsons	CDLS (London)	Maj M.E. Selberg	1 CMBG
Col V.G. Kirstein	Joint Force Command Brunssum	Maj M.R. Shumka	1 CMBG
Col M. Lubiniecki	VCDS C Prg	Maj B.R. Simpson	3 Can Div
Col E.G. MacEachern	CFC	Maj C.T. Smith	CFD
Col A.D. MacIntyre	CA HQ	Maj K.D. Tams	CMTC
Col C.J. Quinlan	CDLS(L)	Maj A.D. Tardiff	RCACS
LCol J.A. Anderson	CJOC	Maj V. Vahal	C Army/DLR
LCol E.D. Angell	CMTC	Maj D.P. Williams	1 Cdn Div
LCol J.S. Boates	C Army OUTCAN	Capt J.F. Agius	RCACS
LCol J.W. Brown	CProg	Capt L.H.C. Ahenakew	RCACS
LCol R.P. Chiasson	VCDS OUTCAN	Capt R.J. Baglole	SALH
LCol J.L. Cochran	TF El Gorah	Capt C.W. Bennie	CAF TC Cgy
LCol R.A. Cooper	3 CDSG Pers Sp Svcs	Capt C.P. Bond	Hal Rif
LCol D.R. Cronk	CFB Shilo	Capt E.M. Bouvier	12 RBC
LCol T.W.F. Day	CFRG HQ	Capt P. Braszak	QY Rang
LCol A.C. Dwyer	CA	Capt T.R. Carroll	DLR
LCol D.A. Gray	4 Cdn Div	Capt S.T. Casey	JTF-X
LCol V.F. Hayward	TF El Gorah	Capt S.R. Churchill	3 CDSG
LCol M.D.C. Johns	CACSC	Capt C.D. Clare	CFB Borden
LCol J.M.J. Kim	UNC Korea	Capt C.A. Coxhead	CFLRS
LCol M.J.D. Mallette	3 Cdn Div	Capt S.P. Danyi	3 CDSB
LCol M.A. McMurachy	UNC Korea	Capt A.E.R. Droogers	3 CDSB
LCol J.P. Nguyen	British Army Headquarters	Capt M.J. Forestell	1 CMBG
LCol A. Nitu	ATA Det Ott	Capt P.A.G. German	RCACS
LCol C.O. Nolan	5 Cdn Div	Capt R.M. Gervais	CMTC
LCol R.T. Steward	PACOM	Capt R.S. Haddow 3	Cdn Div HQ
LCol M.D. Timms	CA	Capt Z. Hmaidan	KOCR
LCol A.S.H. Wong	3 CDSG HQ	Capt M. Hoffart	3 Cdn Div
Maj P.A. Buckingham	CADTC	Capt J. Horlings	JTF-X
Maj N.B. Bugg	CMTC	Capt T.J. Hume	3 CDSB
Maj D.W. Carter-Wright	1 CMBG	Capt A.M. Keewatin	3 CDSB Pers Sp Svcs
Maj T.L. Collings	SHAPE	Capt K.E. King	3 Cdn Div
Maj W.S. Deatcher	JCBRN Def COE	Capt L.J. Kirkham	CMTC
Maj M.R.N. Douglas	3 CDSB Pers Sp Svcs	Capt I.A. Koolman	5 Cdn Div TC
Maj L.A. Dunn	5 CRPG	Capt K.E. Kwok	RCACS
Maj I. M. Elkorazati	CACSC		
Maj C.S. Fifield	CACSC		
Maj S.W. Holmes	SJS		
Maj B.S. Johnson	JTFN HQ		
Maj H. Jung	DLR		
Maj M.A. Kaye	Tactics School		
Maj S.A. King	CADTC		
Maj M. Labrecque	CFRC NEON, CFRG		
Maj R.R. Lee	CFC		
Maj O.T. Lewis	3 Cdn Div		
Maj R.I. Lund	RCACS		
Maj C.D. McLean	36 CBG		
Maj C.W. Meikle	6 CCSB HQ		
Maj M.G. Pano	CADTC		
Maj C.S. Penney	5 Cdn Div		
Maj C.D. Peterson	3CDTC		



Maj Matthew "Who drank all the Celsius?" Shumka assessing if we'll need 8 or 10 overlays per COA.



