THE STRATHCONIAN



Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)

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The Strathconian

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Lieutenant-Colonel M.J.D. Mallette, CD **Commanding Officer**

Message from the Colonel of the Regiment	3
Senior Serving Strathcona	4
Commanding Officer's Message	5
Regimental Sergeant-Major's Observations	6
Editor-in-Chief Foreward	7
Year in Review	
Births and Marriages	10
Honours and Awards	10
Promotions	12
Regimental Roll	14
Squadron Articles	
Regimental Headquarters	20
A Squadron (Prince of Wales)	22
B Squadron	24
D Squadron	26
HQ Squadron	28
Operations	
Operation CALUMET	32
Operation IMPACT	33
Operation REASSURANCE	34
Operation UNIFIER	35
Task Force South Sudan 19	36
Training	
Ex STEELE ADVENTURE	39
Ex STEELE BULLSEYE	40
Ex STEELE CARBINE	41
Regimental Events	
Remembrance Week	44
Ex STEELE BLACK HAT	45
Sports-conian Illustrated	46
Calgary Stampede and Spruce Meadows	47
Moreuil Wood Parade	48

RSM Change of Appointment	49
Spin for a Veteran	50
Regimental Society & CMT Foundation	
Ceremonial Mounted Troop	52
Family Support Troop	53
Historical Vehicle Troop	54
Pipes and Drums	55
The Regimental Museum and Archives	56
Extra Regimentally Employed	
Strathcona Exchange	58
Strathconas In Gagetown	59
Strathconas in the National Capital Region	60
Strathconas in Kingston	61
Strathconas in Wainwright	62
Strathconas in 5th Canadian Division	63
Strathconas at 1 CMBG	64
Strathconas at 3rd Canadian Division	65
3rd Canadian Division Support Group	66
Strathconas in the North	67
Extra Regimentally Employed	68
Messing & Social	
The Mariner Room	73
The Sarcee Room	74
The Green Point Lounge	75
The Track Pad	76
All Ranks Dinner and Dance	78
Holiday Celebrations	78
Subbies' Corner	80
Strathcona Spouses	81
The Royal Lancers (Queen Elizabeths' Own)	82
10 th Armored Cavalry Brigade Patron	83



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, Beaurevoir, 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)





Message from the Colonel of the Regiment

Brigadier-General (Retired) Craig Hilton



If the end of 2021 saw the Regiment break out from our pandemic restraints, the year 2022 witnessed a return to full normal. The agenda has been packed and the demands more than steady, yet it has been heartening to observe that the past year has seen the reintroduction of several features of regimental life that have been absent for some considerable time. Of course, training exercises and international deployments (Op IMPACT in particular) shaped our dance card, but it was uplifting to see events like adventure training, Jr NCO PD sessions, and even block leave take their long absent, but richly rewarding, place on the master schedule. And as these things go, it could not have happened at a better time given that 2022 was also a year of great international tension and change.

While it is rare that world events make their presence felt on the tank park, (exceptions are always possible and with the sudden outbreak of inter-state war in Eastern Europe) we all felt the gears shift up a notch. The attendant consequences, fully anticipated, made their effects known with adjustments to our regimental posture whereby readiness standards have been confirmed and a concerted push made to ensure our equipment is 'running and gunning'.

Equally, all Strathcona's were saddened by the sudden passing of **Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**, under whose reign the vast majority of our Regimental Family have served their entire careers. The Regiment was touched directly by this moment, when during the internationally renowned Spruce Meadows Master's Tournament, our Mounted Troop seamlessly assumed responsibility for the Tournament programme gap created by the immediate recall to London, UK of the Household Cavalry detachment. I know of few other regiments that could have fulfilled this special duty so quickly and professionally in an emotionally charged public occasion with so much at stake. In its way, it was a fitting Strathcona's tribute to Her Late Majesty and indeed, to our Colonel in Chief, **His Majesty King Charles III**.

As has often happened our long history, certain major events can project the Regiment's core purpose in sharp relief. And when this purpose is matched with the spirit, courage, and determination that feature in the pages of this Strathconian edition, we all may rest assured that the Strathcona's are up to the task, whatever and whenever that may be.



Perseverance

RSM King, MWO Clarke, Capt Peterson, Lt McBride, BGen (Ret'd) Hilton & LCol Mallette inspecting the Regimental Gong.



Sgt Paul Kruhlak & BGen (Ret'd) Hilton



Senior Serving Strathcona

Lieutenant-General Steve Kelsey



LGen Kelsey visits the NATO mission in Iraq.

Distance does indeed make the heart grow fonder. It also offers perspective; in this case a deeper appreciation for all that the Regiment achieved in 2022. While some COVID realities lingered, it was heartening to see the perseverance shine through as the Regiment created better ways to work, innovated new ways to train and all-the-while, keeping the Strathcona family connected. As ever, the Regiment did it with flare and had fun doing it!

The war in Ukraine is an exclamation point to the change in world order. Significant (if not overdue) transformation to NATO's strategic defence plans, forces, and C2 accelerated in 2022 at a pace not seen for decades. Undoubtedly, it gave renewed purpose to the Regiment's training. More poignant is perhaps the deep personal connection many Strathconas retain from past Op UNIFIER service, as Ukrainian friends fight for their freedom.

Uncertain times means Canada needs the Army at its best. As this Strathconian records, your achievements yet again

illustrate the strength and character of our Regiment: strong leadership at every rank; can-do soldiers with fighting spirit that find a way; energetic junior officers (with the occasionally alarming twinkle in the eye); and ever, the unmatched experience and professionalism of our Warrant Officers and Sergeants. Close-combat manoeuvre expertise is once again a vital commodity. As we turn the pages of this edition,

it is easy to draw inspiration from the men and women of our fine Regiment.

The Regiment continues to draw strength from the wider Strathcona family. The Society remains formidable under our Colonel of the Regiment Brigadier-General D.C. (Craig) Hilton OMM, MSM, CD (Retired), ably supported by a cast of Society, Foundation, Branch, Chapter, and special project appointments. Within this edition we see countless activities that would not otherwise occur without their efforts. All of these volunteers have earned our gratitude. One long-serving Strathcona merits an individual tribute: Lieutenant-Colonel John Stuckart, CD (Retired). In 2022 John signalled his retirement as Society and Foundation Secretary after 12 years. John deepened our corporate expertise and transformed almost every facet of the Society and Foundation enterprise. He also endured the unenviable task of training countless Regimental 2ICs, I among them. If there was a wound-stripe for selfless service, John earned it ten-fold! John, our enduring thanks for your service to our Regiment, Regimental Society and Ceremonial Mounted Troop Foundation.

Finally, my heartfelt congratulations to all Strathcona awards recipients in 2022. Happy reading!



The Moro River Canadian War Cemetery near Ortona, honouring the Canadian contributions to the Italian Campaign.

Perseverance

Commanding Officer's Message

Lieutenant-Colonel Mike Mallette

Looking back on the year that was 2022, it's hard to express how proud and impressed I am with the resilience shown by the soldiers of our Regiment. It was a year where the only constant was change. With the ever-changing commitments to deployed operations and the instability created by the war in Ukraine, there was never a dull moment or a plan that survived first contact! When we embarked on 2022, little did we know that hundreds of our soldiers would be deployed on Operations IMPACT, REASSURANCE, CALUMET, UNIFIER, and SOPRANO; deployments spanning eight countries on three continents.



LCol Michael Mallette and Captain Matthew Hoffart observing the execution of a live fire range at CFB Wainwright.

We kicked off 2022 forming the lead mounting

unit for Op IMPACT bringing soldiers from across the 3rd Division (and a

handful of sailors and aviators from across the CAF) through our doors to complete their pre-deployment training. We were on the bus... then off the bus... for potential deployments across Europe as Canada and our Allies continued to adapt to the situation in the Ukraine. On short notice, a troop of motivated soldiers eventually did deploy as part of Op UNIFIER onto a British Army led mission to deliver basic training to Ukrainian soldiers. Make no mistake, the training that our soldiers provided to these new recruits has saved lives and helped them win battles to protect their homeland. Our commitment to NATO partners on Op REASSURANCE continued unabated with cavalry troops and a handful of staff officers and NCOs deploying with successive PPCLI battle groups. With the numbers committed to operations, there were days in garrison where the hallways were all but empty, but the home team took advantage of every opportunity and stayed focused on the future. Training focused on developing individual skills through formal courses or troop-level training. Tank barns and maintenance bays were



The CO and R2IC saying farewell to the newly promoted **BGen** Wade Rutland before his departure to Kuwait as the Op IMPACT Task Force Commander.

hubs of activity as the team worked tirelessly to break through a significant maintenance backlog. We aren't done the work yet and look forward to a very busy 2023; like time spent on reconnaissance, preparation is rarely wasted.

Finally, I'd like to take a moment to emphasize the hard work that has gone into this year's Strathconian. With the operational tempo over the past twelve months, it has truly been a team effort. My thanks to **Captain Sean Danyi** for keeping this on the rails for much of the year. Thanks to **Major Ryan Lee** for jumping in with both feet right after returning from deployment and taking the reins during the final weeks of collecting articles and photos to see this year's issue through

to completion. As always, this edition of the Strathconian would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of **Mrs. Kathy Batty** to complete the layouts, make the final push on editing, and coordinate with the printer to bring it all together. Thank you so much to all of you for your efforts on this issue of the Strathconian.

Perseverance



Regimental Sergeant-Major's Observations *Chief Warrant Officer Robert Englehart*

As I write my first Strathconian article as the RSM, I must start by reiterating how honored I am to have been appointed RSM.

It has been a busy year for the Regiment. Throughout the year, we have continually faced an ever-increasing number of deployments and varied tasks in addition to our usual operational commitments. As the Lead Mounting Unit for Op IMPACT, and augmentation to other deploying units within 1 CMBG, we have seen a large portion of the Regimental leadership and many of our soldiers deployed in several countries throughout Europe and the Middle East. With a majority of the Regimental leadership deployed throughout the year, we have had to rely on our junior leaders to step up, take charge, and hold down the fort through various training requirements and taskings to support the institution. I am proud to say, our junior leaders have done so seamlessly. Their hard work and dedication enabled us to reinvigorate the Regiment by reintroducing some of our traditional social activities, such as the All Ranks Dinner and Dance, Mess Dinners, Kids' Christmas Party, and the Soldiers' Appreciation Dinner, as we continue making our way out of the pandemic.



RSM Englehart drops the puck for Track Pad vs Green Point Lounge.

As we proudly reflect on our accomplishments over the past year, I can truly say that without the perseverance and loyalty of our soldiers, the Regiment could not have upheld the high standards which the Strathcona's are known for. I look forward to another challenging year.

Thank you to all Strathconas and extended family; it's great to be home.

Perseverance

CO LdSH(RC) handing over the RSM's Pace Stick.



Editor-in-Chief Foreward

Major Ryan Lee

The Strathconian is one of our traditions that truly sets us apart from our peers and adjacent units within the Canadian Armed Forces. Often imitated, but never replicated, this annual periodical – entering its 108th year of publication – provides members of our Regimental Family a way to have their shared experiences, deployments, exercises, and triumphs both recorded and disseminated to a wide audience.

This year was truly unique as the Regiment continued its perpetually high tempo and was able to provide our soldiers the opportunity to deploy to many different locations around the world. Additionally, 2022 saw the return of many of the Regiment's traditional events including: Regimental Sports, Black Hat Week, Family Events, and the Trooper Funk Games.

As always, I would be terribly negligent to not mention the close team that made this edition of the Strathconian possible. **Capt Carsten** "Sure, I'll deploy to Lebanon to avoid being Editor" **MacLean** started the ball rolling the right direction before quickly finding himself a tour position on Op IMPACT. **Lt Tom** "Perpetually away on AOC" **Underwood** took a quick stab at some editing during the 6 hours he was in the office in December, eventually handing everything off to **Capt Sean** "Always dependable and best dressed" **Danyi** and **Lt Liam** "What's an Oxford comma?" **Misner**. Without such a hardworking and dedicated team this undertaking simply could not have been accomplished.

I hope that you are all able to sit back, relax, and read about our Family's many exploits this year – the articles are excellent and will surely give everyone a great idea of the accomplishments made by Strathconas all over the globe in 2022.

Perseverance



Year in Review



February

Ex STEELE WINTER: 8 – 26 Feb (All Sqns)

March

Ex STEELE BULLSEYE: 15 – 26 Mar (All Sqns) Moreuil Wood Parade:

April

Lead Mounting Unit Op IMPACT: Apr – Nov (RHQ)

May

Ex STEELE MARKSMAN 1: 9 – 13 May (D Sqn) Ex STEELE BEACON: 16 – 27 May (B Sqn)

June

Ex STEELE ADVENTURE: 6 – 12 Jun (All Sqns) Ex STEELE GAUNTLET: 20 – 22 Jun (D Sqn) Regimental Sergeant Major Change of Appointment: 24 Jun All Ranks Dinner and Dance: 29 Jun

July

Ex STEELE MARKSMAN 2: 4 – 20 Jul (D Sqn) Calgary Stampede: 8 – 18 Jul (B Sqn)

September Ex STEELE CARBINE: 19 – 29 Sep (All Sqns)

October

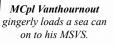
Ex STEELE VIRTUAL: 17 – 21 Oct (RHQ, B Sqn, A Sqn, D Sqn)

November

Spin for a Veteran: 6 Nov (Select members) Blackhat Week: 21 – 25 Nov (All Officers & Sr NCOs) Ex LION NUMÉRIQUE: 24 Nov – 2 Dec (B Sqn)

December

Ex STEELE RESILIENCE: 5 – 9 Dec (All Sqns)



WO Keith "Official Sarcee Barista" Hodgson again showing that a WO is fully capable of making coffee in the Sarcee room.



Lt Patrick Braszak reaching cardio nirvana at 3 am.



Capt Uppal and Lt Carroll salute the dais during the Stampede Parade.





Left to Right) Lt Misner, Lt Carroll, Lt Kwok, and Lt McBride taking a break and keeping Santa's Chair warm.



CWO Englehart's first address as RSM.



Sgt Adby out on a COU Patrol trying to figure out where they are... all those years as a D CC gone to waste lol







Births and Marriages

Tpr Nzeyimana's son was born 3 January 2022 Tpr Parsons' daughter was born 7 January 2022 2Lt Lauterbacher married Lindsay on 21 January 2022 Cpl Walker's daughter was born 18 February 2022 Cpl Ford's daughter was born 1 March 2022 Cpl Breustedt's daughter was born 9 March 2022 Cpl Lepage's son was born 17 March 2022 MCpl Brousseau's daughter was born 18 March 2022 Capt Bennie's daughter was born 13 April 2022 Cpl Corlay-Savard's son was born 25 April 2022 Sgt McQueen's son was born 5 May 2022 MCpl McNeil's daughter was born 18 May 2022 Lt Koolman's daughter was born 25 May 2022 Cpl Bakos' son was born 29 June 2022 Cpl Irving married Manvir on 31 July 2022 **Tpr Kelcey's** son was born 30 August 2022 MCpl Schemenauer's son was born 7 September 2022 MCpl Stere married Aimee Lee on 1 October 2022 WO Crowe's son was born 28 November 2022

Honours and Awards

Order of Military Merit – Member MWO Holmes

Operational Service Medal – Expedition

WO Murphy Sgt Andrews MCpl Fettes MCpl Kimmell Cpl Kentfield

Special Service Medal – NATO

Capt Uusoue MCpl Ottevanger

CD

Capt Bérubé Capt Clare Capt Clubine Capt Danyi Sgt Andrews Sgt Bolzan Sgt Kewley Sgt Weir MCpl Boyd MCpl Dobson MCpl Hamilton MCpl Marshall MCpl Miller

Bar to the Meritorious Service Medal (US) MGen Peyton

General Campaign Star – Expedition

Lt Haddow WO McLoughlin Sgt Bell MCpl New

General Campaign Medal – Expedition

Maj Elliott Capt Bond Capt Deutschmann Capt Lacroix WO Williams Sgt Lafluer Sgt McKenzie MCpl Cicek Cpl Lepage Cpl Robinson Cpl Wall



MCpl Ogden MCpl Page MCpl Sephenson MCpl Wiggan Cpl Gauthier Cpl Smith Cpl Steeves

CD First Clasp

MWO Vigar WO McLoughlin WO Montreuil Sgt Adby

CDS Commendation

LCol Cochrane

Commander of the Canadian Joint Operations Support Group Command Commendation

Cpl Hogan

Commander 3 Canadian Division Commendation

Capt Delaney

Commander 1 CMBG Commendation

WO Brister WO Hodgson MCpl Snowden MS Rheaume



Commander Joint Task Force - IMPACT Coin

Colonel Commandant RCACS Commendation

WO Bell

Commander Join Task Force Pacific Commendation

Lt Underwood

US Army Commendation Medal

Capt Lewis

Deputy Commander Canadian Army Coin

Maj Kim Capt Clubine

Commander 3 Division Coin

Sgt Kruhlak

Commander 5 Division Coin

Sgt Kruhlak Cpl Hodgins Cpl Senff

Commander 1 CMBG Coin

Mr Loseth Capt Forestell MWO Zubkowski Sgt Talty MCpl Bishop MCpl Borne Cpl Blair Cpl Chaine Cpl Godin

Commander Joint Task Force – IMPACT Coin

Maj Kim

CAF Safe Driving Award (100,000km)

Sgt Keefe

FORCE Award

Cpl Worden

Shabrack

MWO Eady MWO Zubkowski

The Hessin Sword

Capt Smith

The Macaulay Sword

Capt Chou

The Neatby Pace Stick

WO McLoughlin

The Ross Gear Cpl Smith **Olympic Torch** Capt Hoffart **Prince of Wales Squadron** A Sqn **Commanding Officer's Coin** Capt McGlone Sgt Hayes **MCpl Pickles** MCpl Rourke MCpl Thompson Cpl Chapman Cpl deRuiter Cpl Eckert Cpl Houston Cpl Lagarde Cpl Olaes Cpl Robinson Cpl Saeed **Regimental Sergeant Major's Coin** MCpl Elms

12



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Cpl Elliott









Promotions



Tpr Aberle receives a field promotion by MWO Eady and Maj Hevenor.