Capt J.F. Lee	FGH	WO J.C. Loykowski	LER C Coy
Capt R.M. Levis	RCACS	WO H.L. Mijares	1 CMBG
Capt K.Y.H. Loun	CFRC Fredericton	WO J.A. Monge	RCACS
Capt J.D.P. McBride	BCR	WO E.R.G. Morley	The Ont Regt
Capt C.W. McDougall	3 Cdn Div TC	WO N.D. Norman	3 Cdn Div TC
Capt S.J.P. McGlone	CANSOFCOM	WO E.J. Pickell	CMTC
Capt M.A. McTavish	39 CBG HQ	WO C.D.E. Romkey	SALH
Capt N.C. Miller	Tactics School	WO C.R. Schafer	RCACS
Capt J.L.E.E. Miller	Sask D	WO A.B. Sherlock-Hubbard	3 Cdn Div TC
Capt L.M. Misner	RMC	WO S.G. Thomas	RCACS
Capt A.F. Parisi	RCACS	WO L.J. Troop	FGH
Capt E.G. Perry	The Royal Lancers	Sgt T. Baldwin	3 CDSG
Capt A.K.L. Schofield	CProg	Sgt L.T. Banman	CANSOFCOM HQ
Capt S.K.E. Smith	RCACS	Sgt B.K. Campbell	RCAF Academy
Capt L.M. Taylor	CTC	Sgt N.B. Deringer	RCACS
Capt T.A. Underwood	3 CDSG HQ	Sgt J.E. Desjardins	CAF TC Gagetown
Capt E. Uppal	BCR	Sgt L.M. Doan	CMTC
Capt M.D. Uusoue	BCD	Sgt J.A. Dunford	CAF TC Edm
Capt S.C.J. Veale	RCACS	Sgt A.J. Elms	3 Cdn Div TC
Capt J.D.N. Vickers	Int Regt Det Kingston	Sgt R.L. Ferguson	CRFC Cgy-Det Edm
Capt E.J. Wiome	3 CDTC	Sgt S.D. Fettes	12 RBC
Capt D.M. Wright	DVCDS	Sgt A.W. Goodwin	CAF TC Edm
Capt A.J. Young	JTF- X	Sgt A.L. Icala	RCACS
Capt D. Zhang	CMTC	Sgt J.A. Johnson	1 CRPG
Lt N. Bogya	LdSH(RC)-Att'd to 1 CMBG	Sgt J.M. Nancarrow	3 Cdn Div
Lt C.J. Bulmer	CATEU	Sgt M. Ouellet	CFLRS
Lt N. Dragatakis	RCACS	Sgt A.W. Pawliuk	RCACS
Lt K. Lee	CJOC	Sgt N.A. Reid	4 Cdn Div TC
CWO R.J. Clarke	3rd Div HQ	Sgt J.O. Schijns	RCACS
CWO R.A. Englehart	CMTC	Sgt C.J.D. Shute	RCACS
MWO H. Babin	CFSMI	Sgt T.G.C. Silcox	CMTC
MWO J.C. Clarke	MND(N) Adazi	Sgt E.T. Snoek	1 Cdn Div
MWO C.B. Eady	RCACS	Sgt Q.J. Stender	4 Cdn Div TC
MWO J.B. Hamilton	CMTC	Sgt D.E. Stephenson	1 Svc Bn
MWO B.E. Holmes	TC Edm	Sgt J.P. Stevenson	CAF TC Edm
MWO N.C. Johnston	RCACS	Sgt K.M.J. Stratford	4 CDSB
MWO G.C. Moon	5 CDTC	Sgt D.E. Symington	1 CRPG
MWO J.D. Paterson	RCACS	Sgt S.T. Taborowski	RCACS
MWO R.T. Vigar	3 CDTC	Sgt C.J.W. Talmage	CTC HQ
MWO C.P. Zubkowski	3 CDSG Edm	Sgt B.W. Townsend	JTFW-JOC
WO(WSE) A.A. Alwani	RMC	Sgt R.K. Wagner	5 CDTC
WO A.E. Balfour	CJOC Outcan Europe Latvia	Sgt K.N.N. Watson	41 CBG HQ
WO F.L. Brown	CAF TC Ottawa	Sgt B.S. Young	RCACS
WO A.D. Burris	38 CBG	MCpl P.B. Breau	RCACS
WO H.C. Chen	RCACS	MCpl K.A. Cena	RCACS
WO C.K. Clegg	RCACS	MCpl S.M. Coughlan	RCACS
WO S.P. Collins	CTC HQ	MCpl J.W. Crockett	RCACS
WO M.R. Croxall	RCACS	MCpl B.J. Dumouchelle	RCACS
WO G. Davidson	BCR	MCpl T.W. Ellis	CFB Suffield
WO T.C. Dickey	BCD	MCpl W.J. Evers	Hal Rif
WO J.A. Doherty	CMTC	MCpl C.B. Foster	CSOR
WO R.N. Ford	RCACS	MCpl E.J. Fulljames	CFPSU
WO J.D. Hayes	RCACS	MCpl T.C. Gibbons	The Windsor Regiment
WO A.D. Hodgkin	6 CCSB HQ	MCpl M.S. Grewal	3 Cdn Div TC
WO K.E. Hodgson	408 THS	MCpl J.S.M. Hall	PSTC
WO K. Jesse	KOCR	MCpl B.J.P. Hogan	BCD
WO C.A. Kentfield	CFB Comox	MCpl C.A.S. Jones	RCACS
WO B.R. Loft	RCACS	MCpl D.D.E. Kentfield	RCACS



MCpl D.W. Lahay	3 Cdn Div TC	Cpl C.M. Kipot	RCACS
MCpl J.J. Landry	CFLRS	Cpl L.M. Kroeker	RCACS
MCpl R.J.P.J. Larcher Pelland	Sask D	Cpl A.G.T. Lagarde	408 THS
MCpl M.V. Lopez	KOCR	Cpl L.M. Lastowski	CMTC
MCpl L.C. MacKenzie	CAF TC Edm	Cpl K.J. Leis	CMTC
MCpl C.B. Maisonneuve	CANSOFCOM HQ	Cpl J.P. MacFadyen	RCACS
MCpl A.L. Maisonneuve	SJS	Cpl J.D. Martin	RCACS
MCpl Z.A. Marshall	3 Cdn Div TC	Cpl M.C. Maxwell	3 CDSB
MCpl J.N. Matchett	RCACS	Cpl W.J. Mitchell	RCACS
MCpl S.A. Mireault	RCACS	Cpl A.A. Moreau	RCACS
MCpl J.P. Munro	FGH	Cpl L.N. Mullens	CAF TC Edm
MCpl J.R.R. Munro	RCACS	Cpl R.W. Murray	RCACS
MCpl M.D. New	CMTC	Cpl D.A. Olaes	NPTG HQ
MCpl A.P.J. Normandeau	RCACS	Cpl K.A.P. Parker	CMTC
MCpl R.S.R. Rawson	Sask D	Cpl N.E. Pearson	CFC
MCpl J.A. Rourke	CANSOFCOM HQ	Cpl R.W. Pietila	RCACS
MCpl I.S. Sandhu	CAF TC Ver	Cpl L.M. Renooy	RCACS
MCpl S.M-L Shipston C	MTC	Cpl C.B. Rundle	RCACS
MCpl P.J. Smith	RCACS	Cpl C.T. Service	RCACS
MCpl B. St-Onge	RCACS	Cpl C.A. Smith	3 CDSB Edm Det Wx
MCpl E.J. Thibodeau	RCACS	Cpl C.J. Stamp	CFB Suffield
MCpl C.J. Vanthournout	BCR	Cpl L.C. Thompson	CMTC
MCpl T.R. Villiers	CFRG	Cpl C. Tracy	RCACS
MCpl A.W. Waldner	RCACS	Cpl A.V. Turcotte	RCACS
MCpl A.C.P. Warren	RCACS	Cpl M.T.J. Vahey	LdSH(RC) Att Posted-408 Sqn
MCpl M.L.P. Westelaken	RCACS	Cpl J.E.A. Valenzuela	CFB Suffield
Cpl C.D. Asprey	RCACS	Cpl L.C. West	LdSH(RC) Att Posted-408 Sqn
Cpl B.C. Baker	RCACS	Cpl J.A. Works	RCACS
Cpl W.B. Balaneski	RCACS	Cpl D.M. Wynen	CACSC
Cpl W.M. Barkley	3 CDSB Ops Wx		
Cpl D.A. Beukes	RCACS		
Cpl D.G.E. Brown	RCACS		
Cpl S.J. Brown	RCACS		
Cpl T.B.D. Buell	RCACS		
Cpl F.A. Castillo	3 CDSB Tech Svs Wx		
Cpl S.P. Charles	RCACS		
Cpl N.F. Fabischek	RCACS		
Cpl S.L. Finkle	1 Svc Bn		
Cpl S. Fong	RCACS		
Cpl B.J. Ford	CATEU		
Cpl D.J. Foster	JIOC		
Cpl T.M. Gamman	3 CDSB Edm		
Cpl D.T. Giersch	3 CDSB Edm, Det Wx		
Cpl J.M. Gilbert	RCACS		
Cpl J.E. Gratto	RCACS		
Cpl J.P. Gray	CFB Suffield		
Cpl S.J.J. Grenier	RCACS		
Cpl M.J. Guay	RCACS		
Cpl J.H. Hachey	RCACS		
Cpl R.F. Hammel	CFB Suffield		
Cpl A.P. Hill	RCACS		
Cpl C.B. Hornby	RCACS		
Cpl L.A. Houston	RCACS		
Cpl J.P.R. Ingimundson	CMTC		
Cpl M.R. Jesse	3 CDSB		
Cpl R.I.J. King	3 CDSB		
Cpl R.T.A. King	CFB Suffield		