LGen Kelsey MGen Peyton LCol Day LCol Timms Capt Bennie Capt Bond Capt Clare Capt German Capt Hmaidan Capt King Capt Shki-Giizis Capt Smith Capt Uppal Capt Veale Lt Ahenakew Lt Braszak Lt Dorjee Lt Johnson Lt Kwok Lt Loun Lt Okada Lt Tompsett Lt Vickars MWO Charette MWO Hamilton WO McKenzie WO Wiscombe Sgt Elms Sgt Graham Sgt Griss Sgt Grubber Sgt Kewley Sgt McKenzie Sgt Talip MCpl Davies MCpl Edmond

MCpl Marshall MCpl Moceton Velasquez MCpl Phills MCpl Senff MCpl Tellier-Normand Cpl Aberle Cpl Addison Cpl Amoroso Cpl Barkley Cpl Beards Cpl Byers Cpl Carter Cpl Craig Cpl Dykhuizen Cpl Eckert Cpl English Cpl Fordham Cpl Gibson Cpl Gratto Cpl Harding Cpl Headrick Cpl Janzen-White Cpl Kuypers Cpl LaFleur Cpl Li Cpl Losier Cpl Lutz Cpl Marcelli Cpl Mayer Cpl McBroom Cpl Panzica Cpl Plamandon Cpl Parsons Cpl Raynor-Thomas Cpl Redcalf Cpl Solberg-Wells

Cpl Sylvester Cpl Taylor Cpl Van Lune Cpl Wall Cpl Weekes Cpl Westecott Tpr(T) Barton Tpr(T) Campbell Tpr(T) Deslauriers Tpr(T) Dingman Tpr(T) Erickson Tpr(T) Finch Tpr(T) Friesen Tpr(T) Geronimo Tpr(T) Guilderson Tpr(T) Henderson Tpr(T) Hlushko Tpr(T) Hoveland Tpr(T) Jackson Tpr(T) Jevne Tpr(T) McLean Tpr(T) McLeod Tpr(T) Nobes Tpr(T) Nzeyimana Tpr(T) Palfrey Tpr(T) Penman Tpr(T) Petherick Tpr(T) Rodrigues De Carvalho Tpr(T) Smith Tpr(T) Swan Tpr(T) Vienneau Tpr(T) Wing Tpr(T) Zack



Regimental Roll

Colonel-in-Chief His Majesty King Charles III

Colonel-of-the-Regiment BGen (Ret'd) Hilton

Commanding Officer LCol Mallette

Regimental Second-in-Command

Maj Selberg

Regimental Sergeant Major

CWO Englehart

Adjutant Capt Clubine

Commanding Officer's Secretary

Kathy Batty

Regimental Headquarters

Command/Operations Cell

Capt Simpson Lt Okada Lt Vickars Lt Loun Lt Kwok MWO McDougall WO Hodgson Sgt McQueen MCpl Munro MCpl Ned Cpl Friel Cpl Gillis Cpl Sylvester Cpl Vivian Cpl Solverson Cpl Clarke Cpl Durrant

Regimental Orderly Room

WO Coupal PO2 Smallwood MCpl Cooper MCpl Pickles MCpl Thompson Cpl deRuiter Cpl Eckert Cpl Eckert Cpl Paes Cpl Saeed Cpl Worden Cpl Vahey Cpl Sutherland Cpl Solomon

Signals Troop

Capt Mercer WO MacDonald Sgt Scott MCpl Liebe Cpl Crozier Cpl Diaz Gonzalez Shapiro Cpl Kimmel Cpl Smith Cpl St. Laurent Cpl Tanner

Training Cell

Capt Delaney WO Bell Sgt Meaney Cpl Blair

Intelligence Cell

Capt Ku Cpl Andrews Cpl Beauparlant Cpl Finkle

60 Troop

Capt Bouvier WO Jesse Cpl Addison Cpl Steele A Squadron Officer Commanding

Operations Officer

Capt Forestell

Maj Lee

Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO Vigar

SHQ

Capt Danyi Lt Underwood Sgt Weir Sgt Young MCpl Marshall Cpl Westecott Cpl Headrick Cpl Barkley Cpl Losier Cpl Losielle

1st Troop

Capt Shki-Giizis Sgt Bolzan Sgt Stevenson MCpl Armstrong MCpl Moceton Velasquez Cpl Weekes Cpl Buell Cpl Marcelli Cpl Brown Cpl Lutz Cpl Graystone Cpl Aberle Cpl Lockhart Cpl Fitzpatrick Cpl Gibson Cpl Smith

2nd Troop

Capt German MCpl Stender MCpl Snowden Cpl Bakos Tpr Nelson

3rd Troop

Lt Haddow

Admin Troop

Lt Misner WO Davidson MCpl Frew MCpl Rourke Cpl Redcalf Cpl Janzen-White Cpl Bebee Cpl Wysocki Tpr Occleston Tpr Nixon Tpr Kojori Tpr Shortt Tpr Mendoza Tpr McLeod Tpr Hunter Tpr Young Tpr March Tpr Smith Tpr Sterritt Tpr Jevne Tpr McLeod Tpr Buchanan Tpr Paha Sapa Tpr Rathwell Tpr Thiessen Tpr Sellman Tpr Sutcliffe Tpr Herron-Sampson **Tpr Gibbons** Tpr Sugarman Tpr Avison **Tpr Pasternak**

B Squadron

Officer Commanding

Maj Shumka

Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO Hamilton

SHQ

Capt Hume Capt Coxhead Sgt Gross MCpl McKenzie Cpl Vu Cpl Maisonneuve Cpl Oliverio Cpl Purc Cpl McBroom Cpl Munger Cpl Marco Cpl Knutsson Tpr Leblanc

1st Troop

Capt Hmaidan Sgt Talty MCpl Vanthournout MCpl New Cpl Gedge Cpl Hammel Cpl Trenholm Cpl Van Lune Cpl Crackle-Skulason Cpl Vitone Mossman Cpl Clauson Cpl Parker Cpl Wilson Tpr Lanouette Tpr Gamman **Tpr Parsons**

2nd Troop

Lt Carroll WO Collier Sgt Grubber MCpl Pecarskie MCpl Martin Cpl Guignard Cpl Mancini Cpl Andrade-Meza Cpl Erickson Cpl Brown Cpl Spence Cpl Park Cpl Penman Tpr Miller Tpr Semwal Tpr MacCrimmon

3rd Troop

Lt McBride WO Crowe Sgt Goodwin MCpl Rawson Cpl Finch Cpl Taylor Cpl Breustedt Cpl McGee Cpl Mcdonald Cpl Rodrigues De Carvalho Cpl Cameron Tpr Janke Tpr Januszewski Tpr Ellis-Hopewell Tpr Forster **Tpr Warburton**

Admin Troop

Lt Ahenakew MWO Hamilton WO Kentfield Sgt Nancarrow MCpl Steinke MCpl Allard Cpl Kuypers Cpl MacNeill Cpl Maddison Cpl Morgan Cpl Williamson Cpl Lafond Cpl Rice Cpl Lee Cpl Steeves Cpl Lopez Tpr Sadler Tpr Jardon Fata Tpr West Tpr Andres Tpr Alegro Tpr Banavage Tpr Bergen Tpr Bryson Tpr Frantz Tpr Kaufman Tpr Desaulniers

D Squadron

Officer Commanding

Maj Vahal

Sqaudron Sergeant Major

WO Murdoch

SHQ

Capt Mansour Capt Colquhoun Capt Schofield Lt Tompsett WO Romkey Sgt McNeill MCpl Fulljames Cpl Allman Cpl Thomas Tpr Kim Tpr Siemens

1st Troop

Lt Braszak WO McKenzie MCpl Houde MCpl Landry Cpl Dickens Tpr Wing Tpr Williamson Tpr Guilderson Tpr Sexsmith Tpr Dockery Tpr Bezanson Tpr Webster Varughese Tpr Braun

2nd Troop

Lt Johnson Sgt McNair Sgt Hayes MCpl George MCpl St-Onge Cpl Miguel Cpl Villiers Cpl Currie Cpl Bailey Tpr McIntyre Tpr de Boer Tpr Grillone Tpr Kataquapit Tpr Kelcey Tpr Chudy Tpr Auvigne Tpr LaRose

4th Troop

WO Balfour MCpl Reymers Cpl Solberg-Wells Cpl Crouse Cpl Long Cpl Plamondon Cpl Jackson Cpl Young Cpl Ross Cpl McIntosh Cpl Engelbrecht Cpl Briggs

Admin Troop

Capt Berube Sgt Sherlock-Hubbard MCpl Schemenauer **MCpl Price** MCpl Grewal Cpl Ferraro Cpl Kalf Cpl Henderson Cpl Melnyk Cpl Reynolds-Tack Tpr Arndt-Whitfield Tpr Covacci Tpr Deagnon **Tpr Dingman** Tpr Henderson Tpr Murphy Tpr Nixdorf Tpr Ruiz Tpr Savard

HQ Squadron

Officer Commanding

Maj Elliott

Squadron Sergeant Major

MWO Clarke

SHQ

Capt Peterson Capt Bennie Capt Bond Capt Uusoue WO Mcloughlin Sgt Wright Sgt Andrews Cpl Hogan Cpl Kelly Cpl Jones Cpl Williston Cpl Rutledge

SQMS

WO Murphy MCpl Stephenson Cpl Tong

Transport Troop

2Lt Snetzko WO Williams Sgt Keefe Sgt McKenzie **MCpl Hamilton** MCpl Evers MCpl Fettes MCpl Kimmell Cpl Fordham Cpl Amoroso Cpl Edgson Cpl Charron Cpl Dykhuizen Cpl Harding Cpl Kentfield Cpl Rayment Cpl Shulba Cpl Houston Cpl Howes Cpl Lang Cpl Cyr

Maintenance Troop

Capt Gélinas MWO Hughes WO Denvir WO Montreuil Sgt Lussier Sgt Giberson Sgt Gaudet Sgt Gaudet Sgt Broadfoot Sgt Cross

MCpl Micyk MCpl Parnell MCpl Brousseau MCpl Ottevanger MCpl Wiggan MCpl McGuire MCpl Hamilton MCpl Bishop MCpl Buaga MCpl Palmateer MCpl Boyd MCpl Bedard MCpl Laurin MCpl Wilson MCpl Stere MCpl Lapid MCpl Mitanis MCpl Borne MCpl Moore MCpl Page Cpl Pilotte Cpl Wall Cpl Yoo Cpl Parratt **Cpl Purkiss** Cpl Godin Cpl Kozack Cpl Savard Cpl Panzica Cpl Cantwell Cpl Smith Cpl Geoffrion Cpl Choquette Cpl Raynor-Thomas **Cpl** Poitras Cpl Beards Cpl Chaine Cpl Allen Cpl Riley Cpl Irving Cpl Rutko Cpl Kleemaier Cpl Lamarre Cpl Caluori Cpl Walker Cpl Burke Cpl Lee-Savoury Cpl McNeil Cpl Scott Cpl Fujita Cpl Dulong Tpr Wiest Tpr Hoveland **Tpr Friesen Tpr Palfrey** Tpr McLean Tpr Tikkanen **Tpr Forget**

Quartermaster Troop

Capt Lacroix MWO Holmes WO Butler Sgt Dempster Sgt Lafleur MCpl Cicek MCpl MacKenzie Cpl Olaes Cpl Nantais **Cpl** Savaris Cpl Lepage Cpl Duchesne Cpl Perry Cpl Robinson Cpl Cruickshank Cpl Chapman Cpl Milwain Cpl McGowan Cpl Sullivan Cpl Demeulenaere III Cpl Luhuang

Regimental Cooks

PO 2 Vivona MCpl Trudel MCpl Ogden Cpl Steele Cpl Dinh Tpr Petherick

Ceremonial Mounted Troop

Capt Clare Sgt Kruhlak MCpl Dobson Cpl Gillies-Smith Cpl Li Cpl Taylor Cpl Reiter Cpl Hodgins Cpl Goralchuk Cpl Farrell Cpl Cocker Cpl Byers Cpl Brown Cpl Blanco Cpl Barrett Cpl Morin Cpl LaFleur Cpl English Cpl Gauthier **Cpl** Elliot Cpl Salvador Cpl Senff Cpl Ford Cpl Annaert-van der Werf Tpr Bériau Landry Tpr Duncan

Regimental Accounts

Lt Dorjee 2Lt Lauterbacher MCpl Paquette Cpl Frizzell Cpl Genge Cpl Parsons Cpl Maendel

Family Support Troop

Capt Deutschmann

Regimental Stables

Cpl Clendennin

Regimental Museum

Capt Webster Sgt Giberson

Deployed Personnel

Op CALUMET

Sgt Adby MCpl Williams Cpl Burton Cpl Harris Cpl Morris Cpl Wesley

Op IMPACT

Capt MacLean MWO Gratto Cpl Smith

Op REASSURANCE

Capt Hoffart Capt Veale Lt Koolman MWO Biru WO Churchill MCpl Braconnier MCpl Foster MCpl Gravriel MCpl Snelgrove Cpl Barry Cpl Bosa Cpl Chauhan Cpl Cox Cpl Duke Cpl Hall Cpl Jones Cpl Laperriere Cpl MacQuarrie Cpl Maw Cpl Mutia Cpl Poole Cpl Wesloski Cpl Wright Tpr Johnson Tpr Maher

Op UNIFIER

Capt Uppal Cpl Corlay-Savard Cpl Heath Cpl Miller Cpl Samuel Cpl To Cpl Van Dijk Cpl Wharton Cpl Wittman Tpr Baclayo Tpr Becklund Tpr Otolorin

MCpl "Gunny" Grewal enjoying the view during Ex STEELE ADVENTURE at Rocky Mountain Cadet Camp





Cpl Marcus Skafar and Cpl Connor Cantwell run a gauging device to determine serviceability of a 25mm Bushmaster.

Squadron Articles



Cpl Fitzpatrick conducts track maintenance during Ex STEELE BULLSEYE.

Strathcona members enjoying their view from the top of the "short" hike during Ex STEELE ADVENTURE



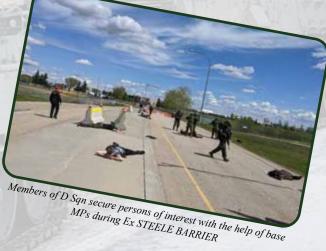
3rd Troop celebrates Cpl Gibson's birthday during Ex STEELE BULLSEYE.

LdSH(RC) ARV Hornburg assists 1 CER with the movement of an AEV at the FME Bldg.



Cpl Jordan Riley mentors Pte Aaron Hoveland during a LAV 6 brake drum swap.







Capt Gelinas leads Maint Troop in the wrong direction during EX STEELE ADVENTURE.



Cpl Alexander Eckert displays his enthusiasm to help members with their personal admin



WO Davidson presents A Sqn SSM, MWO Eady, with his goodbye present upon posting.



Regimental Headquarters

Lieutenant Woesal Dorjee

Regimental Headquarters (RHQ) has to be one of the most diverse squadrons of the Regiment in terms of trades, disciplines, and even branches. RHQ encompasses the Command Team, Training Cell, Operations Cell, Regimental Orderly Room (ROR), and Intelligence Cell; all of which work tirelessly to ensure all squadrons and operations are supported. During the year 2022, RHQ kept itself busy planning, coordinating, and participating in several exercises, operations, & events. This year RHQ was also met with various changes such as the Change of Appointment of the Regimental Sergeant Major, and the decision to send new troopers solely to RHQ.

During the early stages of the year, RHQ found itself busy with the facilitation of overseas deployments. As Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) entered its deployment phase, many members of the Regiment found themselves tasked as a part of various overseas operations such as Op IMPACT, Op UNIFIER, and Op REASSURANCE. LdSH(RC) was called upon to be the lead



Soldiers from RHQ practice their skills on the Small Arms Trainer.

mounting unit for Op IMPACT Rotation 7, becoming the operation where the majority of our overseas members were deployed to. For these deployments, it was crucial for the Command Team, Operations Cell, and the ROR to work effectively. From the planning and organisation of these deployments to ensuring all members had valid passports, RHQ worked at full efficiency to ensure each member had what they needed before deploying.

This year included a Change of Appointment Parade, seeing **CWO Robert Englehart's** appointment to RSM from **CWO** (now Capt) **Kevin King.** Though he will be missed, it appears that **Capt King** is enjoying his time as an officer at Division Headquarters. As for **CWO Englehart**, it seems that he was quickly able to gain the favour of members of all ranks, officers and non-commissioned members alike.

Another major change was the decision to send all new troopers to RHQ. This decision provided these new soldiers of the Regiment the opportunity to be exposed to the work of more senior soldiers. This exposure has also provided the troopers with the ability to receive guidance and counsel of these senior soldiers.



The lady, the myth, the legend – LdSH(RC)'s Chief Clerk, **WO Sue** "PT gear is my uniform" **Coupal** "out of dress" in CADPAT; still smiling despite her and the ROR team having to rebook 85 soldiers civilian airline tickets to deploy to Kuwait at the last minute.

During the fall, a portion of the Regiment took part in Ex VIGILANT RAM, which involved the use of the Joint Conflict and Tactical Simulation (JCATS) software program for the practice of higher-level tactics. RHQ played a major role in the facilitation of Ex VIGILANT RAM. The Regimental Operations Officer, Capt Mike Forestell, was the Executive Event Director, also taking on the role of the Operations and Command team for the simulations. Not only did he provide the friendly scheme of manoeuvre, but was also the mastermind behind the movements and tactics of the simulated opposition force. RHQ also took part in Ex VIRTUAL STEELE, where the Plans Officer, Lt Erin "Sunshine" Okada,

represented the squadron by acting as the exercise's fun police. Her duties included but were not limited to removing invisible T-72s, forcing drivers to remain in first person, and begging the opposition force to stop dropping endless waves of artillery on everyone. All in all, the planning and facilitation of Ex VIRTUAL STEELE was a success due to the hard work of both the Command Team and Operations Cell.

Contrary to popular belief, RHQ does much more than the planning and organization of both training and operations. Under the lead of **WO Susan** "*God's gift to the ROR*" **Coupal**, the ROR spearheaded a covert operation to aid every Strathcona with any residual administrative issues from any point in their career. Though it is often not publicized, the ROR worked relentlessly throughout



Capt Steve "Scuba Steve" Chou sending a report from a Bison CP during Ex STEELE BULLSEYE.

the year to ensure every member of the Regiment was educated on their personal admin and pay, and to ensure the rectification of any admin problems of the past, no matter how much work this made them. As for the Signals Troop, this year they had to bid farewell to **Capt Steve** "*Scuba Steve*" **Chou** and welcome their new Signals Officer (Sig O), **Capt Liam** "*Swole*" **Mercer.** As sad as it



LdSH(RC) bids farewell to Chalk 1 of Op IMPACT after coordinating months of pre-deployment training and preparation.

was to say goodbye to the previous glorious Sig O, **Capt Mercer** seems to have adopted the Strathcona identity fairly quickly, booing all non-Strathconas who win any draw at the officer's mess. In terms of our Intelligence Cell, there was a lack of an Intelligence Officer (Int O) for quite some time. **Capt John Ku** had been deployed on Op IMPACT, leaving the Intelligence Cell at the hands of **Cpl Cameron Andrews** and **Cpl Shellby Finkle**. The two took on this task with no issues at all, performing at full capacity to get the Regiment the intelligence support it required.

All in all, RHQ found themselves occupied this year with the planning, organisation, and facilitation of Exercises, Operations, and Events. All members of the team worked to the best of their ability to ensure all other squadrons were supported throughout the year. Though experiencing big changes, RHQ continues to act as the efficient and effective machine it has always had to be.



RHQ during the Holiday Parade practice.