Much like the cedar of Lebanon, Maj Dave Williams is known for longevity and resistance to decay. (Op LUMEN).

Messing & Social





Mariner Room

Major Carsten MacLean

In his haste to vacate the duties of President of the Mess Committee (PMC), it must have slipped the mind of **Maj Shaun** *"I've signed 1000 course reports"* **Rogozinski** to mention he hadn't yet drafted the article for the Strathconian detailing the exploits and triumphs of the Mariner Room. On the day he departed for Latvia as part of Task Force WAR HORSE, I received a note from the Editor asking if our now overdue submission was ready. It was not, but there's no better time than the present.

Like most years, the officers' social calendar began with the 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group Mess Dinner. This year, **Capt Jesse** *"Brother"* **Olson** provided a rousing speech to the Brigade Commander as to why the Strathcona's were the most valuable tool in his toolbox. Although good authority confirms the Brigade Commander agreed with **Capt Olson**'s assessment, he wisely chose to publicly award the top speech to another unit in order to make them feel like they contribute something to the Brigade. Throughout the dinner, **Capt Mark** *"I just want to go to Gagetown"* **Snetzko** did his best to avoid traditional subaltern shenanigans, instead pulling out his Leopard 2 crew commander gunnery study notes whenever the occasion presented itself. We have been unable to verify if the additional studying provided any value, as **Capt Snetzko** was immediately moved out of a tank troop and sent on a LAV 6.0 course so he could crew the CO's vehicle during deployment.

In the first of a series of "last social gatherings for the Regiment," the Mariner Room and Sarcee Room hosted a mixed combined Moreuil Wood Gala in March. It provided an excellent opportunity for the Regimental Family to spend an evening together, with a drum line, live music, and dance floor. Following dinner, the Regimental Adjutant, **Capt Sean** *"I should have changed my name to something French"* **Danyi** gave those in attendance a glimpse into his past life as a dancer to open the dance floor.

The summer saw the hand-off of duties as PMC from the long-suffering **Maj Matt** *"I care so much"* **Shumka** to the aforementioned **Maj Shaun** *"I care so little"* **Rogozinski**, as well a change in Mess Secretary from **Capt Kuhn-Mook** *"3.0"* **Lee** to **Lt Chris** *"4.0"* **Lee**. He may have been chosen simply so we could keep the same name on the bank card. Warmer weather also saw the return of Stampede Night at the Edmonton Garrison Officers' Mess (EGOM), and a developing rivalry between our subalterns and the Signals Officers of 1 CMBG Headquarters & Signals Squadron. Following a disappointing period during which we lost access to our mugs in the EGOM, they were eventually recovered, and cooler heads prevailed. Still, we look forward to welcoming our new Regimental Signals Officer as a member of the Mariner Room in a few short months....



*Subalterns kept the coffee and donuts topped up, while **Lt David Sellers** got all the solver restored tirelessly.*



In the fall, **Maj Rogozinski** was only too keen to pass the PMC's gavel to **Maj Carsten** "I injured myself into a promotion" **MacLean**, joking that he had set a record for the shortest tenure as PMC. My efforts to surpass that record have, unsurprisingly, not come to fruition. Due to the deployment of over half of the Regimental officers as part of Task Force WAR HORSE, the decision was made to not conduct the traditional Black Hat Mess Dinner this year. Instead, as the last of the last social gatherings for the Regiment, the officers gathered for an informal dinner at a local restaurant. Although different in scope and aim to Black Hat, this provided an important opportunity for friends and colleagues to connect prior to the departure of many of our members.