A Squadron (Prince of Wales)

Captain Brittney Shki-Giizis

Due to an outbreak of the COVID-19 Omicron variant, A Sqn began the year working from home. This was no new thing to the Squadron, and the troops readily dove back into Microsoft Teams PD meetings and PT at home. Not everyone was working from home however; the Direct Fire Instructor in Gunnery course still had to run, so students and instructors alike came in daily to a very quiet Regiment. Fortunately, the course ran smoothly with no COVID outbreaks.

Capt Philip "Sports O" **German** was the Regiment's yearly sacrifice to the school in Wainwright, abandoning the Squadron in January to teach PLQ and qualify the next generation of MCpls. Upon his return, he was immediately set to investigating the Regimental mystery of the 54 missing ballistic plates. The



Cpl Graystone posing with an idler on Range 16.

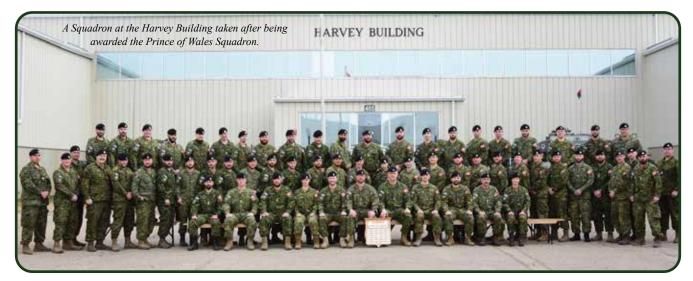
mystery remains unsolved to this day.

Work from home eventually came to an end and A Sqn Battle Captain,



Cpl Marcelli, Cpl Fitzpatrick, Cpl McIntosh, and Cpl Headrick relaxing during Adventure Training.

Lt Tom "Did you read the Annex?" Underwood, began preparations for Ex STEELE BULLSEYE months ahead of time. He produced an exceptionally detailed OPORD that was really only used as a rough guideline once he left the Ex for ATOC. Sgt Liam Talty took up the reins as Ops WO and BC in his absence, ensuring we were able to send a full 8 tanks to Wainwright, even though only 5 of them worked initially on the ground. Nonetheless, the tireless efforts of Sgt Marc Lussier and his maintenance team ensured we had enough tanks up and running for each shoot.







Cpl Westecott and **MCpl Armstrong** taking selfies during a routine weekly road move to keep the A Sqn tanks running smoothly.

A Sqn SGWO, **WO Colin** "Please update my information to read FPO/SGWO/Senior Instructor/Course WO/Troop WO" **Davidson**, had planned for the first two range days to be dedicated solely to boresighting and zeroing, allowing the tanks to be properly prepared for the first time in recent memory. The Level 2 range ran without any issues, preparing the shooters moving on to Level 3 and qualifying a whopping 3 students on the Crew Commander Gunnery Upgrade course.

With a relaxed environment and a large overabundance of 120 ammunition, Ex STEELE BULLSEYE was largely said to be the best exercise A Sqn had seen in a very long time.

The next few months saw a focus on Squadron level training, in which **Capt Brittney** "*Eternal Troop Leader*" **Shki-Giizis** held a Squadron Gunnery SIM Competition, challenging crews to face off against each other for the prize of a Tim Horton's gift card. **Sgt Jeff Stevenson** and his crew took the gold with their impeccable drills and lightning quick engagements, but the real prize was the training value everyone received along the way.

Leading into the summer season, the Squadron participated in

Ex STEELE ADVENTURE, where troops were able to hike, bike, or canoe as they desired, and many beers were had. Unfortunately, there was one casualty, as **Cpl Jordan** "*Apple Fritter*" **Gibson** broke a leg while hiking. The rest of the summer leading into Summer Leave included more Squadron-level activities and training, allowing everyone to have a bit of a break from large scale exercises and the usual breakneck pace of the Regiment.

Post-Summer Leave, A Sqn launched into a PCF Cycle, running a LAV 6 D&M course, qualifying 5 students. **MCpl Kelton** "*C/S Broken LAV*" **Watson** came back from Ft Sally Horse just to help teach the course. The Squadron then moved into a small arms focus with Ex STEELE CARBINE, re-qualifying everyone on their yearly IBTS. In typical Strathcona fashion, ranges were overlapped with each other as well as Ex VIRTUAL RAM, taxing everyone's ability to hit all IBTS requirements. Many make-up ranges had to be run in October to catch everyone who was double tasked. In the end it all worked out, with very minimal outliers who would have to be caught up at a later date.

October led into Ex STEELE VIRTUAL, a kick at virtual Level 3. Although this was a B Sqn exercise, A Sqn troops were rotated through positions in 4th Troop and given a chance to get some virtual advance to contact and delay experience. **Cpl Stanislao** *"I have over 2000 hours in ARMA"* **Marcelli** was the

SME for the system, ensuring everyone knew how to play the game so they could get properly immersed in the trace. Additionally, as B Sqn Acting OC **Capt Tom Hume** fell ill on the first day, A Sqn had to take the reins as OC for the Exercise. Between **Capt Sean Danyi** and 2-3 subbies, we held in there and led B Sqn (and 4th Troop) to great success.

The remainder of the fall leading up to Winter Break was dedicated to tank maintenance, focusing on getting the Leopard 2A4Ms ready to potentially deploy to Latvia, alongside the usual late fall and winter activities such as Black Hat and Silly Week. All in all, A Sqn had an eventful but very manageable year, and the reduced pace in largescale activities provided just the break needed to get back into the battle in the new year.



Capt Bouvier and Lt German seated in the A Sqn conference room for the weekly Squadron Coord.

B Squadron "It will be a slow year"

Captain Ziad Hmaidan

2022 kicked off in familiar fashion to the year prior with work from home returning due to the outbreak of the Omicron variant of COVID-19. This saw the majority of the Squadron, if not tasked on the Direct Fire Instructor Gunnery (DFIG) course, revert back to conducting Troop level professional development at home and checking in via Microsoft Teams/Signal. Depending on who you ask, this was received with open arms as a welcome change in tempo from the hectic conclusion of the year prior.

24

Work from home eventually came to an end in early February which saw the Squadron's leadership take part in virtual Ex UNIFIED RESOLVE. B Sqn was well represented throughout and operated effectively. Meanwhile B Sqn's Winter Warfare refresher, Ex STEELE SNOWBALL, was finalised and executed. This saw 15 new Troopers to B Sqn gain experience operating in a cold weather environment while also refreshing their navigation and basic soldier skills.



Lt Ahenakew and MCpl New spend some quality time in the Leo 2 cut-out trainer.

Come March leading into May, the Squadron's priority shifted towards the planning and execution of pre-deployment training for Op IMPACT. B Sqn executed ranges for the C7/C8, 9mm, and gas hut concurrently while working in collaboration with their A Sqn counterparts. Luckily for the range staff, the weather had started to take a turn for the better at the time, which is unheard of. Meanwhile, Lt Ekam *"Ferda"* Uppal and WO Aaron *"Sweet operator"* Hodgin leading Third Troop: *"The Dogs of War,"* crushed their Level 3 live shoot on A Sqn's Ex STEELE BULLSEYE in Wainwright.

June rolled by and kicked off on a high as the Squadron party at Beercade was a major success. This also saw the yearly shift in leadership with **Maj Gordon Elliott** deploying on Op IMPACT and **Maj Matthew** "Does this guy even work here?" **Shumka** coming in as the new Officer Commanding B Sqn. **WO Bryson** "Euchre" **Murphy** handed the Squadron Sergeant Major torch over to **MWO James** "Drive the body" **Hamilton.** The Squadron also welcomed its new Battle Captain, **Capt Thomas** "I can beat you all up at once" **Hume,** much to the joy of **Capt Sean** "All the hats" **Danyi,** who moved over to



Maj Matt Shumka and WO Tremblay (12 RBC) photo bomb Capt Harry Delaney's brief to CO 12 RBC.

A Sqn along with their Operations Warrant Officer, **Sgt Dave** "Just Dave Young" **Young.** At the Troop level, now **Capts, Charles** "SKYAA!" **Coxhead** and **Ekam** "OG no knee" **Uppal** deployed on Op IMPACT and Op UNIFIER respectively and **Capt Charles** "Chuck" **Bennie** moved on to become Headquarters Squadron's Administration Officer.

Former B Sqn Administration Officer Capt Ziad "Max El" Hmaidan, Lt Timothy "Stuck in the driving circuit" Carroll, and Lt Jeremy "Mr. Clean" McBride took over as Troop Leaders for First, Second, and Third Troops. Lt Leah "[Insert expletives here]" Ahenakew conveniently decided to arrive as B Sqn's new Administration Officer just after all PERs were finalised and submitted. The Squadron also said goodbye to WOs Curtis "Is this place a prison?"





Members of B Sqn packing up kit for Ex STEELE LANCE.

Romkey, Andrew "This place IS a prison" Burris, and Aaron "Baby face assassin" Hodgin and welcomed back WO Matthew "Coveralls tank barn" Collier to the Regiment. WO Kevin "Always fired up" Crowe vacated their position as the Squadron's Operations Warrant Officer and took over as Third Troop's Warrant Officer while Sgt Liam "Salty" Talty slotted in as First Troop's Warrant Officer.

MWO James *"To the River Valley!"* **Hamilton** hit the ground running... literally. Sally became a regular feature in B Sqn, visiting on an almost weekly basis. **Cpls Brenden Maisonneuve**, **Samuel** *"Cleanest man in NATO"* **Marco**, and **Fabian** *"River dog"* **Andrade-Meza** gained all the respect by consistently besting the dreaded push-up challenge week in and week out.

As the ground thawed and summer finally arrived, the Squadron headed over to Ghost Lake in order to take part in Ex STEELE ADVENTURE for the first time in years, as the pandemic had

put a halt to all non-essential training/activities. The Troops took full advantage of the gorgeous weather and embarked on hikes, biking trails, canoeing, and ATV-ing for a lucky qualified few. This provided the perfect opportunity for the Troops and Leadership to mingle over a "couple" of beers and say goodbye to those moving on to their next bound.

The Squadron then shifted its focus towards deploying to Calgary to take part in the annual Calgary Stampede and Spruce Meadows. The Squadron bolstered the Regiment and CAF's image by upholding the highest standards of dress and deportment. This also saw one of the most brazen assassination attempts in history take place as Lt Ekam *"This guy's chest is huge"* Uppal's DEU button exploded and nearly took out the Chief of Defence Staff. The usual post-Stampede shenanigans followed as the Strathconas took over Calgary. Tpr Benjamin *"You should see the other guy"* MacCrimmon returned with a gnarly black eye to commemorate the event as he and Cpl Tyler *"Absolute unit"* Guignard sorted out some dummies who attempted to find out. Another successful Stampede and Spruce Meadows in the history books.

Post summer block leave, the tempo ramped up with B Sqn's PCFs taking prevalence. The Squadron was split between the Edmonton and Wainwright training areas. Under the watchful eyes of **Capt Tom** *"Fisticuffs"* **Hume** and **Sgt Andrew** *"BV-206"* **Goodwin** the ranges went off without a hitch. Some soldiers had the opportunity to fire the Carl Gustav Recoilless Rifle live while out there, which made the training that much more memorable.

October ushered in arguably the Regiment's biggest ever win... MASKS WERE NO LONGER MANDATORY! With this morale boost, the Squadron's focus shifted towards Ex STEELE VIRTUAL. B Sqn's leadership was meant to spearhead the Ex but was unfortunately plagued with illness. As is the Strathcona way, the Squadron improvised, adapted, and overcame in collaboration with augmenters from A Sqn. Contrary to A Sqn's slanderous claims, B Sqn pulled through and they led the participants in the Ex to great success.



Cpls Guignard and **Taylor** ensuring gunnery excellence in the simulators.

As the fall gave way to winter, the Squadron shifted its focus on to tank maintenance and Troop training. All of the Regiment's Leopard 2 A4s were consolidated and signed over in preparation for the PCFs in the New Year and Ex MAPLE RESOLVE 23. The usual end of year Black Hat week, Silly week and the Soldier's Appreciation Dinner followed suit ushering in an end to a so-called "low tempo" year.



D Squadron Lieutenant Patrick Braszak

2022 was a busy year for all Strathconas. While many deployed on numerous operations around the world, those Strathconas remaining in Edmonton were busy planning and executing all necessary annual training and PCF cycles. Standing up a Base Auxiliary Security Force (BASF), embarking on adventure training in the Canadian Rockies, and successfully completing a week-long virtual exercise focused on Troopand Crew-level skills were just a few examples where the Regiment combined training with fun. A busy year indeed, but in typical Strathcona style all persevered.

The first event of note occurred in the spring of 2022, when the Strathconas provided two Platoon-sized sub-units to work alongside base



Members of 43 send a virtual "high five" to their troop leader before departing the hide during Ex VIRTUAL STEELE

MPs as a part of the BASF. Starting in early May, Strathconas selected from multiple Squadrons came together for focused training, including Vehicle Checkpoints (VCPs) and personnel/vehicle searches, with demo staff provided by 1 CER and 1 MP regiments.

BASF training concluded with Ex STEELE BARRIER, which took place from 23-30 May 2022. For this exercise, the first BASF Platoon took control of 3 CDSB Edmonton's North gate, establishing security and search zones, conducting ID checks, and searching vehicles as well as personnel. Soldiers of D Sqn, operated as OPFOR, led by **Sgt Kyle Nieuwhof**, who planned the scenarios, and **MCpl Matt** *"Metyu Belivov"* **Belliveau**, who acted as the main person of interest. Using ATVs and POMVs to blend in with normal base traffic, D Sqn's personnel spent two days testing BASF's checkpoint. The OPFOR started small by trying to sneak through the checkpoint, before escalating their tactics by launching small, disorganized protests and small arms attacks and finally culminating with a large-scale organized protest, led by *Metyu Belivov* himself. Shortly after the exercise, the Strathconas said farewell to **MCpl Belliveau**, who left to begin a new journey as an Intelligence Officer. Suspicious? We will let you decide.

Next, D Sqn conducted the first adventure training exercise in years. Aptly named Ex STEELE ADVENTURE, soldiers travelled to the Rocky Mountain Cadet camp from 6 to 8 June. Located southeast of Banff, the accommodations proved a pleasant surprise, as they were significantly nicer



Cpl David Sherwood and friends taking a break at a river "crossing" during Ex STEELE ADVENTURE.





Tpr Henderson prepares a grenade after dismounting from his burning vehicle during *Ex VIRTUAL STEELE.*

than what armoured soldiers are normally accustomed to. The conditions were not without their hardships, however, as the troops were forced to make their way to the tops of the many surrounding high features if they wanted cellular service. The adventure training itself consisted of various daytime outdoors activities, such as mountain biking, hiking, canoeing, and driving ATVs. Soldiers were given the freedom to pick which activities they wanted to participate in each day, and were treated to beer and D Sqn signature "Dirty Dogs" each evening.

Ex STEELE ADVENTURE provided D Sqn an opportunity to unwind after a winter of hard work and PCF Cycles. The weather cooperated for the first day of hiking, mountain biking and canoeing, but an abundance of rain and mud welcomed the troops to the second day, adding a new challenge for those on ATVs, two feet or two wheels. Even adventure training could not escape the old adage, "it isn't training if it isn't raining."

The final major Ex of the year, Ex STEELE VIRTUAL, kicked off in mid-October. Due to heavily reduced manning, the exercise was limited in scope to just one week of joint VBS training led by B Sqn, with A and D Sqns attached. D Sqn was split into two troops, 42 and 43, with the former leading the way in TAPVs while the latter sat pretty in LAV 6s. Through

17 to 21 October, the VBS was utilised to execute simulated advances and delays at the Crew, Troop and Squadron levels, with an emphasis on the Crew and Troop levels.

Prior to the exercise, D Sqn Troopers and Corporals had created a large-scale map model and crew commanders conducted "rock drills" by creating and executing scenarios with small blocks in order to familiarize their crews with orders, vehicle and troop movements, and drills. Thanks to this preparation, D Sqn would be able to overcome some significant hurdles during the exercise. Some crews were led by unqualified crew commanders thanks to reduced manning. Additionally, most crews suffered non-stop communications issues, several got stuck on pixelated branches and shrubbery, and all were forced to contend with enemy vehicles that took up to three combat loads-worth of ammunition to destroy. Nevertheless, D Sqn defied the odds and excelled throughout the week.

The highlight of the exercise was the shining bravery of one Trooper, who managed to survive a virtual onslaught that eliminated every other soldier in 43 before dismounting their vehicle, calling an artillery strike on enemy positions and advancing towards an enemy Troop on foot while struggling through simulated injuries. Unfortunately, this fearless soldier failed to escape the fate of their colleagues when they dropped a frag grenade at their own feet while attempting to disable an enemy T72 main battle tank, thus ending the noble computergenerated story. After a riveting discussion of lessons learned throughout the week, the completion of this VBS training was marked by a clean-up of monitors, cables and tables at the LTF Drill Hall.

Overall, 2022 kept the Regiment on its toes and allowed the Squadrons to prove, even to themselves, that they could step up and get the work done, having a good time through the suck all while undermanned.



MCpl Belliveau and **Cpl Houston** take a minute to enjoy the view during Ex STEELE ADVENTURE.



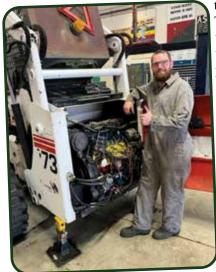
HQ Squadron

Master Corporal Kayle Palmateer



In what was supposed to be a year of "reconstitution", 2022 didn't provide us with a Brigade level exercise, yet it managed to deliver a heavy workload to Headquarters Squadron – Maintenance Troop. Guided by **Capt Frank** "*Pretty boy*" **Gelinas** and **MWO Shawn** "*Too big for his britches*" **Hughes**, the Command Team steered the Regiment's largest Troop (69 pers strong) through new challenges and obstacles. The sections worked tirelessly preparing Leopards, LAV 6s, TAPVs and a multitude of A & B Fleet platforms for upcoming taskings, IRU preparedness, and possible deployment.

With the possibility of deploying tanks, the Leo maintenance sections at the FME Building kicked into overdrive. The A4Ms were brought up to operational status as quickly as possible for an ever moving deadline. Chassis started the year off with all Armoured Recovery Vehicles (ARVs) grounded for F4 or F5 inspections. This task was originally to be completed with Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) support but ended up being added to the normal workload of the technicians. The preventative maintenance required during these high level F inspections included removing the ARV boom and overhauling the hydraulic systems. **Sgt Paul Cross** and his "*Henchman*" **MCpl P.O. Borne** oversaw



the fine details and technical repairs being done for the first time. Turret took on a new role, performing upgrades and modifications; work that would normally be completed by second or third line workshops. Retrofitting the A4Ms with new barrels and ancillary parts, in order to prepare for the CAF's plans. The entire process required a teardown of the turret internals and demanded constant communication and coordination. **Sgt Marc** "*The proctologist*" **Lussier**, various LCMMs, and several levels of Supply had constant back and forth to properly install and record the upgrades. Achieving the Army's end state was no small feat and called for teamwork and cohesion between EO, Weapons Techs and the supporting Armoured Crews.

With the needs of the Regiment to train and have members qualified, the push for TAPVs and LAV 6s were the main effort of the A Fleet shop. During the constant flux of the contract for parts, the technicians were able to band-aid the necessary vehicles together and support the PCF cycle. The deployment of TAPVs

MCpl Darren Page looks forward to resurrecting the Bobcat.

and LAV 6s for Ex STEEL CARBINE came with some ups and downs. The need to repair a LAV 6 brake system while on the firing line was completed with precision by **Cpl Jordan** "*The blue-haired tech*" **Riley**. With the slowing of parts for the TAPV Fleet, **Sgt Barry** "*Don't ask just go with it*" **Gaudet** was able to do his magic and have the required vehicles for the exercise.

B Fleet – the unsung hero, is always a need for the Regiment. Whether it be for driver courses, ranges, exercises, IRU or whatever pops up. Squadrons were able to complete their mandated courses and exercises because of the dedicated work from the B vehicle shop. With the need for members to be qualified platforms, **Sgt Rob** *"Hands in everything"* **Broadfoot** put together and instructed on multiple MACK courses with his extensive knowledge and being a stickler for details these courses have prepared members of the Regiment for any situation that may arise.

The most trade diverse section in Maint Troop; Non-Leo Ancillary focused on getting equipment ready for this year's gun camps and



Cpl Wesley Smith performs soldering repairs on a printed circuit board.

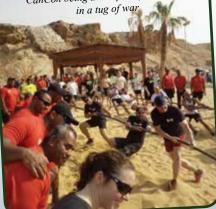
gunnery courses. The EO/Weapons team successfully maintained the TAPVs, LAV 6s, small arms and supported two Regimental gun camps. SPSS worked diligently to issue and receive all parts IOT support the Leopard push. Miraculously, they were able to source parts from across the country, and ensured timely acquisition, cutting down the average wait time from months into days (or even hours in many cases). The Mat Techs were stuck in the welding bay with a revolving door of Leopards requiring hulls to be repaired. LCIS showed true dedication. With a sudden change of plans requiring vehicles to depart on lowbeds first thing in the morning, the technicians arrived at zero dark stupid and went down the line of departing vehicles ensuring communications serviceability.

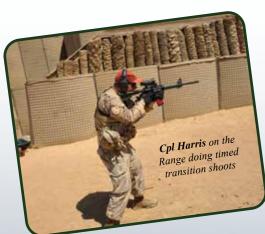
After such a hectic 2021, the Regiment recognized the hard work of the various Troops and was able to give back. Adventure training was organized for the Squadrons and groups of smiling faces departed 3 CDSB Edmonton by coach heading southwest into the foothills. Staging out of Rocky Mountain Cadet Camp, soldiers were able to enjoy the scenery by partaking in mountain biking, canoeing, hiking and riding ATVs. Evenings were filled with laughter, music and intense games of horseshoes, ladder golf and seeing who could rack up the highest chit. The most memorable experience by and large, was taking part in OC **Maj Dan** "*My daughter can do it easily*" **Gray's** hike. What was supposed to be a relaxing 3.5 - 4 hr hike with scenic vistas atop the ridgeline of Heart Mountain, quickly turned into a debilitating 10 hr affair. In the OC's defense, two of his esteemed officer colleagues, **Capt Frank** "*Who needs a map?*" **Gelinas** and **Lt Jeremy** "*Just the Maint O's secretary*" **McBride** led a party up the Mordor Pass causing onlookers to question how much adventure we were actually looking for. Needless to say we were forced by the terrain to double back and get on the proper trail. The hike took its casualties and will forever be remembered as the OC's "Death March".

Maint Troop members receive Brigade Commanders coin for outstanding efforts on LEO revitalization. Cpl Kevin Chaine, MCpl Matthew Bishop, Cpl Alex Godin, MCpl P.O. Borne, Mr. Kevin Loseth



Sgt Adby and other members of CanCon being destroyed by Team Fiji in a tug of war





Operations





Cpl Morris helping our local Elf prior to the Christmas Soap Box Race.





Lt Robert Haddow on patrol with USAF Security Forces.



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Operation CALUMET In the Service of Peace

Corporals Benjamin Harris, Thomas Morris, and Sergeant Rory Adby

Select soldiers from A Sqn and Headquarters Sqn were deployed for 9 months to the Sinai Desert in Egypt as part Task Force El Gorah, working with other members from all trades of the CAF. The Multinational Force & Observers (MFO) is a very diverse organization that has been in place for 42 years housing members from 12 other nations such as US, Fiji, Japan, Uruguay, Columbia, and a few of our Commonwealth counterparts to name a few.

Cpls Thomas Morris and **Benjamin Harris** were both employed as Raid Camera Operators. Their task was to watch 3 different camera sites observing vehicle movement reporting any suspicious activity that would breach the treaty of peace between Egypt and Israel, also having the opportunity to accompany the technicians that work on the remote/camera sites that are placed in multiple locations around the area that the MFO operates in. They both traveled to Cairo to complete a half marathon around the pyramids as well as competing in a weekly multinational ball hockey league.

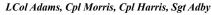


Cpl Harris showing off his wares from his trip to Germany

Sgt Rory Adby was employed as the Raid Camera IC, EA to the TFCDR, liaison Ops Sgt, and then finally moving to the Visits Office as the Visits Ops Sgt. There he coordinated air and ground movements for visiting VIPs such as Presidents, MODs, and Generals frequently tasking members of the Canadian contingent to help/assist with driving tasks, Sports/PT, and other extracurricular activities.

Mid-way through the deployment saw the arrival of **LCol Christopher Adams** as the new Deputy Commander of the Canadian Contingent and head of CJ7 Force Training Team on a year-long deployment. During low tempo days and holidays we had many opportunities to explore the town of Sharm El Sheikh visiting the markets spread across the city. There are many opportunities to engage in extracurricular activities such as going on duty tours to Cairo, Luxor, Israel, or competing in physical fitness, sports, and solider skills competitions against other contingents that are a part of the MFO.

It was truly an honor representing the regiment on this mission.





32



Operation IMPACT "Making an IMPACT in the MENA"

Lieutenant Rob Haddow

As the Lead Mounting Unit (LMU) for Op IMPACT, Strathconas were scattered across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region this year. Deploying as trainers and advisors during a Middle Eastern summer was a big change from mechanised warfare in Wainwright, but **Capt Cameron** "*I just want to sunbathe*" **Bond** set the example for adaptability.

Capt Alexandria Schofield with her NCO at the Jordanian Special Operations Training Centre.

Jordanian Special Operations Scattered across the Joint Operations Area (JOA), Strathconas formed the core of diverse teams. Surprise visits from Lt Adrian *"Ba'ath party tour guide"* Droogers

brought joy to Strathconas across Iraq and Capt Alex "Code of silence" Schofield's migration from Jordan to Kuwait completed an almost entirely Strathcona Ops team including Sgt Hugh Hayes and WO

Curtis "*Do these sunglasses match my head?*" **Romkey. Cpl Bryce Addison** demonstrated his horticultural prowess to the task force with only a pair of scissors.

The point of the spear with regards to Op IMPACT is Baghdad. This city is the focal point for developing training plans and advising the higher echelons of the Iraqi military and, at times, hosted up to 6 Strathconas. With the aforementioned **Lt Adrian Droogers** and **WO Stewart McLaughlin** as the two permanent residents, **Maj Gordon Elliot**, **Maj Bryce** "Acting employed" **Simpson**, and **Lt Robert Haddow** made frequent visits while conducting their duties. **Capt Kai** "Mr. Worldwide" **Keewatin** is still living a life of luxury, touring the region as the Task Force Commander's Executive Assistant.



Capt Kai Keewatin exploring a crashed Kuwaiti fighter.

In Jordan, the sustainment and logistics knowledge of **WO Bryson** "SQ" **Murphy** and **WO Mark** "Not SQ" **Bell** was greatly appreciated by the Jordanians. **Cpl Dan** "I love Mo" **Kentfield** maintained the team's facilities in Amman through close cooperation with the locals. **Sgt Sean Andrews** spent lots of time adapting to the unique Jordanian driving style. **WO Arthur McKenzie**



Sgt Gross, Cpl Spence, Cpl Munger and MCple Fettes, The CTAT Lebanon Team representing the Regiment.

helmed the team as the ever reliable Ops WO. **Capt John** "007" **Ku** got to live out all of his spy movie dreams, sharing intelligence with the Canadian embassy in Amman. The Training team in Lebanon stayed quite silent for most the deployment, with **Sgt Steven Gross** trying to talk his way into a Lebanese tank between bouts of Combat First Aid and Basic Winter Warfare instruction.

All in all, the Regiment spent the majority of 2022 promoting stability in the Middle East through training and mentorship. But all good things must come to an end and we're all glad to be back with our families enjoying the holiday season and the New Year.



Operation REASSURANCE

Captain Scott Veale

This year, it was with great pleasure that the Strathconas had the opportunity to deploy on Op REASSURANCE 22-02 NATO Enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) Battle Group (BG) in Latvia from May to December 2022. The lead mounting unit for the BG was 2nd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (2 PPCLI) under the command of **LCol Jesse van Eijk**. Stracthconas contributed by sending an Armoured Recce Pl as part of Combat Support (CS) Company and the S1, led by **Capt Mike** "Gross Michelle" **Uusoue**, within BG HQ. The Armoured Recce Pl was under the tutelage of **Capt Scott** "Still perma balaclava" **Veale** and **WO Wallace** "C/S Unicorn" **Churchill** that had the pleasure of commanding Strathcona soldiers, including a Reserve crew from the Saskatchewan Dragoons.



MCpl Braconnier, Cpl Barry, Capt Veale & Cpl Macquarrie, C/S 69 during BG level exercises.

The Strathconas hit the ground running to integrate quickly, not only with other Canadians within the BG, but with many nations. CS Company alone consisted of Canadian, Italian, Slovenian, Albanian, Spanish, Montenegrin, and North Macedonian soldiers, each providing a unique asset and skill set to the BG. The first opportunity for Strathconas to shine was during the BG ready week, where the Canadian Recce Pl was tasked with zeroing nearly 700 Canadian soldiers C7/8 Rifles over a three-day period. **MCpls Cole** "*Fozzy bear*" **Foster** and **Christopher** "*Grover*" **Snelgrove** made lasting impressions with their ability to coach and mentor soldiers during the zeroing process, ensuring that all soldiers were ready. Building relationships with other nations was certainly a priority and was taken to heart by **Tpr Seth** "*Bolt cutters*" **Wesloski** taking every opportunity to mingle with other nations soldiers and trade patches.

Progressing quickly though the RAMPART series of integrating exercises, Strathcona soldiers developed the capabilities alongside a dismounted Recon section from 2 PPCLI led by **Sgt Kevin Walker** that helped develop the Pl's ability to be just as effective dismounted as mounted. Becoming the Swiss Army knife of CS Company, the Pl effectively employed mounted, dismounted, and MUAS capabilities during the BG confirmatory Integrated Capstone Exercise (ICE), Ex SILVER ARROW 22-02. During Ex SILVER ARROW, MUAS capabilities played a pivotal role in providing early warning and affecting



Cpl Wesloski, MCpl Foster, Cpl Chauhan, Tpr Johnson C/S 60B after completing Canadian Army Run.

indirect fires. **MCpl Cole Foster** was incredibly dominant within their role as a MUAS Det Comd, providing information at the Bde level. Having successfully completed ICE, we moved on to an urban operations exercise dubbed Ex STEELE BREACH. The Strathconas and elements of 2 PPCLI Recon Section, with Snipers, ventured out of Latvia and into Estonia to learn new skills, build cohesion, and to have fun.

Having accomplished international integration with some of the best soldiers within NATO, it was time to transition from Roto 22-02 to 23-01. **Lt Izaak Koolman** takes over the reins and will continue to represent LdSH(RC) proudly into the new year as part of the 1 PPCLI eFP BG.



Operation UNIFIER

Captain Ekamjit Uppal

Op UNIFIER was launched in response to requests from the Government of Ukraine with the intention to help keep Ukraine free, sovereign, secure, and stable. Canada has deployed CAF soldiers to the United Kingdom to train Ukrainian civilians into soldiers as part of Op UNIFIER.

Shoot ... Move ... Communicate ... Medicate ...

These are the four principles guiding the training delivery program for Ukrainian recruits in the United Kingdom. Since August, the Strathconas, 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, 1 Combat Engineer Regiment, and 1 Field Ambulance, along with other supporting elements from across the CAF, have been working alongside the British Army to teach recruits from the Security Forces of Ukraine (SFU) basic soldiering skills. It has been quite the challenge, which is something Strathconas never shy away from, but an equally rewarding opportunity to take part in the transformation of ordinary citizens into combat ready soldiers.

Members from the Strathconas have been directly involved in the planning, coordination, and delivery of training under Op UNIFIER-UK. Although not employed in a traditional armoured capacity, soldiers from the Regiment have distinguished themselves as professional and reliable instructors in the training teams along with providing assistance in the headquarters. The integration among black hatters and ground pounders was a seamless one.

Jokes aside, this opportunity has provided members of the Regiment a chance to get out of their vehicles, *really* test their rain jackets, and get muddy in the trenches, while solidifying traditional dismounted skills along with teaching in an extremely challenging environment. Thrown into the mix of challenges was the added language barrier – which at the same time served as an opportunity to develop the skills required in order to work with interpreters. Although a challenge initially (and after clarifying that the interpreters were not for us to understand the Brits), soldiers from the Regiment quickly mastered this skill along with developing unique and resourceful methods of communicating with Ukrainian Recruits.

In summation, the deployment thus far has been one filled with challenges, opportunity, and *lots of rain*. Through the challenges posed by working with international partners, the demanding course tempo, and language barriers – all members have far exceeded expectations and have brought the Regiment great pride, often falling back on the Regimental motto – Perseverance.



Lt Uppal walking with the CDS, Gen Eyre.



Task Force South Sudan 19 United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Captain Shaun J. Rogozinski

Official Telephone Transcript from 22 Sep 22:

Ring Ring Ring

Rogo: "Hello, Shaun speaking."

CO: "Oh sorry, I got the wrong number. I am looking for Rogo."

Rogo: "Sir, this is Rogo!"

CO: "Oooooh right. How is South Sudan treating you? Still alive it sounds like?"

Rogo: "It's a great life, Sir. It has been a challenge and the United Nations is literally the most-"

CO: "Listen man, I will get to the chase. I need an article for the website. We are getting some serious heat from above... Can you do this for me?"



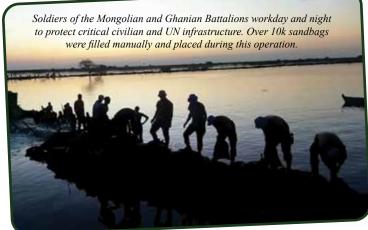
Military Staff Officers from Sector Unity Headquarters welcomes new members to the team. Together our headquarters represents 17 nations.

Rogo: "Consider it done boss. Hope you and the Regiment are doing well. Hey, while I have you on the line, do you know the results of the promo-"

CO: "Listen man, I have some urgent CO-ing stuff to do with people at a place very soon. Send it to **Kathy**. Watch out for the Mambas and take care."

Click

Greetings from the Republic of South Sudan. Full disclosure, I have no proof the above phone call ever actually occurred, but I guarantee there are hints of truth in it. All jokes aside, I would like to share with the Regimental Family this pretty unique experience that the Regiment has given me. For us Captain-types, a yearlong Canadian Joint Operations Command tour is difficult to get and it is even more challenging to get one with the United Nations. It is basically the unicorn of deployments. We hear about them now and then but few of us have ever actually ever met someone that has been on one.



What is Op SOPRANO? That is a good question because I immediately thought it was in Italy and sipping sangria in Rome briefly flashed in front of my eyes. That was embarrassingly and woefully incorrect. This mission is the Individual Uniformed Personnel commitment of the Canadian Armed Forces to UNMISS. The pillars of the mission are: 1) Protection of Civilians; 2) Creating conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian assistance; 3) Supporting the implementation of the revitalized agreement and the peace process; and 4) Monitoring and investigating human





right violations. To achieve this mission there are approximately 18,000 deployed personnel, of which around 14,000 are military. The military component of this mission is divided into a Force HQ (Division level) and six forward deployed Sector HQs (Brigade level).

The CAF team here consists of eight military personnel from across Canada and from several elements. In Bentiu, I serve as G4 Sector Unity. In this sector we have a Mongolian Infantry Battalion, Ghanian Infantry Battalion, Pakistani Engineering Company, Ghanian Force Protection Unit,

Vietnamese Level II Hospital, Indian Force Signals Unit, and a Cambodian Military Police Detachment. The greatest challenge we face here is that all lines of communication to this part of the country have been severed due to extreme flooding. This flooding has caused significant pain and suffering to those who call this region home. How bad is the flooding you might ask? It's bad. In fact, our base and airstrip are protected by a series of dikes holding back around 160cm of flood water. We are also collocated with an Internally Displaced People (IDP) camp which has well over 100,000 IDP. Everyday several humanitarian organizations work tirelessly to provide the basic needs of those displaced. I can honestly say that these are some of the kindest and most selfless people I have ever met.

The conditions of life as an officer on UN service here are challenging but it is a truly humbling experience. To see the international communities' and government of South Sudan's efforts with the provision of food, medical services, and security at this scale is something to behold. I continue to be enriched by the South Sudanese I interact with, the military staff officers I work with, and the civilian staff I collaborate with.

Finally, a sales pitch. I encourage all you Captain-types to flood the Second-in-Command's inbox with requests for this mission. Besides the unique nature of being on a UN mission, where else can you wear an outside the wire shirt (no need to do any buttons up), yellow rubber boots, a tan Patagonia rain jacket, and sidearm? As a disclaimer, I will never confirm nor deny any of that last sentence. I look forward to seeing you all again in the hallways of our Regiment or more preferably in the Mess with a leaky bottle of Balvenie 14 Caribbean Cask. Take care my friends.



This forward established base is home to several thousand soldiers, UN employees, contractors, and humanitarian organizations. Additionally, the 100,000+ IDP Camp is collocated with the UNMISS Base. All protected by two meter high dikes holding back 180cm flood waters. Students begin live firing serials while instructors supervise and assess their gunnery drills on the TAPV DRWS 40mm Sgt Kewly and Lt Underwood showing off their bones.

LAV 6 shooting.

Training



Cpl Rice seriously doubting the success of this fire team...



Cpl Guignard, Cpl Plamondon and Cpl Mancini enjoy the hike.



Ex STEELE ADVENTURE

Captain Philip German

This year's adventure training took place in the scenic Rocky Mountain Cadet Training Camp (RMCTC), just NW of Cochrane, AB. Taking place from 6-12 June, each Squadron within the Regiment had two days to make the most of their time in the mountains. As is tradition, A Sqn got the short end of the stick and had to conduct its training over the weekend, while B, D and HQ Sqn were able to "work" during the week. Thanks to Lt Tom "Just one more annex" Underwood and Capt Emma "Please put me on 120mm course" Bouvier's effort, the groundwork was laid for a fun week of activities.