As a final note, you'll be happy to know that **Maj Rogozinski** did not fully escape the rigours of life as the PMC, as he has subsequently been appointed as the Camp Adazi Officers' Club PMC, ensuring our traditions are alive and well even for Strathcona officers deployed to Latvia. In the fall, was only too keen to pass the PMC's gavel to , joking that he had set a record for the shortest tenure as PMC. My efforts to surpass that record have, unsurprisingly, not come to fruition. Due to the deployment of over half of the Regimental officers as part of Task Force WAR HORSE, the decision was made to not conduct the traditional Black Hat Mess Dinner this year. Instead, as the last of the last social gatherings for the Regiment, the officers gathered for an informal dinner at a local restaurant. Although different in scope and aim to Black Hat, this provided an important opportunity for friends and colleagues to connect prior to the departure of many of our members.

As a final note, you'll be happy to know that did not fully escape the rigours of life as the PMC, as he has subsequently been appointed as the Camp Adazi Officers' Club PMC, ensuring our traditions are alive and well even for Strathcona officers deployed to Latvia.

Sarcee Room

Warrant Officer Kevin Crowe

The 2024/2025 has been a quiet year for the Mess. With the increased operational tempo of the regiment, it has been more challenging to get together as a team like in years past. In saying that, we have certainly still tried to have some fun. Unfortunately, this year we were not be able to do the Black Hat Mess dinner, and with most of the team deploying on 25-01, there will not be many events until the summer of 2025 once the team is back in Canada. Here is to hoping that 2025 will be a great year with many opportunities. This year has seen the changing of the PMC three times. **WO Kyle Chuback's** time has passed, and **WO Kevin Crowe** took over the roll as PMC in early summer of 2024. **WO Crowe's** time as PMC was short lived due to deployment, passing



WO Kyle Chubak, MWO Stu McLoughlin, MWO Derek Murdoch, MWO Matt Williams & CWO Nathan Mills.



the gavel to **WO Nick Patterson**, who is thrilled to be in the role. **WO Patterson** is a great person for the job and the mess is expecting big things from him in the coming year.

This year the Sarcee Room had the pleasure in hosting and saying goodbye to a beloved Strathcona; "**Lord Strathcona**" himself **Capt Harry "Old Man" Delaney**. A member of the mess for longer than most of us have been alive. It was a pleasure to host the event and give a proper send-off to one of the best. The event was well attended by serving, and retired members of the mess and regiment. Harry will certainly be missed. With **Harry** leaving there is now a huge void in the regiment that will be difficult to fill, losing all that experience and knowledge will be hard to replace. However, he has not gone far and will certainly help the regiment in his new job working with KLM, in Leduc.



This past year the Sarcee Room put together a soft ball torment. The event not only aimed to foster team spirit among the ranks but also served as a refreshing break from the rigorous tempo of the regiment. The decision to organize a softball game was met with enthusiasm and plans quickly took shape. With a mix of anticipation and excitement, members of the regiment signed up to showcase their skills. Family members and friends came out to support the event, making it more of a family event. The atmosphere was festive with lots of chirping and laughter from both the field and the stands. The games were filled with memorable moments from impressive home runs and spectacular catches. There were lots of laughable moments from individuals with less athletic abilities. During the lunch hour, everyone gathered for a BBQ, sharing stories and laughter over a few hot dogs and hamburgers. This informal gathering allowed for deeper connections and a chance to reflect on the importance of teamwork both on and off the field.



The Moreuil Wood Mess Dinner stands as a cherished tradition. This annual event not only fosters camaraderie among the Snr NCO's and Officers but also honours the legacy of the Leadership and Dedication of those serving. This year the dinner was held at Edmonton Inn & Conference Center, and in typical Strathcona fashion was amazing. Officers and Senior NCO's along with their dates, had a fantastic evening. Beyond the formalities, the dinner provides a platform for building relationships and fostering a sense of community and family. Conversation flowed freely as we connected with old friends and made new ones. The shared experiences of military life create a unique bond that is hard to replicate in other settings. The dinner had a fun photo booth, a fantastic drum line, and as per tradition **Capt Sean Dannie** and his wife kicked off the dance floor, with their fantastic professional dancing. Every guy in the room was very jealous of **Sean**. Drinks flowed, dancing commenced, and all that attended had a fantastic time.