Hiking was one of the most popular daytime activities available to participants throughout the adventure. On the path to summiting a mountain, **Capt Frank** "*I definitely won't get lost*" **Gelinas**, demonstrated that map reading and navigation are not innate skills. Other groups, like one led by **Capt Matt** "*Climbing is life*" **Hoffart** took a more streamlined route to the top. **Sgt Andrew** "*Speed-running the Regiment*" **Kewley** chose to avoid the arduous mountains altogether, instead bravely leading two Lts to Horse Lake, which should in fact be named Horse Bone Lake.

For those willing to endure the horrors of a PSP swim test, lakeside activities such as canoeing and fishing were on the table at *the definitely not haunted* Ghost Lake south of the camp. Both D and B Sqn struck out catching any fish throughout the week, leading **WO Andrew** "*Fish are fake news*" **Burris** to insist that fishing in the lake was a pointless endeavour. **Sgt Jeff** "*Fish are real*" **Stevenson**, however, proved everyone wrong by netting the only catch of the exercise for A Sqn.

For legal reasons, the night-time activities that occurred during adventure training must go without mention. Any questions regarding this policy can be directed at **Cpl Jordon** "*I definitely broke my ankle hiking*" **Gibson**, who most certainly broke his ankle hiking despite any rumors to the contrary.

Under the watchful eye of **Sgt Andrew** "*Camp godfather*" **Sherlock-Hubbard**, the camp was returned to an acceptable state after a week of shenanigans. Special thanks as well to **WO Terrance** "*Referee*" **Schuba** for ensuring all the participants were well fed during the exercise.

All in all, the week was a resounding success for the Regiment. All Strathconas look forward to next year's iteration of the STEELE ADVENTURE and the good times it will behold.



HQ Squadron summits a mountain.



Ex STEELE BULLSEYE

Captain Colin Clare

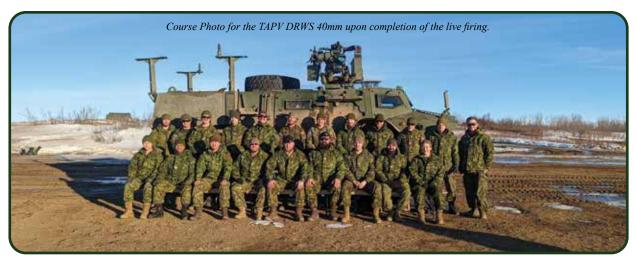
When you start a PCF cycle in January you know what is inevitable; you will be in Wainwright for a cold, windy, and possibly wet gun camp come March. This is where D Sqn found itself, looking to deploy from 6-12 March to complete gunner and crew commander courses on the TAPV 40mm, the Coyote (yes, we still have them), and LAV 25mm. The Squadron deployed to Wainwright to the familiar, yet barren Range 16 and commenced the normal ceremonial opening of the ranges. This ceremony always begins with the bore sighting and zeroing. Our venerable Sqn Gunnery Warrant Officer, **WO Mark** *"Has this thing been bore sighted?!"* **Peachey** begins the age-old custom of asking every single person whether the vehicle is good to go. **Sgt Trevor** *"What's in your upload?"* **McQueen** shadows WO Peachey, to learn all the odd customs of range building.



The officers, led by Maj Varun "Is there coffee?" Vahal, maintained

total and complete situational awareness at all times from a Ford F150. They monitored the range control net in case Division had any pressing questions. They also ensured to stay away from the NCOs and staff while they "encouraged" the students to move with a sense of purpose, but immediately corrected them for running on the range; a tale as old as time. Once the firing began, the tradition of incorrectly uploading rounds is done promptly, to ensure the maximum amount of learning occurs. **MCpl John** "*Willy*" **Williams** may or may not have been the culprit of this enhanced learning experience.

Once we had completed our other traditions, such as chasing down errant deliveries of food to the range graciously done by **Sgt Kyle** "*They should have been here an hour ago!*" **Nieuwhof**, and the big brain calculation that was handing out ammo by **Sgt Hugh** "*Did I say two or three boxes?*" **Hayes**, the range really got into full swing. With the sounds of rounds consistently going down range, the staff can exhale, knowing they have done enough to appease the Range Gods to allow us minimal stoppages with the exact number of vehicles we needed to complete the range… no more, no less. The Squadron redeployed to Edmonton, and we completed the final tradition of the buses (organized by **Capt Shea** "*[REDACTED]*" **McGlone)** arriving just as everyone began to lose hope that they would ever come. We were able to bear witness to soldiers gaining their gunnery qualifications, some with a deployment to Latvia on the horizon. At a minimum those qualified soldiers and leaders will be able to continue the proud range traditions of our Regiment.





Ex STEELE CARBINE "Ex COVID ROULETTE"

Lieutenants Dayne Johnson and Leah Ahenakew



MCpls Rourke and New decide to get cuddly and scare off the RGWO.

Fall was an exciting time to be a soldier at LdSH(RC). The Regiment moved to Wainwright from 19 to 29 September to operate a gun camp, as well as qualification shoots for the TAPV Remote Weapon System (RWS), and the LAV 6 25mm courses.

The shoots began on 22 September, with the TAPV gunner course making their presence known immediately. The training area was promptly set on fire, (thank you **WO Ayrton Balfour**) and one of two TAPV's went down before even starting – as has come to be expected from the almighty platform. These events slowed the progress of the LAV 6 gunner course, setting the mood for the remainder of the exercise.

Once the LAV 6 gunnery and crew commander (CC) upgrade courses took over the range, the pace picked up once more – that is until **Sgt Jesse** *"Backwards and upside down"* **Bolzan** forgot how to upload the 25mm, jamming the cannon and promptly halting firing for the other candidates that day. By the time this issue was resolved and day one drew to an end, **Sgt Trevor** "The *lightening*

lobster" **McQueen** returned to the shacks burnt and **Cpl Keenan** "*Keener*" **Fitzpatrick** was found fast asleep cuddling his aide de memoire after he had spent the day studying to retain his spot as top candidate of the 25mm course.

Despite the above hiccups, the candidates demonstrated their prowess with the weapon systems, completing all qualification shoots by the second day. During this brief timeframe, a medic named **Pte(B)** "YOU GUYS ARE CRAZY!!" **Yang** also managed to get in on the action, joining a LAV 6 crew on one of their 25mm stab runs moving at a brisk 5 km/h. Lt Dayne "Pebbles" Johnson inspired **Pte(B) Yang** to raise his head out of the GIB hatch, ride in the turret, and fire off a box of coax. **Pte(B) Yang** enjoyed himself even though the air "burnt" his eyes and nose.

The new experiences continued, as **Cpl Giani** "Mozzy Slinging" **Mancini** decided to give **Lt Leah** "PURRR!" **Ahenakew** a new addiction by introducing her to the refined taste of a Monster energy drink. **Lt Ahenakew** then paid it forward by getting the freshly mechanized medic hooked as well.

After the qualification shoots were completed, the



Sgt McQueen burns alive in the Wainwright sun.



Regimental gun camp began. C13 fragmentation grenades, C7 rifles, C8 carbines, and 9mm pistols were on the docket, but first a select few were given the privilege to shoot live HEAT and HE with the Carl Gustav Recoilless Rifle. One of these lucky soldiers was **Lt Ahenakew**, who proceeded to light the second fire of the training camp after firing at – and missing – a target that was directly in front of the firing point, 300 meters away. Although many others also missed, no one did so quite as badly. Of note, none of the Master Corporals missed but all junior officers failed.

During after hours, COVID decided to have an outbreak and **Capt Harry** "Service Number 1" **Delaney** and maintenance went home promptly due to the virus. It was most likely to watch TV instead. Thus, COVID roulette began and our esteemed photographer, **Capt Tom** "Blue Steel" **Hume** issued everyone COVID tests each night for the remainder of the Ex.



Cows interrupt our stroll to maintenance.

With a fire still ragingthrough the PDA, SgtWO DavidsAndrew Goodwin,Lt AhMCpl Matthew New, MCpl Mitchell



WO Davidson regretting his decision to let Lt Ahenakew in on the 84mm.

McKenzie, and many others helped run a grenade range that managed to pass *many* people through within just two days. Cpl Reagan "*Shakes*" Henderson was voted most likely to give Sgt Andrew "*Defibrillator*" Goodwin a heart attack in the bunker.

The 9mm portion began on 26 September, which was arguably the hottest day of the Regimental gun camp. The heat did not dissuade many members from taking part in PWT 1 and familiarity shoots, however, as everyone who wanted to participate was welcomed. **WO Colin** "*Chrome dome*" **Davidson** and **MCpl Jeffrey** "*Knife hands*" **Landry** were

integral there. This was also the day the RSO's own helmet was run $h = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{$

over, big shout out to **Cpl Cole** "Untalented Ray Charles" **McBroom**.

Overall, 90 percent of shooters at the C7, C8, and 9mm ranges were able to pass their PWT 3 on the first go. The highlight for these ranges was the second day, where those that had not been assigned to run the grenade range were able to get a little more practice with the rifles and pistols by burning through the leftover ammunition. Thankfully, clean-up went smoothly because the Range Control Gods were either turning a blind eye or did not notice **Lt Ahenakew** successfully hiding casings under her boots.

On the last evening of Ex STEELE CARBINE, the Strathcona cooks put together an amazing surf and turf dinner followed by an Oreo cake. Shout out to **Cpl Bach Dinh**, **Pte Kelsey Petherick** and **MCpl Andrew Trudel** for that great conclusion to this hellfire of an exercise.



Cpl "Shakes" Henderson finally managed to throw his grenade.

Regimental

Events

D Sqn pulls a Coyote. Unsure if for MELFA River or maintenance.

Cpl Davies providing insight on how to toss a log.

D Sqn contingent sets the pace and leads the way to Cenotaph in Evansburg. Lt Leah Ahenakew keeping spirits high.

CBC's new favourite picture: the Strathcona's marching down 9th Ave.



Remembrance Week

Sergeant Andrew McNeill

This year's Remembrance Week events kicked off with the No Stone Left Alone (NSLA) Beechmount ceremony. NSLA Beechmount took place on November 7th 2022. Despite being a frigid -19°C, the event drew a large crowd. The Guard was under the command of **Lt Ryan Tompsett** and **WO Derek**



Lead by Lt Braszak, D Sqn guard observes indoor portion of Remembrance Day ceremony at Legion Branch 196 in Evansburg, AB

Murdoch, with WO Kerrie Jesse leading the vigil party. The event brought a plethora of VIPs and dignitaries, including the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, the Honourable Salma Lakhani and 3rd Canadian Division Commander Brigadier General Steve Graham. Each of the esteemed guests delivered a sombre message about remembrance, the sacrifice of those that came before us, and the importance of the NSLA program. With the closing of the ceremony, the words "We will remember" were on the lips of all who attended.

Throughout the week, soldiers of LdSH(RC) went across Edmonton and the greater area, speaking at various schools and finely representing the CAF and Regiment at smaller NSLA events. An eight-person guard went to Evansburg, Alberta on Remembrance Day to represent LdSH(RC) and renew its continued affiliation with the 3070 Cadet Corps. Led by **Lt Patrick Braszak** and **Sgt Andrew McNeill**, the guard set the tone and literal pace of march to the local cenotaph. A sombre and deceptively warm outdoor ceremony followed by a more intimate gathering at the local legion marked the day's event.

They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old, Age shall not weary them, nor do the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning.... We will remember them.





Ex STEELE BLACK HAT

Major Mike Selberg

For the first time since the start of the COVID 19 Pandemic, Strathcona Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers (Sr NCOs) conducted our annual Professional Development (PD) during Exercise STEELE BLACK HAT the week of 21-25 November. The Colonel Commandant of the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps and former Chief of Defense Staff **General Walt Natyncyzk** was our VVIP throughout. He was an active participant in both the PD sessions and subsequent activities held respectively at the Edmonton Garrison Officers Mess (EGOM) and Sarcee Room by the Officers and Sr NCOs.

Not surprisingly, a large portion of the PD revolved in case studies of the 2014 Russian invasion of Crimea compared to the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine; this conflict is quickly approaching one year and is unfortunately still on-going. Hybrid warfare, total war and lessons learned from logistical, political and social/economical were all topics explored in varying degrees. The strategic and operational understanding and experience offered by **Gen Natyncyzk** during these sessions was irreplaceable. Furthermore, there were detailed and deliberate discussions on ground lines-of-communication/re-supply lessons learned, transformational/servant leadership, power and influence as leaders, and finally the life cycle/career progression of our members including transitioning from the CAF. This PD and subject examination were invaluable as leaders and only reinforced the benefits of Black Hat week and its inclusion of all its leaders.

For some of the serving Regimental leadership who arrived in the last three years this was also the first chance to break bread in simultaneous Black Hat Mess Dinners. Seizing this opportunity, it also afforded the serving Officers an opening to dine-out **Major (Ret'd) Peter** "*two left feet*" **Beitz**. In front of his friends and serving Officers we were regaled with tales of his infamy and tribulations. The highlights of his career were enjoyed by all. We wish **Peter** all the best with his new career; he is a stalwart, professional officer who will be missed by his Regiment and the CAF. As with any mess dinner, there were lessons learned by our most junior leaders that only can be learned by experience and a few extras. Incidentally, en-masse, the Sr. NCOs paid the Officers a visit at the EGOM, crashing the bar after the

formal portions of the dinners; it is safe to say that very few of us remember when the bar really closed and/or when we retired for the evening.

This was a fantastic week to bring together the Regimental family, other Black Hatters stationed in Western Canada, Strathconas from the National Capital including the **Regimental Colonel Mark Lubiniecki** and **Lieutenant-Colonel Sandy Cooper**, retired members and provided **Lieutenant-Colonel Darryn Gray**, the CO designate a preview of his return to the Regiment. We look forward to next year and another successful Exercise STEELE BLACK HAT. Capt Sean Danyi, Capt Mike Forestell, Capt Tom Hume, Lt Tom Underwood



Perseverance



Sports-conian Illustrated

Captain Philip German

After a shaky start to 2022 (thanks, Omicron) Regimental Sports were finally able to reclaim their place as the center of Strathcona life. Led into battle by **Maj Nathan** "*I hate sports*" **Hevenor** and **Capt Matt** "*Rock-climbing is a sport*" **Hoffart**, A Sqn bravely set out to make 2022 the sportiest year in LdSH(RC) history.

The first significant sporting event occurred in late April, when Squadrons took to the soggy fields of battle to claim softball glory. The round robin bore witness to several hotly contested games with drama unfolding with every pitch, with A Sqn and D Sqn entering the finals.



HQ Sqn wins the floor hockey tournament.

Despite the best efforts of **MWO Conway** "Newfie power" Eady, D Sqn was able to claim victory on the day, in no small part to Sgt Kyle "Home-runs are easy" Nieuwhof's efforts.

Next on the calendar in June was Melfa River Sports Day, in which LdSH(RC) tried its hand at "traditional" Gaelic games. Squadron members competed in a variety of events, ranging from yeeting various items as far as possible (caber toss, hammer throw, etc) to moving things as fast as possible (coyote pull, tug-of-war, track deadlift, etc). All of this was planned by **Capt Brittney** "*What is a Gaelic?*" **Shki-Giizis** with invaluable insight from **MCpl Adam** "*I actually compete in this*" **Davies**. Unexpectedly, the day quickly became the Strathcona Dog Show more than a sports day, but when all was said and done B Sqn stood victorious.



The track pad deadlift.

Upon returning from summer leave, **Capt Carsten** "*Running is a sport*" **MacLean** was faced with organizing a 7-week Intra-Regimental ball hockey tournament. The tournament had many highs and lows throughout the months

as Squadrons fought for supremacy; but HQ Sqn was able to embark on an undefeated run, eventually defeating A Sqn in the finals to claim ultimate victory under **Cpl Cody** *"RHQ mercenary"* **St-Laurent**.

Of course, no year can be complete without the annual Regimental Sports Day and the Mess vs Mess violence. **Cpl Dane** *"Hockey is the point of life"* **Frizzel** was able to lead the Track Pad to victory over **MCpl Mitchell** *"We will definitely have a team for each event"* **McKenzie** and the Green Point



A Sqn accepts second place for floor hockey.

Lounge. On the other side, **Maj Matthew** "Are you sure we don't have another goalie" **Shumka** and the Mariner Room were able to thwart **WO Derek** "Can officers even play sports?" **Murdoch** and the Sarcee Room.

All in all, 2022 was a glorious year for Regimental Sports, and with the return of intermural leagues, Ex STRONG CONTENDER, and the grappling club, the future is set to be even better.

Calgary Stampede and Spruce Meadows "As is Tradition"

Lieutenant Timothy Carroll



Posing for the Camera in the Calgary Stampede Parade.

After two years, the Calgary Stampede has returned. Previously, the Stampede had either been cancelled or a small static display contingent was sent. But this year, the troops were let loose on Calgary as a full 50 soldier guard. As is tradition, almost nothing went to plan. A bus broke down, arrangements for our weapons' accommodations fell through, and soldiers suddenly fell ill with a malaise that made them feel nauseous or drowsy. But this was okay. We were coolly led by the best dressed man in NATO **Capt Sean** "*Furr daa jurr*" **Danyi** and Sergeant Major **MWO James** "*I'll fight you, if you smile in my ranks again*" **Hamilton**. Between this, our soldiers' dedication, and a bit of improvisation, the

guard contingent gave a steely performance worthy of the greatest outdoor show on earth. The Stampede Parade saw the Strathconas entertainingly engage with the Alberta crowd. The Spruce Meadows parade, presided over by the Lt Governor of Alberta, **the Honourable Salma Lakhani**, was a flawless execution that impressed all of the General Officers and Flag Officers present. It was by all accounts a fun, successful, and worthwhile endeavour.

This assessment is backed by the amount of priceless anecdotes that developed over the weekend. Despite losing a bus to a break down, **Sgt Andrew** "*Billy*" **Goodwin** divined the ethereal will of the Sergeant Major: the troops needed a new bus. That was that, and off he went into downtown Calgary and found a bus. It may have been the RCA Band's bus, but it was *Billy's* bus now. In a similar display of boldness, **Capt Ekam** "*Lee Harvey Oswald*" **Uppal** will go down in history as the only person to attempt an assassination of a General by use of chest muscles alone. The plot was apparently fool proof. Sadly, the young Captain missed too many chest days and, upon flexing his pectorals on the present arms, his buttons popped with less than the lethal force required to claim his victim. It just harmlessly bounced off a slightly startled Chief of the Defence Staff. Oh well, there is always next year.

Every soldier took away a good memory from the Stampede. This could have been **WO Andrew** "This *place is a prison*" **Burris,** when asked by locals who he worked for, playfully responding that he worked for a "drilling" company. Maybe it was watching **Tpr Paul** "Elect me for class president" **Rodrigues** and Cpl Jeffrey "Qualified photogenic tech" Morgan embrace their inner public affairs officer, enthusiastically taking pictures with the Calgary crowds. Perhaps it was listening to Cpl Tyler "Flight instructor" Guignard and Tpr Ben "Stoneface" MacCrimmon telling stories about the delightful characters they met while downtown. This was a triumphant return from COVID restrictions into the public. Surely, the occasions when Strathcona soldiers get to share what we do with Canadians are precious and shall remain so - as is tradition.



Strathconas of A & B Squadron Posing with parade goers.



Moreuil Wood Parade

Sergeant Kenneth Wright



RSM King takes the parade.

On March 30, 1918, Lt Gordon Muriel Flowerdew led his famous charge in the Battle of Moreuil Wood, being posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for his leadership and bravery. Of the members of C Sqn who took part in the charge, only 51 remained with a casualty rate close to seventy percent. The Battle of Moreuil Wood is considered by military historians as one of the key events of the First World War. On this day, Lord Stratchcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) with the Canadian Cavalry Brigade stopped

a German offensive and forced their withdrawal from Moreuil Wood.

This year's commemoration of the Battle of Moreuil Wood was very different from the past two years due to the reduction of the COVID-19 force health protection measures. With no parade in 2020 and smaller Squadron level ceremonies in 2021, this was the first time in two years that a full Regimental parade was held. Despite no related events taking place, such as the annual Moreuil Wood Command Team Challenge or traditional mess dinners, it was satisfying to have the Regiment together as a whole on parade once again, honouring such an important event in our history. Led by our Commanding Officer

LCol Mike Mallette and Regimental Sergeant Major **CWO Kevin King**, it was exceptional to come together as Stratchonas to properly honour and celebrate the sacrifices made on this most sacred day once again.

As per tradition the Moreuil Wood Parade was an excellent opportunity to hand out awards to the most deserving soldiers. These included:

The Prince of Wales Squadron: A Squadron

The Hessin Sword: Capt M. Smith

The Macaulay Sword: Capt S. Chou

The Neatby Pace-Stick: WO S. McLoughlin

The Milroy Cross-Belt: Sgt K. Crowe

The Colonel of the Regiment Silver Stick: **MCpl M. McNeil**

The Fox Bugle: Cpl D. Braconnier

The Ross Maintainer Award: **Cpl W. Smith** The Olympic Torch Trophy: **Capt M. Hoffart** Perseverance



HQ Sqn on parade.



RSM Change of Appointment

Warrant Officer Keith Hodgson



Tpr King. The Trooper who would be RSM.

This summer we Strathconas marked the passage of another major milestone. The Regiment conducted the RSM's change of appointment, in which we welcomed in our new RSM, **CWO Robert** *"Iggy"* **Englehart** and said see you later to the outgoing RSM, **CWO Kevin** *"Yes I'm a Captain now, don't call me Sir"* King.

In his time, the outgoing RSM was faced with many unique challenges. No one would have predicted that as he deployed as Battle Group RSM, the world would spiral into chaos, lock downs across the globe would begin, and new ways to operate at every level would need to be developed and enforced. And what RSM doesn't feed off the enforcing of protocol (especially since going after pot heads was taken away)?

The collective families of both RSMs were in attendance as we conducted the parade (which there was no funding for... **RSM King** ensured this was made very clear) at the LTF... no... outside with

mas... no... outside no mas... no... inside with ma... no... inside. No masks, for the first time in two years. Seema King was able to purloin a few things from CWO King and with the help of WO Derek Murdoch and his wife Veronica, they created one of the most memorable gifts many had seen. A quilt constructed from all the PT shirts (did you know he has a thing about PT gear?) CWO King had worn throughout his honourable career. Add to that a heart wrenching speech and you have a memorable moment marking the beginning of a new chapter in Strathcona history.

Fresh from Texas and his position instructing the future, senior-most NCOs in the free world, we welcomed **RSM Englehart** and his wife **Michelle** back into the Harvey building. He stepped into some big shoes and some new hurdles to face, such as the September 6th nuclear strike on dress and deportment. Though only in the chair a few months, it is evident that this was truly a transfer from one RSM to another.

The RSM took his commission... long live the RSM!





Spin for a Veteran

Lieutenant Liam Misner

On 6 Nov 2022, 11 Strathconas drove out to Calgary to participate in Canadian Pacific Railway's sixth annual Spin for a Veteran 24-hour stationary bike marathon. This event raised funds towards the Homes for Heroes Foundation, a charity that combats veteran homelessness through the construction of small housing complexes to integrate homeless veterans into the community. The event was held virtually last year due to COVID and the Regiment did not assemble a team. This year, however, the executives of CP Rail once again requested a sacrifice of sweat from the Strathcona's. Most seasoned members of the Regiment were savvy enough to steer clear of the team, but **Capt Tom** "*Do better*" **Hume** helped to build positive interest by describing the accommodations of previous events as 'quite jammy.' This left the final roster to be made up mostly of Troopers, Corporals, and Subbies who had no idea what they signed up for.

The team knew that it did not have the corporate support needed to win the award for the most money raised of the 18 teams that participated. This left only the distance award as a possible prize to bring back to the Regiment.



Sgt Mark Weir rethinking all of his previous life choices after a hard 20-minute shift.

However, all dreams were crushed as soon as the Calgary Police arrived with a full team of bike cops in custom Spin for a Veteran unitards. The race began at noon with **Cpl Brandon** "*Lightning*" **Lockhart** leading the Strathcona's charge. As the event went on the Strathcona's team maintained a respectable position in the top third of the pack. The Strathconas had **Cpl Jeff** "*Schmoozer*" **Morgan** between bike shifts to confirm distances and gather other mission critical info on neighboring teams.

Biking continued deep into the night and on into the morning. As the teams neared the 24-hour mark, there were a few additional incentives to help keep up the pace of the event. **Capt Philip** "*The quad-god*" **German** pulled a hard-earned second place on the 1-minute maximum distance event. The short sleep shifts and intense biking were grueling, but the team is grateful for the contributions of **Sgt Mark Weir** and **Cpl Matt Kuypers**, the team's drivers that volunteered to take shifts.

The event was finished and the Strathcona team was exhausted, but not so tired as to miss an opportunity to visit the Regimental Museum and, most excitingly, the PPCLI gun vault. The team enjoyed a brief tour before returning to Edmonton. Strathcona donations totaled \$1,473 and the overall event has raised a total of \$851,166 since 2021 for a good cause.

The Strathcona's team poses for a group photo before the event kicked off.





Pipe Major MCpl Adam Davies pipes out the dignitaries during a ceremony for the new LAV 3 for the Morniville-Sturgeon's Military Monument.



Cpl Cocker (left) and Cpl Gauthier (right) in position as Vedettes for Spruce Meadows.

Regimental Society & CMT Foundation



Mounted Troop taking the opportunity to practice the ride while deployed to Calgary.





Ceremonial Mounted Troop "Back At'er"

Corporal Daniel Choquette

It has been a busy year for Strathcona Ceremonial Mounted Troop (CMT). The year kicked off with uncertainty as to whether we would be able to have a full season or another COVID season!

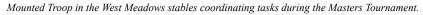
We pressed on with hopes and dreams preparing for a full and hopefully busy season. We started the Basic Equine Riders Course as per normal, but we were interrupted by another COVID-cation. All of a sudden the possibility of a full season seemed a lot more farfetched. We waited patiently for the call back to work, and when it finally came the Troop was quickly back to full swing trying to finish the ride course. After we had finished the course, we were pressed for time to assemble our musical ride; it was long days and a bit of yelling from **Sgt Paul Kruhlak**. Once we finally had our lives together we were on our way to Victoria, BC.



Cpl Blanco, Cpl Cocker and Cpl Byers working to resurface the arenas footing.

This year was the first full season for most members of the Troop and we quickly realized how busy CMT truly was. The Troop toured three venues in BC and some around rural Alberta, including a show in Sgt Kruhlak's hometown of Radway, AB. Many weeks were spent at our home away from home – in Calgary for the Spruce Meadows tournaments. CMT capped off the season with a few shows in the greatest outdoor show on earth, the Calgary Stampede.

The Stampede was a big achievement for a lot of the members of CMT, we had shows nearly every day and even a short show in the grandstand. The pressure of the grandstands got to some members of the Troop, such as **Cpl Samuel** "*Does not compute*" **Lafleur** nearly causing a crash, and **Cpl Eric** "*Abolutions*" **Annaert-van der Werf** picking a fight with gravity and losing! All and all, it has been a season to remember, especially for **Sgt Paul Kruhlak** who says this will be his final year as ride master after 30 years in the Strathcona's!







The Mounted Troop out front of their stables at West Meadows on the Spruce Meadows grounds in Calgary

Family Support Troop

Sergeant Kyle Meaney

This year was a fast-paced and exciting time for the Strathcona's and Family Support Troop (FST). We came out of the gates running while taking charge as the Lead Mounting Unit for Op IMPACT. We've been engaged in assisting fellow soldiers and their families to prepare for their deployment followed by ongoing support to their families during their deployment. We achieved this through bi-monthly wellness checks, coordinating briefs with the Military Family Resource Center (MFRC), SISIP, and providing information on programs provided by PSP. With the unrest in Europe, Op UNIFIER was relocated and we had members deployed to the United Kingdom on short notice in order to aide in the training of Ukrainian soldiers. Through it all, FST has maintained its vital link to the Regiment's families while keeping their best interest as our mission. We would like to thank all the families for their endless support. Without you, none of this is possible.

There have been a few new faces welcomed into the troop for 2022. Starting with Lt Woesal Dorjee taking over as the Troop's officer and Capt Ampani as the acting unit padre while Capt Christoph Deutschmann was on tour. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to Cpl Ryan Blacklock late in 2021 as Sgt Kyle Meaney took over as FST IC.

With deployments and exercises coming up in the New Year, FST anticipates another intense work year. We have been working very closely with **Reyan Saab** at the MFRC to ensure we are well prepared and equipped for the variety of upcoming deployments. We have refined the pre-deployment checklist, important contact numbers, and family care plan templates. We ensure that families know all the resources that are available on and off base as well as talk about the importance of knowing the proper course of action to take in case of an emergency.

As always, we look forward to working closely with all our soldiers and their families while strengthening our bond with the Regimental families into this New Year. If any questions come up, never hesitate to call, 780-973-4011 ext 3040 or email LdSHFamSupport@forces.gc.ca. Finally, you are encouraged and welcomed to join the Strathcona Spouses Facebook group at www. facebook.com/groups/LdSHRCSpouses.



Sgt "Buddy the Elf" Meaney poses with excitement in preparation for the Kid's Christmas Party.



Historical Vehicle Troop

Captain Charles Bennie

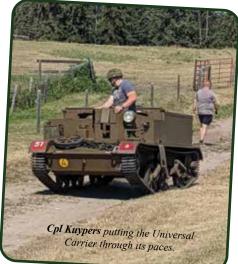
carburettor.

Work is

With the gradual reduction of COVID-19 force health protection measures, the Historical Vehicle Troop (HVT) had a quiet but productive year in 2022. After taking over the leadership of HVT from **Capt Sheldon** *"Who needs sleeping bags?"* **Smith**, the CO and R2IC issued clear short and mid-term objectives for HVT. Along with a substantial investment of funds from the Regimental Society Casino Night, we were off to the races.

Priority one was keeping our runners running (the Ferrets and Bren Gun Carrier). New batteries were purchased and electric fuel pumps were installed to ensure smoother starts and operation. With the runners taken care of, focus shifted to priority two; restoration of the 1943 Harley WLC. **Ill-Fated Kustoms**, a motorcycle restoration and repair shop based out of Calgary, assisted in the full restoration of the transmission, engine, clutch, generator, and





continuing on the remainder of the bike, with hopes of a completed product ready for parades and display in the main foyer of the Harvey Building by Summer 2023. Our sincere thanks to **Kenny** and his staff for their fantastic work on the bike!

This year HVT was invited to participate in the Can-Praxis Veterans and First Responders Family Weekend in Bowden, AB from the 12-14 of August. Hosted by **WO (Ret'd) Steve Critchley** from Can-Praxis and the wonderful staff at the Red Lodge Guest Ranch, it was a fantastic weekend filled with good food and incredible stories from families

working to overcome operational stress injuries. HVT is proud to support Can-Praxis and we look forward to being invited back next year! With our projects gaining traction and more events in 2023, the future remains bright for HVT and its ongoing efforts to preserve our Regimental history.

The Universal Carrier and Ferret ready for display at the Can-Praxis Family Weekend.



Cpl Kuypers, Capt Bennie, Cpl MacNiell, and Lt Misner at the Can-Praxis Family Weekend in Bowden, AB.



Pipes and Drums

55

Master Corporal Adam Davies

The band was excited to start back up with in person practices and performances following the pandemic and has marked a re-vamp of the band welcoming new and legacy members back into its ranks. The most notable of our newest members is **WO** "*Al*" **Kentfield** taking over as the band's Drum Major which sees him more as our band's administrator or "Groupie" until he learns how to swing his Drum Mace around and learns a wee tune or two.

Pipe Major **MCpl Adam** "*Pipey*" **Davies** and **WO Colin** "*Pipe-Corporal*" **Davidson** represented the regiment at the Edmonton Elks CAF Appreciation Game at Commonwealth Stadium. They were joined by the pipers and drummers of the Edmonton Police Pipes and Drums, Leduc Fire Pipes and Drums, and Strathcona Pipes and Drums. The notable highlight for WO Davidson was witnessing the Pipe Major of EPS Pipes and Drums call out Pipe Major Davies.

Upon his return from RSS in Vancouver, **Sgt Dave** "*I've got the biggest drum*" **Young** dawned the ole Bear Skin during his much-anticipated return as "The" bass drummer for the Remembrance Day Parade at West Edmonton Mall. The band was fortunate to parade in collaboration with Clan MacNaughton Pipes and Drums (Edmonton Scottish Society) and was even featured on CTV Edmonton. Following the parade, the band represented the Regiment well at the Jasper Place Legion where a hard-earned round of liquid courage was enjoyed by all. Pipe Major Davies was able to redeem himself when he had spotted across the room, the Pipe Major of Edmonton Police enjoying a pint, wherein "*Pipey*" called him out and rolled him into our band for the set.

The Regimental Pipes and Drums were able to participate in many other solo events throughout the year with **WO Davidson**, **Pipe Major Davies** and newly appointed Pipe Sergeant **MCpl Bill** "*Capt Morgan*" **Liebe** supporting several local elementary and high schools in their Remembrance Day ceremonies, proving an excellent opportunity to rekindle old traditions and reaffirm the Regiment's relationship with the community. A couple other notable tasks for the band were support to the Yellow Ribbon Gala, Op APOLLO Commemoration, LAV Monument Commissioning in Morinville, and various mess events within the Brigade.

The band is excited to keep this momentum going and is continually looking for new playing opportunities to showcase the enthusiasm and acumen of its members.



The current LdSH(RC) P&D for the Holiday Parade.

The Regimental Museum and Archives

Captain Phil "The Doctor" Webster

Two-thousand and twenty-two was another exciting year at the museum, with COVID easing enough for a safe return to onsite visits among the public-atlarge, and with most of the events and displays that we regularly participate in going ahead. Alongside that, we have a series of major projects ahead of us and new staff helping spread the history of the Regiment far and wide. All in all, it was an extremely busy, but rewarding year.

Welcomed to my staff down here, alongside Sgt Todd "Quasars are cool" Giberson, were two new students, Dani "California" Sanchez and Michelle Walz. These two come to us via our partnership with The Military Museums



Summer skirmish at the Regt'l Museum. Sgt Giberson and Capt Webster

Foundation (TMMF) and the efforts of myself and its director, **Ms. Jackie** "*Dr. Doom*" **Jansen van Doorn. Jackie** also moonlights as our photographer and media specialist and that's why the photos included in the article this year are far better than they usually are. Together with the TMMF, our goal is to make the LdSH(RC) Regimental Museum and Archives a go-to spot for the training of new museum Curators and Collection Managers in Southern Alberta through our close ties with **Mount Royal University** and **The University of Calgary.** This project not only brings additional help to our busy and dynamic museum, but also allows us to use our extensive collection and archives to help train the next generation of museum students.

The next few months will see a major overhaul of the Gallery, which will hopefully correspond to another year of new and returning visitors. All the while we will prepare for another round of major displays and exhibits in the museum proper. Don't forget to visit next time you're in town, ask for one of our staff and we'll be sure to give you a behind the scenes tour of all the secret, hidden, and haunted artifacts we have!



Sherman by the front door.

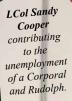
(Note: our Collection is not really all that sinister, but we have a lot of niche items that require additional storage attention, or that may or may not be so great for display, and sometimes those items are the ones with the best stories! Also, to my knowledge nothing is actually haunted or cursed. Probably.)

Addendum One: There were a limited number of museum awards and milestones handed out this year, despite my being specifically asked to stop including them. Capt Laurel *"Frazzled"* Frizzel should be given a honourary doctorate in site management, engineering, and architecture for her efforts to bring Transition Centre Calgary to a new home outside the Museum.

The "Logistical Nightmare" award goes to Sgt Giberson who

took apart the entirety of the Collection and Archives three times (and didn't encounter a single ghost or zombie in the basement while doing it, a first this year!) Note: that last part was exceptionally disappointing to him.

Addendum Two: This addendum exists in perpetuity to make reference to WO (Ret'd) Ted "Don't give me a nickname this year" MacLeod, against his express wishes.





Soldiers of The Royal Lancers attend the No. 10 Downing Street Tree lighting



Capt Miller all grown up

Extra Regimentally Employed



Strathcona Exchange A Year on with the Royal Lancers (Queen Elizabeths' Own)



Capt Erik Giajnorio and Maj Jack Nguyen at the yearly Cavalry Memorial Parade in Hyde Park

Captain Erik Giajnorio

It has been a busy year since arriving in the UK to start a two-year exchange with A Sqn of The Royal Lancers (Queen Elizabeths' Own) (RL). Upon arriving in September, it was a quick turn around to get out to Seenelagar, Germany, for Ex SOMME LANCER. The multi-national Ex consisted of a physical exercise across civilian land, with A Sqn participating in a virtual Ex on the Combined Arms Trainer. The two pieces of the Ex were overlayed to one common operating picture, and A Sqn conducted physical night close target recces and raids to support the Battle Group.

The completion of Ex SOMME LANCER saw the A Sqn RL team rapidly depart again, this time off to Belize to participate in Ex MAYAN STORM. This Ex saw A Sqn spend a month

living and operating in the jungle. While the Ex provided a great training experience, it assisted the Belizean Defence Force by providing a presence to deter illegal poaching and drug smuggling in the

area. The Ex finished with a live fire package up to Company level, with trainers from the SAS providing lessons on jungle close quarters combat.