This summer the mess held a posting BBQ at the WOSM. This event is a way that we can formally welcome new people to the mess, as well as say goodbye to others. The event was well attended. **WO Chuback** decided to get off his wallet and order a great lunch from *Meat*, a local smoke shop in Edmonton. SSMs got to say goodbye to posted out members, highlighting their achievements and impact each member had within the Sqn they belonged to. The RSM did the same, however he did forget to introduce the incoming SSM to A Sqn **MWO Stewart McLoughlin**. The boys certainly did not let him forget as the RSM received some chirps. Stories were told over a few beers and great food. Always at an event like this there are mixed emotions, as we are sad to see some leave, but are excited to welcome in new members to the team.



Green Point Lounge

Master Corporal Demeulenaere III R.E.

Another year has come and gone for the Regiment. Within this year it has been busy for everyone, either in support of regimental deployments, or as a member of said deployments. The Green Point Lounge (GPL), in steadfast tradition took the lead with many of its members being the instructors for the numerous PCF's completed; from **MCpl Stephen "Really" Greystone** teaching back-to-back Leopard D&M courses with the MTT out of Gagetown, to **MCpl Brandon "What are you doing" Lockheart**, **MCpl Tish "Dude..." Forestell**, **MCpl Andrew "Aint no way" Dauphinee**, **MCpl Sean "I'm ready for a nap" Tong** and **MCpl Robert "What am I doing right now" Demeulenaere III** teaching Leopard 2 Gunner and loader during the PCF cycle. Not to forget all the other members who have been tasked out, working a rank above, or teaching on all other types of courses within the regiment and outside the regiment. The Green Point has had its fair share of new members promoted into the GPL with many of us eager to be a part of the middle work machine of the regiment. We also said goodbye to a few as they either moving on to a new chapter in their life after the army or being promoted out. The GPL looks forward to the next coming years as we know we will once again be busy, leading the main effort as instructors and being the best we all can be for the regiment. Till the next year, remember to keep pushing forward and no matter what, PERSEVERANCE.

The Track Pad

Corporal Nicholas Sylvester

The Track Pad, a place for the Troopers and Corporals to take a break from the everyday life at the Regiment. This past year has been busy for the entire unit, and I imagine everyone has enjoyed having a place just for us where we can escape the chaos, if only for a little while. The year seemed to fly by, with several changes to our Track Pad Committee. **Cpl Dane "President of Strathcona Hockey Operations" Frizzell** stood down after three faithful years as PMC, moving on to bigger and better things in the Regimental Accounts Office, while also providing a ton of insight and guidance as I took on my new role. **Cpl Gianì "You should join the Power Lifting team" Mancini** made way for **Cpl Devin "Awwwww @#%\$ man" Headrick** to take over as VPMC. Last but not least, **Cpl Stanislaw "It's pronounced Marchelli" Marcelli** started his new role as Treasurer. I had hoped that we could all continue in our roles for another year, but with deployment cycles and heavy course loads being what they are, we all had to make way for new and eager members to take on the challenge of keeping our little corner of the Regiment afloat. **Cpl Alex Parsons** has taken over as PMC, **Tpr Adam Peters** as VPMC, **Tpr Bevan Davies** as Treasurer, **Tpr Michael Meininger** as Entertainment Rep, **Tpr Dreden Chaco-Wolfe** as Housing Rep, and **Tpr Garath O'Byrne** as Secretary.

The voting and handing over of responsibilities took place after our annual **Trooper Funk Games**. This year's festivities included a relay race through a Leopard 2A4 and a LAV 6.0, a Ferret pull, Regimental History quiz and Trooper Bowling (it was as exciting and chaotic as it sounds). We were thankful that there were little to no injuries this year. The final event was a skills competition in the Leopard Gunnery Skills Trainer (LGST) simulator. The competition was tight, and the winner was decided by a manner of seconds - two to be exact. This was all summed up with food and drink at the Lamplighter Lounge. Unfortunately, last year's champion **Cpl Ty LaRose** was not present to hand over the **Trooper Funk** Championship Belt to this year's champion **Tpr Nicholas Mikkelsen**.

This ends my responsibilities as PMC, and I know **Cpl Parsons** has the strength and leadership capabilities to take the Track Pad to new heights.



Cpl Reuben de Boer and Cpl Chloé Bériau-Landry "working hard" at the canteen during Ex STRONG CONTENDER.