As Russia invaded Ukraine, A Sqn RL quickly shifted priorities. To support the UK's commitment, A Sqn sent a training and G4 team to the south of England to train the Ukrainian Armed Forces (UAF) on the CVR(T) platform. Following this, we deployed teams across Eastern Europe to assist with the movement of western military goods into the theatre. While this occurring, we trained a fleet of Land Rover drivers to prepare for Ex LUCKNOW LANCER in southwestern Scotland. A Sqn served as the RL BG's OPFOR, and operated as freethinkers to fully test the capabilities of the multi-national RL BG. It has been a great experience and pleasure serving with the RL thus far and re-strengthening our historical ties.



The Officers of A Sqn RL enjoy a much-deserved beer following End-Ex on Ex MAYAN STORM in Belize





Strathconas In Gagetown Figures... Wait Out

Captain Dale Patt



Sgts Taborowski and Young teaching on RQ Armd O (0003).

All told, our job relies heavily on numbers: number of rounds left in the bunker, number of hits on target, number of days left until a posting, and number of mess dinners remaining this fiscal year (to name a few). However, over on this end of the world, your Regiment is punching some impressive numbers and making a serious impact on overall Corps and Army development.

Overall, there are 83 Strathconas diligently working at the RCACS to ensure quality training for the future of the Armoured Corps, with another 15 working elsewhere at Base Gagetown (somewhere, supposedly, we'll

take their words for it) for a total of close to

100 members of LdSH(RC) injecting some Western prestige into the Maroon Machine. Thirty-eight of these individuals are employed in tasks from AFV driver to Admin NCO, and everything in-between; the unsung heroes of the School who ensure that everything which can move, does move. Thirty-six more soldiers are out here doing The Don's work at the School: instructing candidates and confirming that those who go back to the mothership are capable of doing the jobs that are required of them. These members work long hours both in garrison and the field, dealing with bright lights and unpolished silver alike; they all deserve the respect and accolades (or more often, polite ribbing) of their peers. The remaining 22 of us exist, but I digress....

In the days since our team's previous contribution to this publication, your comrades and friends have been responsible for training hundreds of Armd candidates at the school in a year that saw RCACS ramp up both DP1 and DP3 production while making progress on clearing the backlog of trainees that accumulated under restrictions imposed by the global pandemic. Of particular note to the Regiment, we have seen the graduation of 15 ACC, 3 AVCC, 11 ATW, and 3 SSM LdSH(RC) candidates pass training in order to either remain here as tribute, or escape back to the promised land of milk & honey (ie. LDA & PLD). We have also witnessed the badging of 61 new Troopers and 11 new Troop Leaders (no apologies) to our Regiment, with an estimated 10 more Troopers and 10 more Troop Leaders expected in coming months (results pending at time of writing).

In addition to new arrivals and new qualifications, the Regiment was well-represented in terms of Honours and Awards: 8 Strathconas earned awards of various levels within the past year, and more are surely on their way. Your Regiment is contributing to the vital ground of Corps transformation, and every one of us is looking forward to continuing to refine our laundry list of courses (before someone comes along to change them all again). But, for all of us Corridor Warriors who are here either by choice, penance, or pure happenstance, the most important figures remain forever constant: Romeo Romeo at grid 106 526.



Tpr Thiessen – top DP1 candidate.

Lawfield!

Strathconas in the National Capital Region



Maj Hyunjoon (Dave) Jung emphasizing to his CFRC Ottawa staff that the Queen is watching them to recruit more new members.

Major Hyunjoon (Dave) Jung

In the far away (almost forgotten) National Capital Region (NCR) the presence of Strathconas is still significant. Perseverance was evermore present throughout the daily bureaucratic encounters that are all too normal when working in the NCR.

While holding off the excitement of taking well-deserved command of the Regiment as of the summer 2023, **LCol Darryn Gray** has been further mastering his skills as the Army G34 for the past year and a half. His team was intimately involved with the Canadian Army's (CA) contribution military aid to Ukraine as well as the revitalization and centralization of Leopard 2 Family of Vehicles (FoV). **LCol Gray** also never let his social skills be stagnant as he has been the President of the Mess Committee (PMC) for the Army Officers' Mess reviving the anticipated fun part of our job after COVID.

In the spring of 2022, **LCol Sandy Cooper** moved out from behind the iron curtain of Canadian Special Operations Forces Command (CANSOFCOM) and into the open arms of 33 Canadian Brigade Group (CBG). While technically located in the NCR, serving in a CBG was nothing like a Level 1 Headquarters (HQ) since he was pleasantly surprised by free parking, range days, travel, and mess dinners galore, not to mention an office for every Lieutenant.

For the first half of 2022, **Maj Hyunjoon (Dave) Jung** had the opportunity to be exposed to the reality of recruitment and retention by being employed at the Canadian Forces Recruiting Centre (CFRC) Ottawa. He has survived a few interesting encounters with the protestors from the infamous Trucker Protest while commuting although the few attempts to recruit them did not come to fruition. **Maj Jung** eventually moved onto join the Director Land Requirements (DLR) as the Project Director (PD) for the beloved (but less cool) Light Armoured Vehicle (LAV) 6.0 Specialist Variant Enhancements (SVE) project.

As the first representative of the Regiment at the Privy Council Office (PCO), **Maj John Kim** leveraged his academic and professional interests to provide military advice to the Foreign & Defence Policy (FDP) Advisor to the Prime Minister. He has been grateful for the eye-opening experience to see how other inter-governmental collaboration takes place, ultimately benefiting the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) by allowing the senior officers to transcribe and apply such knowledge in the future. **Maj Kim** has certainly paved the new way in the diversity of gainful Strathcona employment.

Maj Sheldon Holmes has remained with the Directorate of Strategic Targeting and Effects within the Strategic Joint Staff (SJS). He continues to work as the Information Operations desk officer providing advice on the incorporation of many informational considerations in planning, strategic papers, and policy.

Within the VCDS, **MGen Paul Peyton** took Command of Chief of Force Development (CFD) this year after Commanding 5th Canadian Division - and has been ensuring that his team of defence scientists, subject matter experts, contractors, and analysts are providing the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) clear military advice from three temporal horizons. Having one Strathcona on his team, **Maj Allan Dwyer** works in the Capability Based Planning (CBP) section of CFD and continues to sort out what capability gaps the Canadian Armed Forces of 2040 has and what needs to be addressed to be ready for the fight. No word yet on whether hover tanks have made the cut.

Freshly diving into the world of career management, **MWO Nathan Mills**, has been employed as the Armoured Non-Commissioned Member (Armd NCM) Career Manager (CM) since the fall of 2022. He has been putting out the regular CM fires and represented deserving members at the Merit Boards with honest assessment. **MWO Mills** thrived to understand the system better and appreciated precious opportunities to write promotion messages for young soldiers and leaders. He continues to work with the Regimental Sergeant-Major (RSM) from each Regiment to finalize the next posting plot, reminding all NCMs to be extra nice to him (just in case).



Strathconas in Kingston

Lieutenant-Colonel Tim Day



Capt Stu King, LCol Mark Connolly, and Capt Moses Pano demonstrate how the magic is made at CADTC.

Unfortunately, none of us get to spend our entire career within the loving embrace of the Regiment, but those of us who currently find ourselves in Kingston are persevering. Sure, it's a longer drive to the mountains, but Bubba's delivers now and the Kingston Frontenacs have a better regular season record than the Edmonton Oilers, so we've got that going for us.

Hard at work at the Canadian Army Doctrine and Training Centre Headquarters, LCol Mark "Not another SIR" Connolly, Capt Moses "Looking for a Swan" Pano, and Capt Stu "Buzzwords" King toil to keep Army Doctrine and Training working through trade secrets.

LCol Tim Day and WO Aaron Hodgin are working in 6 Canadian Combat Support Brigade Headquarters, coordinating the Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance needs of the Canadian Army.

In the hallowed halls of the 350-year old Fort Frontenac, a small, but elite, cohort of Strathconas works diligently to shape the minds of aspiring leaders within the Canadian Army. Armed with QS, TP, Courseware, Lessons Learned, and the might of 4 CMBG, the Strathconas of the Canadian Army Command and Staff College (CACSC) strive to deliver the Army Operations Course (AOC) and associated critical training. Whether it be in the Operations Cell under the direction of Maj Clayton Fifield, or, more accurately, the brilliant management of Cpl Daniel Wynen, the continued refinement of professional military education enabled by Maj John Rickard, or, most questionable of all, the instructing of Maj Islam Elkorazati and LCol Matt Johns, these hardworking warriors of the PowerPoint and the marking rubric continually live up to our motto of Perseverance!

Maj John McEwen and MCpl Ed Snoek are working at the Peace Support Training Centre as the Chief Standards Officer and Instructor in Psychological Operations, respectively; modernizing the individual training offered to the Canadian Armed Forces and international partners.

Capt Josh Horlings and **Capt Alex Young** are at Joint Task Force -X, where they are sipping vodka martinis in an underground lair.

WO Dave Brister is working in the CFB Kingston G3 shop and is pretty much running the whole base.

Sgt Aly Alwani is working in the 1st Canadian Division J7 Collective Training Branch, coordinating exercises in support of High Readiness operational remits.

Apparently this crew forgot to never go broadside ... (L-R: Sgt Alwani, WO Hodgin, Capt King, Capt Pano, MCpl Snoek, WO Brister, Maj Elkorazati, Cpl Wynen, Maj Fifield, LCol Johns, LCol Connolly, LCol Day)



Strathconas in Wainwright

Lieutenant Keary McAtasney

Headline: Strathconas in Wainwight wrap up another productive year. Extra Regimentally Employed (ERE) Strathconas were employed throughout 3rd Canadian Division Support Base (3 CDSB) Wainwright, the Canadian Manoeuvre Training Centre (CMTC), and 3rd Canadian Division Training Centre (3 Div TC). These units play a very important role within the Canadian Army. CFB Wainwright supports one of the largest Range Training Areas in the Canadian Armed Forces and hosts the largest Collective Training (CT) event of the year, Ex MAPLE RESOLVE (Ex MR). Wainwright is also home to the largest Individual Training (IT) establishment in the western area.



3 Div TC Strathconas. MWO Christopher Zubkowski, Sgt Andrew Elms, MCpl Bradley Wheeler, Sgt Herold Mijares, MCpl Keith Thibault, Sgt Jason Comeau, MCpl David Lahay, WO Nicholas Norman.

Allow me to recap some

accomplishments. Strathconas at CMTC have been engaged in every large CT event the CA held throughout last year. Exercises such as UNIFIED RESOLVE, Integrated Capstone Exercises SILVER ARROW & CRYSTAL ARROW held in Latvia, and of course Ex MR 22. During Ex MR 22, the Armd Observer, Controller, Trainer (OCT) team was privileged to welcome OCTs from the United States, Australia, and France. Each came with their own unique expertise and views of manoeuvre warfare. These views were highly valued when conducting After Action Reviews (AAR) by C Squadron, Royal Canadian Dragoons throughout Ex MR 22.

Strathconas at 3 Div TC also had a very busy year with numerous IT courses completed. The BOLD EAGLE Program was the largest yet with 120 students enrolled. The 3 Div TC or "the school" has also run multiple Primary Leadership Qualification courses as well as Dispersed Basic Military Qualification. Competent leaders such as **Sgt Herald** "*Louis*" **Mijares** and **Sgt Jason Comeau** (who has recently



MWO Christopoulos demonstrates how to get stuck during UTV training, for recovery purposes.

completed his Rappel Operator course), leave no doubt that the graduates coming out of the 3 Div TC will be of the highest calibre.

I would also like to name a few Strathconas at 3 CDSB Wx such as **Cpl Logan Lastowski** at Base Operations. At Base Stores, **Cpl Fabricio Castillo** is hard at work and his breadth of experience outside the trade is ever growing. A shout out also goes to our soldiers at Range Control where we find **Cpl Cody Silverman** and **Tpr Dillan Giersch.** Thank you for your service "behind the scenes." Lastly, I would like to congratulate our recent RCD re-badge to the Strathcona's, **Cpl Logan Thompson**, who is posted to CMTC. Welcome to the family!

This concludes a quick synopsis of the accomplishments of Strathcona soldiers posted to CFB Wainwright. All in all, this is a great place to be posted as it allows us to keep our finger on the CA's "pulse" while being just down the highway from our home unit.

Perserverance.

62

Strathconas in 5th Canadian Division (The Mighty Maroon Machine)

Major Rich Lund

Strathcona's continue to lead from the front at 5th Canadian Division Headquarters (The Might Maroon Machine) in beautiful Halifax, NS.

MGen Paul Peyton, who took command of the 5th Canadian Division on 26 June 2021, was promoted and posted to Ottawa as Chief Force Development in July 2022. While his command was shorter than we would have liked, his tenure as Commander 5 Cdn Div can only be characterized as a success. While he works in Ottawa now, he can still often be found in Halifax, as he frequently travels back to be with his family. We wish them all the best.

CWO Bill Crabb continues to serve as the Deputy Division Sergeant-Major at 5 Cdn Div. During Op LENTUS for Hurricane FIONA, CWO Crabb did not waste any time coming to the aid of his community. Word quickly made its way back to the HQ that he could be found helping locals in PEI clearing trees and coordinating with local officials as we rolled out our response. We may tease him about his age, but he still works like Trooper.



63

MGen Peyton

As 5 Cdn Div G3, **LCol Chris Nolan** has worked many long hours, without complaint, as the CA and the Div plan for a multitude of contingencies and deployments. The Royals kept him busy as he had to plan, coordinate, and execute a Royal visit to NL and CONPLAN BRIDGE. In both instances his execution was exceptional, and he was officially recognized by the Lt-Gov of NS for his work for BRIDGE and presented with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal.

As for me, I'm in my third year now as the Executive Assistant to the Commander, but there is finally light at the end of tunnel as I search for my replacement this APS.

Perseverance.



BGen Masson presents LCol Nolan with the QPJM.



MGen Peyton getting some help from his wife Tiffany during his promotion.



Strathconas at 1 CMBG Last Minute Memoirs Of A Year In Review

Lieutenant Kevin Kwok



2Lt Dennis, 2Lt Lee, and 2Lt Sellers serving up at the 1 CMBG HQ & Sigs Sqn Soldier's Appreciation Dinner.

It was a Friday afternoon, when after pestering **Capt Michael Forestell** and **WO Keith Hodgson** with yet another Community Relations request from Div, I looked up to see **LCol Mike Timms** walk into the G3 shop with a giant, albeit slight guilty, grin. He notified me that an article for the Strathconian had to be drafted, and that it

was due in less than hour... It is for this reason I now submit this panicked year in review of Strathconas at 1 CMBG HQ.

The Strathconas have had a decent showing at 1 CMBG this year. **LCol Matt Johns**, the self-proclaimed "G3sus," enabling the



l CMBG Forward Command Post on Vigilant Ram.

planning and execution of many COMMITTED year deployments and contingency plans before being posted to Kingston to teach the next generation of senior Capts. Meanwhile, **Maj Blake Tapp** pretended to work as the G1, until he managed to escape the HQ and deploy to Kuwait on Op

IMPACT, where he surely continues to pretend to work. **Maj Steve Couture** did all the work as the acting G5 before also deploying to Kuwait, to ensure Blake did not get himself into too much trouble. I'm sure they're having quite the time of their lives, as they've been too busy to share stories or send us pictures for this annual publication. **CWO Robert Clarke** served as the soft-spoken and friendly Brigade Sergeant-Major, always making time to check in and offering sage advice; **Louise Litwin**, a Strathcona alumni and the Brigade Commander's secretary, always made time to heckle the G3 shop. **LCol Mike Timms**, whom always seems to have a story about "that one time," served as the never endingly busy G3 and Chief of Staff.

Bolstering our strength in Brigade HQ were four 2Lt OJE's, 2Lt Nicholas Dennis, 2Lt Kuhn-Mook Lee, 2Lt David Sellers, and 2Lt Shawn Meldrum on loan from the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps School. We never could replace that clock and the G3 shop fridge still smells of hundreds of chicken nuggets. These four Strathcona-hopefuls returned to Gagetown following the Christmas block leave, and are completing their Advanced Troop Leaders course. We hope to see them back in Edmonton soon. As for myself, Lt Kevin Kwok, Brigade was an enlightening experience, learning much of the inner workings of HQ, that carbonated drinks in camelbacks are a terrible idea, and to never trust Div orders.



Strathconas at 3rd Canadian Division A Subbie Survival Guide

Lieutenant Jonathan Vickars

So, you've just received your trade qualification as an Armoured Officer, a golden ticket out of Gagetown and the privilege of a posting to LdSH(RC). Congratulations, well done. However, what does one do when your first tasking is not as a troop leader at Regiment but to the crystal palace of 3rd Cdn Div HQ? Don't worry, this guide is here for you.

The first thing you're going to encounter are all your fellow subbies who are eager to know your new job so they can either mock your misfortune or be envious of your prime position. Your Div posting however will elicit a different response, usually one of the following: "huh", "wait, are you sure?", "that's weird", and best of all, "how did you get on someone's bad side before even getting here?". Now depending on your constitution, you may be experiencing what we like to refer to as "existential dread," but let me assure you that all is not lost.



Capt Kevin King (Left) and Maj James Anderson (Right) on the 3 Div C7 Range for PWT 1-2 at ATS 1.

This next part will vary by posting season and the length of your Armoured Troop Leader (ATL) course which, as per tradition, will be determined by drawing numbers out of a hat. Arriving at CFB Edmonton at the height of the summer heat wave does take some getting used to, but thankfully it's a dry heat. However, I'm sure you will agree that the air-conditioned offices and comfortable chairs of 3rd Cdn Div HQ are an acceptable compromise to your shelved dreams of armour rolling cross country.

Next up is etiquette and decorum. At Div this varies considerably from what you have become used to by this point in your career. Coming to attention at the door of a senior officer's office will earn you a sideways glance, a furrowed brow, and a chastising "stop that". In fact, salute enough officers around the building and soon enough you will get a visit from the Sergeant Major who will politely tell you to "calm down, Sir." I warn you that the relaxed atmosphere of a staff environment is prone to breeding complacency, and upon returning to regiment for Mariner Room coffee, courtesies must once again be paid lest one wishes to accumulate a new high score in extras.

Now what you've been waiting for, the actual job. Let me assure you that regardless of the claims of your fellow subbies, officers, and NCOs, work does get done at Div HQ – but those details are above your pay grade. To all Strathconas who find themselves far or not so far from home I wish you well.

Perseverance.

From left to right: Maj James Anderson, Lt Jonathan Vickars, Lt Henry Loun, Capt Kevin King





3rd Canadian Division Support Group We Enable Success

Lieutenant-Colonel Fred Hayward

"The amateurs discuss tactics: the professionals discuss logistics" - Napoleon Bonaparte

Having received an excellent baseline training from our home Regiment, the Strathconas in 3rd Canadian Division Support Group (3 CDSG) are ideally suited in providing the institutional support to over 13,000 3rd Canadian Division soldiers required to train for overseas missions and to support Divisional soldiers during domestic operations. 3 CDSG is headquartered at 3rd Canadian Division Support Base, Edmonton (3 CDSB Edmonton). The formation consists of 3 CDSB Edmonton, 3 CDSB Edmonton – Detachment Wainwright, CFB Shilo, and CFB Suffield. As a formation, 3 CDSG takes care of the baseline institutional support to; infrastructure, ranges, training areas, personnel services, and technical services. Personnel services include support such as the garrison orderly room, releases, language training, kitchens, gyms, base traffic and career transitioning. Technical services include support such as clothing stores, base maintenance, as well as snow and ice removal.