Subbie's Corner

Captain Mark Snetzko

2024 was nearly the year where the Strathcona Subalterns broke with the time-honoured tradition of flooding the Mariner Room with soap by loading the dishwasher with liquid detergent. Nearly, but not quite, thanks to the efforts of **Lt McCausland Johnston**, who embraced tradition and ensured the torch was passed once again.

2024 saw the departure of several key Strathcona Subalterns: **Cpts Philip German, Nicholas Dragatakis, and Leah Ahenakew** were sent to live in the swamps of Gagetown, periodically emerging to teach the next generation of Strathcona officers how to make coffee and polish silver. **Capt Liam Misner** decided to pursue higher knowledge at Technical Staff in Kingston. **Capt Henry Loun** made his way to Fredericton to lure new recruits into the CAF with Monsters and Zin pouches on a string. **Capt Ziad Hmaidan** ventured to Calgary to represent the Regiment to our Reservist brothers and sisters. **Capt Dayne Johnson** and **Lt John Barton** are no longer officers, but we promise it's not for disciplinary reasons. **Capt Jeremy "ACL" McBride**



Capt Mark Snetzko rolls up his sleeves to shine some silver.

was sent off to pasture with the Strathcona Mounted Troop and was inflicted upon the unsuspecting reservists of Vancouver.



Lt David Sellers voices his concerns on the issues of the day at Stampede Night.

This year saw an influx of brand-new junior officers to pad the Mariner Room funding. **Lts Bogya, Brophy, Johnston, Lee, and Issa-Moussa** arrived in the new year and quickly found themselves in positions across the regiment. **Lt Bogya** spent the duration of the year in 1CMBG HQ where he received fame through the innovative creations of his 3D printer. The spring saw **Lt Zorawar Sohi** progress from the reserves with Fort Garry Horse and wisely re-badge as a Strathcona, finding himself immediately deploying as Administration Officer with Cheddar Squadron. **2LT's O'Brien and Cornell** are both getting a crash course in admin with HQ Sqn, just in time for Performance Appraisal Report season! Finally, we earned two new troop leaders straight out of Gagetown with **Capt McCloy** and **Lt Roberts** sent to A and B Sqn respectfully.

Of course, the year can't pass without subbie hijinks and this year had plenty. A hopeful officer cadet on the job training taught the Signals Officers the importance of securing their mascots properly to their table in the Officer's Mess. They then taught us a valuable lesson in not storing bolt cutters near our locked mug cabinet; *cough* **Capt Jeremy McBride** *cough*. In the spirit of creating new traditions, the subalterns celebrated the second annual Milk Mania, where once again the Sig O took the crown in the years competition. Congratulations **Capt Joe "JOE JOE JOE" Stang**.

All in all, the Subalterns had a banner year. There were plenty of great opportunities and shockingly few remedial trips to the duty desk, knock on wood.



The C Sqn troop leaders looking tough; or traumatized.



Strathcona Spouses

Jennifer Gray and Kim Mills

It's been a year of growth, busy schedules, and both old and new friends among the Strathcona Spouses group! The spouses have been rolling with the Regimental tempo of operations like the phenomenal humans they are. Amidst all the busyness, they've managed to get together, share some good food, great experiences, and amazing company.

In March, spouses were offered the opportunity, with the much-appreciated support of Mounted Troop members, to visit the stables, learn about how the Troop works, and even enjoy a quiet ride on some of the four-legged members of the unit. The spouses who joined the fun came from varying levels of equine skill and experience, but all were able to learn something. We even found time to shop the beautiful leatherwork created by the talented Troop members. Our sincere thanks once again to the Mounted Troop for their generous hospitality.

April ended with a pre-deployment briefing for the families of the deploying members of C Squadron. This briefing was one of two held this year, and these opportunities for families to learn about upcoming deployments and the support resources available to them, continue to be adjusted and improved to reach as many people as possible. Strathcona Spouses are excited to see this resource continue to grow and are grateful for the opportunity to be part of the presentations. By May, it was time to feel a bit pampered. Spouses enjoyed a simple brunch in the Sarcee Room, along with the opportunity for those interested to create a living plant terrarium. Our crafty members made some beautiful mini gardens, and everyone had fun eating and laughing together.

With the All-Ranks party and the busy summer of taskings and block leave, October arrived before we knew it. Newly posted spouses were invited to join those of us already here to meet new friends and enjoy a quick bite to eat at the Curling Club. In November, it was already time to prepare the 18th annual Taste of Home packages for the 140+ members of the Regiment who would be deployed over Christmas. Spouses came out to the squadron lines to fold boxes, fill out customs forms, and pack each one with goodies we had managed to gather, along with cards, letters, and crafts from local schools, daycares, and community groups. It was a big undertaking, but having the boxes arrive before Christmas for each member overseas was absolutely worth it!

Wrapping up our year, spouses met in December for a baking exchange, craft-making, and a simple, informal chance to connect over the holiday season. Those of us with crafty skills made beautiful lighted holiday jars filled with Christmas scenes, and all enjoyed a sampling of everyone's talented baking as we shared stories and extended support to one another.

Throughout 2024, over a dozen baby baskets were delivered to families with new additions, and we were once again awed by the compassion and generosity of the unit as we humbly put together three care baskets for members of the Regimental family experiencing crisis and loss. The Strathcona Spouses group continues to be a valuable support resource that sets our Regimental family apart from other units, and we look forward to another year of connection in 2025!



Taste of Home packages arrive.



The Royal Lancers' (Queen Elizabeths' Own)

Captain A.J. Aldridge, Adjutant

The end of 2023 saw the Regiment deploy on one of the largest exercises on Salisbury Plain Training Area in 20 years. Exercise IRON TITAN saw 8,000 soldiers training from Wales to Wiltshire in a Divisional context which saw the Royal Lancers in our element as world class reconnaissance soldiers. This exercise also saw us deploy on Warrior for (hopefully) the final time before we fully embrace the excitement of modernisation in 2025 with the conversion to AJAX.



Her Majesty The Queen inspects the parade on her first official visit as the new Colonel in Chief.



The Quartermaster taking the lead in drone training on exercise.

2024 started in a similar fashion to 2023 and was even more busy and exciting. Lancers across the ranks knew

it would be a year focussed on preparing for and then deploying on operations. In the midst of pre-deployment training, the Regiment had the honour of hosting our new Colonel in Chief, Her Majesty The Queen, in April. This was Her Majesty's first official visit to the Regiment since assuming the role and the day was quite simply spectacular. The Queen was greeted by the whole Regiment formed up on parade; a Royal Salute, inspection and address followed. Her Majesty then presented awards in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess before moving down to the Officers' Mess to look at some historical pieces from the Regimental Museum. Principle

among these was the Service Dress jacket worn by her late father, Major Bruce Shand MC (and Bar), who served with the 12th Lancers in the Second World War. Her Majesty took the time to talk to soldiers and their families. We very much look forward to hosting the Colonel in Chief in the near future.

2024 was a "year of operations", during which most of the Regiment earned operational medals. HQ, A and B Squadrons deployed Poland from April to November, while the majority of C Squadron deployed to Kosovo for six months and a Platoon deployed to Cyprus to contribute to the UN peacekeeping mission there. Consequently, the Regiment have been heavily committed to pre-deployment training since January. In November 2024 we received the first of the new AJAX armoured vehicles in anticipation of the Regiment beginning conversion in 2025. We have a number of qualified instructors who are all now itching to pass on their knowledge to the rest of the Regiment.

2025 will provide us the time and space to return to sport and adventurous training alongside AJAX conversion with a ski trip and netball tour already in the pipeline. We will also exercise the freedom of Nottingham and Chesterfield and will celebrate 10 years since the formation of The Royal Lancers (Queen Elizabeths' Own) in the summer. It is safe to say that the Regiment continues to be an exciting place with all ranks relishing having a tangible focus and purpose.



Members of C Squadron competing in a PT challenge whilst deployed to Cyprus on Operation TOSCA.





Lt Chelsea Stephen



Calgary Association



WO Mark "Sam Steele and I fought in the Boer War together" Bell



The Hevenor Family



Honouring tradition defined by excellence



We salute the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)
for their time-honoured values of integrity, leadership,
and enduring perseverance.

ATCO.COM

ATCO



ALLIED WITH
THE ROYAL LANCERS
(QUEEN ELIZABETHS' OWN)

PARTNERED WITH
10 (POLISH) ARMOUR CAVALRY BRIGADE

PERSEVERANCE

AFFILIATED CADET CORPS

- 1292 CADET CORPS - CALGARY
- 1813 CADET CORPS - CRANBROOK
- 2716 CADET CORPS - MAYERTHORPE
- 2756 CADET CORPS - INVEREMERE
- 2860 CADET CORPS - FORT SIMPSON
- 3066 CADET CORPS - GOLDEN
- 3070 CADET CORPS - EVANSBURG