3 CDSG is an integrated team of Regular, Reserve, and civilian members focused on the provision of integral support across the largest, and arguably most challenging, AOR within the Canadian Army. Each year we must demonstrate our agility, determination, and capability in a changing and uncertain environment. Our foundation is built upon a sustainable level of operations which is supported by both the chain of command and our families. Our people remain our most critical asset that must be protected and well led. We meet our goals through the adherence to professional standards, demonstrated mental and professional agility, and the physical and emotional resilience to complete our tasks. 3 CDSG is a formation where all Defence Team members want to work because we are focused on the well-being and resiliency of our people and their families and there is a culture of inclusiveness, integration, and respect for all of our members.

There are more than 2000 civilian and military personnel including Strathconas who work hard every day to support the soldiers of 3rd Canadian Division.



Strathconas in the North

Major Tim McHugh



I get the honour of writing the article to represent the Strathcona's in the north, yet I am the one who has lived here the least. This makes it odd in I am trying to encapsulate the grandeur and joy that can come from living and working North of 60 but am ill suited due to my lack of outdoor hobbies and time in location. Regardless, I will try to provide insight into the possibilities and experiences that one can have in this environment. I warn readers that there is no humour in this article, it is unfortunately not my best work.

Canada's arctic is a unique and interesting place. It has become the focus of much debate and interest in last few years, due in part to the expected opening of the Northwest Passage and the revitalization of NORAD. So much so that within the last year myself, or colleagues, have briefed the Prime Minister, NATO Secretary General, various Ministers

both Federal and Territorial, US SOCOM, amongst others. There are also the random requests or interactions one gets working at 1 Canadian Ranger Patrol Group or Joint Task Force North, when I received the request to write this article I was in the middle of a meeting with ADM(Pol) and ADM(IE) representatives talking about the effects of Climate Change. There are very few opportunities to be involved at such a high level whilst being employed at such a low level anywhere else in Canada.

Now that work is out of the way, the true beauty of working North of 60 is being North of 60. Yellowknife is on one of the largest freshwater lakes in the world and from what I have been told the opportunities for an avid angler are as immense as the fish, though can one really believe the stories fishermen tell? Hunters shouldn't dismay that it is only fish, as the ability to hunt moose, bear, bison, muskox, sheep, caribou, and I assume scores of other delicious animals is well



within your reach.

The organizations up here are some of the few places where adventures can still be had while getting paid, and the people working here love it. Come up to 1 CRPG or JTFN and travel the North.



Maj Tim McHugh and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau



Extra Regimentally Employed

VCDS

CA HO

CAHO

CADTC

6 CCSB

CAHQ

3 CDSB

CACSC

JTFN

CFD

1 CMBG

RCACS

CAHQ

1 CMBG

5 CRPG

CACSC

CACSC

CFD

CFC

CTC

SJS

CFC

LGen S.R. Kelsey JFC Naples CENTCOM CCJ3 (CAN) MGen D.A. Macaulay MGen P.J. Peyton Chief Force Development / BGen J.J. Major 4 Cdn Div HO BGen D.R. Parsons CDLS (London) Col V.G. Kirstein TF Latvia Col M. Lubiniecki VCDS C Prg Col E.G. MacEachern ADM(RS) Col A.D. MacIntyre CJ7 Multinational Force & LCol C.R. Adams Observers, Sinai LCol E.D. Angell LCol R.P. Chiasson LCol J.L. Cochrane LCol M.A. Connolly 33 CBG HQ LCol R.A. Cooper LCol D.R. Cronk HQ MND-NE Poland LCol T.W.F. Day LCol D.M. Gray LCol V.F. Hayward LCol M.D.C. Johns LCol P.E. Leonard UNC Korea LCol M.A. McMurachy LCol A. Nitu VCDS C Prg LCol C.O. Nolan 5 Cdn Div LCol C.J. Quinlan LCol R.T. Steward 41 CBG HO LCol M.D. Timms LCol A.S.H. Wong CAF TU AB/North Maj J.A. Anderson 3 Cdn Div Maj J.S. Boates Maj J.W. Brown Maj T.L. Collings Maj S.G. Couture Maj W.S. Deatcher JCBRN Def COE Maj M.R.N Douglas 41 CBG HQ Maj L.A. Dunn Maj A.C. Dwyer Maj I. M. Elkorazati Maj C.S. Fifield Maj D.A. Gray



Lt McAtasney provides OCT service with a smile to the Polish Tank Coy of the eFP BG in Latvia.

Maj N.R.B. Hevenor Mai S.W. Holmes Maj B.S. Johnson Maj H. Jung Maj J.M.J. Kim Maj T.A. LaCroix Maj R.I. Lund Maj J.R.F. McEwen Maj T.R. McHugh Maj C.W. Meikle Maj J.P. Nguyen Maj C.S. Penney Maj T.D. Pett Maj C.E.J. Prince Maj A.A. Raju Maj J.N. Rickard Maj J. Salter Maj K.D. Tams Maj L.B. Tapp Maj D.P. Williams Maj S.R. Wright Capt J.F. Agius Capt R.J. Baglole Capt P.A. Buckingham Capt N.B. Bugg Capt D.W. Carter-Wright Capt S.T. Casey Capt S.R. Churchill Capt T.M. Clackson Capt J.A. Daley Capt F.J. Dawson Capt D.W.R. Dixon Capt L.A. Frizzell Capt E.R.J.M. Giajnorio Capt M. Hoffart Capt J. Horlings Capt Y. Hu Capt M.A. Kaye Capt A.M. Keewatin Capt K.E. King Capt S.A. King Capt L.J. Kirkham Capt M. Labrecque Capt J.F. Lee Capt O.T. Lewis Capt M.J. MacInnis Capt S.J.P. McGlone Capt C.D. McLean Capt M.A. McTavish Capt J.L.E.E. Miller Capt N.C. Miller Capt A.C.R. Neshcov Capt M.G. Pano Capt D.F. Patt Capt E.G. Perry Capt K.A. Reiten Capt S.J. Rogozinski Capt C.J. Ross Capt M.T.H. Smith

Fort Leavenworth SJS CAF TU NCR CAHQ PCO CAHQ 5 Cdn Div CADTC 1 CRPG CDA ATL 3rd United Kingdom Division 5 Cdn Div CADTC HQ Det Edm 41 CBG CATEU CACSC RCACS 3 CDTC 1 CMBG CFC LANDCOM, Turkey CFRC Fredericton 3 CDSB OLC Edm CMTC OLC Edm JTF-X 3 CDSB BCR NORAD 39 CBG HQ CANSOFCOM TC Cgy Royal Lancers 1 PPCLI JYF-X RCACS Tactics School 1 CMBG 3 Cdn Div CADTC JTF Pacific CANSOFCOM FGH 2/2 SBCT CFRC Ott, Det Sudbury CANSOFCOM 36 CBG 39 CBG HQ Sask D **Tactics School** CTC CADTC RCACS QY Rang 3 CDTC **Op SOPRANO** CTC RMCC



The Officers of the Royal Lancer's at their annual Chattels Lunch

Capt S.K.E. Smith	RCACS
Capt C.T. Smith	CMTC
Capt A.D. Tardiff	RCACS
Capt L.M. Taylor	36 CBG PEIR
Capt L.W. van Heerden	KOCR
Capt E.J. Wiome	RCACS
Capt D.M. Wright	CFSU(E)
Capt A.J. Young	JTF- X
Lt R.M. Levis	RCACS
Lt K.R. McAtasney	CMTC
2Lt T.U. Lauterbacher	3 CDSB-BTL
CWO R.J. Clarke	1 CMBG
CWO A.S. Mayfield	TC Edm
MWO H. Babin	ACO ORGS (S) Naples
MWO J.J.Y.L. Charette	IMS NATO HQ, Brussels
MWO L.B. Christopoulos	CMTC
MWO C.B. Eady	SLT Edm
MWO L.R. Hill	CANSOFCOM
MWO N.V. Mills	3 CDSB SLT
MWO G.C. Moon	CJOC HQ
MWO J.D. Paterson	SALĤ
MWO K.A. Shiells	TC Edm
MWO C.P. Zubkowski	3 CDTC
WO D. Brister	CFB Kingston
WO F.L. Brown	CAF TG TU Ott
WO C.J. Bulmer	CATEU
WO A.D. Burris	38 CBG
WO K.G. Chuback	408 THS
WO S.P. Collins	RCACS
WO M.R. Croxall	RCACS
WO G. Davidson	BCR
WO T.C. Dickey	BCD
WO J.A. Doherty	RCACS
WO R.N. Ford	RCACS
WO J.D. Gibson	Sask D
WO J.A.J. Gushue	RCACS
WO J.M. Helliwell	TC Gagetown
WO A.D. Hodgin	6 CCSB HQ

WO N.C. Johnston WO R.W.W. Kearns WO B.R. Loft WO S.P. McLoughlin WO D.J. McMurtry WO E.R.G. Morley WO N.D. Norman WO N.A. Patterson WO M.J. Peachey WO E.J. Pickell WO S.G. Thomas WO L.J. Troop Sgt A.A. Alwani Sgt T. Baldwin 3 Sgt L.T. Banman Sgt B.K. Campbell Sgt H.C. Chen Sgt C.K. Clegg Sgt C.J. Collier Sgt J.G. Comeau Sgt A.E.M. Cook Sgt C.J. Davidson Sgt J.E. Desjardins Sgt L.M. Doan Sgt J.A. Dunford Sgt A.J. Elms Sgt R.L. Ferguson Sgt J.D. Hayes Sgt A.L. Icala Sgt K.A. Job Sgt J.A. Johnson Sgt A.T. Kewley Sgt J.C. Loykowski Sgt M.M. MacLeod Sgt H.L. Mijares Sgt J.A. Monge Sgt K.J.T. Nieuwhof Sgt A.W. Pawliuk Sgt D.P. Popoff Sgt N.A. Reid Sgt S.J. Richardson Sgt R.J. Rushton Sgt C.R. Schafer

Tactics School KOCR RCACS 3 Cdn Div TC SALH The Ont Regt 3 Cdn Div TC RCACS Sask D CMTC RCACS FGH 1 Cdn Div CDSG CANSOFCOM RCAF Academy RCACS RCACS 1 Svc Bn 3 Cdn Div TC **CFFCA** 3 Cdn Div TC CAF TC Gagetown CMTC TC Edm 3 CDTC Wx CRFC Cgy-Det Edm RCACS RCACS CFLRS 1 CRPG SALH 1 CRPG CAF TC Gagetown 3 Cdn Div TC RCACS TC Edm RCACS CAF TC Edm CFB Meaford RCACS RCACS RCACS



Gates on Mons, visited during Ex SOMME LANCER

69



Sgt J.O. Schijns	RCACS	MCpl A.C.P. Warren	RCACS
Sgt T.G.C. Silcox	3 Cdn Div TC	MCpl K.N.N. Watson	KOCR
Sgt G.H.L. Skaarup	RCACS	MCpl M.L.P. Westelaken	RCACS
Sgt K.M.J. Stratford	CFLRS	MCpl B.J. Wheeler	3 Cdn Div TC
Sgt D.E. Symington	FGH	Cpl C.D. Asprey	RCACS
Sgt S.T. Taborowski	RCACS	Cpl D.G.J. Aube	TC Edm
Sgt C.J.W. Talmage	RCACS	Cpl B.C. Baker	RCACS
Sgt B.W. Townsend	JTFW-JOC	Cpl W.B. Balaneski	RCACS
Sgt B.S. Young	RCACS	Cpl W.M. Barkley	3 CDSB
MCpl P.B. Breau	RCACS	Cpl D.A. Beukes	RCACS
MCpl K.A. Cena	RCACS	Cpl S.J. Brown	RCACS
MCpl S.M. Coughlan	RCACS	Cpl N.A.F. Bryk	RCACS
MCpl J.W. Crockett	RCACS	Cpl F.A. Castillo	3 CDSB Tech Svs Wx
MCpl A.M.D. Dauphinee	RCACS	Cpl S.P. Charles	RCACS
MCpl N.B. Deringer	BCR	Cpl C.D Ducharme	RCACS
MCpl S.M-L Doan	CMTC	Cpl N.F. Fabischek	RCACS
MCpl T.W. Ellis	RCACS	Cpl S. Fong	RCACS
MCpl T.R. Farquharson	CFLRS	Cpl D.J. Foster	RCACS
MCpl T.C. Gibbons	The Windsor Regiment	Cpl J.M. Gilbert	RCACS
MCpl N.J.C. Guay	RCACS	Cpl J.E. Gratto	RCACS
MCpl J.S.M. Hall	RCACS	Cpl J.P. Gray	CFB Suffield
MCpl I.G. Harding	RCACS	Cpl S.J.J. Grenier	RCACS
MCpl D.W. Lahay	3 Cdn Div TC	Cpl M.J. Guay	RCACS
MCpl R.J.P.J. Larcher Pellar	nd Sask D	Cpl J.H. Hachey	RCACS
MCpl A.L. Maisonneuve	JIIFC/SJS	Cpl A.P. Hill	RCACS
MCpl C.B. Maisonneuve	CANSOFCOM	Cpl W.J.K. Hopper	RCACS
MCpl J.N. Matchett	RCACS	Cpl C.B. Hornby	RCACS
MCpl M.C. McNeil	Halifax Rifles	Cpl C.W. Hutchinson	CFB Suffield
MCpl M.G. Meena	CMTC	Cpl E.P. Jankowitz	RCACS
MCpl M. Ouellet	CFLRS	Cpl M.R. Jesse	3 CDSB
MCpl R.B. Partridge	5 CDTC	Cpl R.I.J. King	CMTC
MCpl A.B. Radford	BCD	Cpl R.T.A. King	CFB Suffield
MCpl I.S. Sandhu	CAF TC Cgy	Cpl C.M. Kipot	RCACS
MCpl C.J.D. Shute	RCACS	Cpl K. Klassen	RCACS
MCpl P.J. Smith	RCACS	Cpl L.M. Kroeker	RCACS
MCpl E.T. Snoek	PSTC-CFB Kingston	Cpl L.M. Lastowski	3 CDSG Tech Svcs
MCpl K.M. Thibault	3 CDTC	Cpl K.J. Leis	CMTC
MCpl E.J. Thibodeau	RCACS	Cpl J.P. MacFadyen	RCACS
MCpl G.D. Veinot	SALH	Cpl J.D. Martin	RCACS
MCpl R.K. Wagner	5 CDTC	Cpl M.C. Maxwell	3 CDSB

Sgt Croxall - top ATW candidate



Cpl W.M. McGrogan Cpl S.A. Mireault Cpl W.J. Mitchell Cpl A.A. Moreau Cpl L.N. Mullens Cpl J.R.R. Munro Cpl R.W. Murray Cpl P.M. Nicholson Cpl A.J.J. Nolet Cpl A.P.J. Normandeau Cpl S.P. O'Connor Cpl B.D. Peacher Cpl N.E. Pearson Cpl A.M. Pezzelato Cpl S.G.S. Phypers Cpl R.W. Pietila Cpl G.D. Ripley Cpl C.D.P. Silverman Cpl M.M.R. Sirois Cpl J.A. Solomon Cpl C.J. Stamp Cpl J.A.T. Sutherland Cpl S.T. Swanson Cpl L.C. Thompson Cpl A.V. Turcotte Cpl M.T.J. Vahey Cpl J.E.A Valenzuela Cpl A.W. Waldner Cpl B.A. Williston Cpl K.R. Worden Cpl J.A. Works Cpl D.M. Wynen Tpr B. Bergen Tpr D.T. Giersch Tpr K.A. Jaun Tpr L.M. Renooy Tpr C.B. Rundle Tpr C.T. Service Tpr C. Tracy

RCACS RCACS RCACS TC Edm RCACS RCACS 3 CDSG RCACS RCACS RCACS CMTC CFC RCACS RCACS RCACS RCACS 3 CDSB The Windsor Regiment Att Posted-408 Sqn CFB Suffield Att Posted-408 Sqn RCACS CMTC RCACS Att Posted-408 Sqn CFB Suffield RCACS TC Edm Att Posted-408 Sqn RCACS CACSC RCACS CMTC RCACS RCACS RCACS RCACS RCACS

3 CDSB



71

MCpl Landry - top ACC student



Sgt Taborowski - RCACS Commendation



Subbies enjoying a nice meal after the WEM Waterpark event.

HURLEY

Lt Clare teaching Capt Shki-Giizis the finer points.

Ni ma pr

Tpr Smith is crowned champion.

The Adjt on the obstacle course.

and see

in international

Tpr Banavage and team assemble an artic tent during Trooper Funk.

Vlessing & Social



The Mariner Room

Major Matthew Shumka and Captain Tom Hume

Before writing this, I reviewed the approach that my predecessors have taken in previous years, and naturally copied it; changing one or two things to make it my own of course... and keeping it as succinct as one can do within a designated word count... 45 words down, 755 to go!

As one could expect of any distinguished and illustrious appointment, the President of the Mess Committee (PMC) and Mess Secretary (Mess Sec) positions were hotly contested, prompting several changes throughout the year. Starting the year off, **Maj Gord** "*I hold the record as the only PMC without the privilege of organizing a mess dinner for two years*" **Elliott** held the reigns as PMC until their ensuing deployment, at which time **Capt Matt** "*What's a budget*" **Hoffart** took over. Unsurprisingly, their time in power did not last long as the Mess Sec started an uprising, exiling the Acting PMC in a victorious coup d'état in which **Capt Ekam** "*Wait, what just happened*" **Uppal** took over. But wait, there is more... as held true for officer staffing throughout the Regiment, personnel changes in the squadrons forced changes in the Mariner Room yet again. Following summer leave, **Lt Tim** "*This can't be that bad can it...?*" **Carroll** took over with positive attitude and a sense of duty second to none;

however, sadly, their dreams too would be instantly squashed. Yet, there was hope as a Major was posting back into the Regiment to help; little did they know, **Maj Matthew** *"Here today gone tomorrow"* **Shumka** would no sooner take over as PMC as he would depart on a "task" and then a "course" for an extended period.

But in all seriousness, this past year has been quite abnormal yet again. With the lifting of almost all COVID restrictions, the social side of the Mariner Room once again began to take shape. Building on my predecessor's optimism, the year kicked off with a bang seeing the ever-exciting endeavor of furniture repairs. This wholesome task was immediately followed up with the refurbishment of most, but not all, of the silver. Exciting stuff I know! Yet, following on the heels of several years of social event cancellations, traditional events started to come back to life. Meet & greets, Edmonton Garrison Officer's Mess functions, the Black Hat Mess Dinner, an attempt at the notorious Officer and Non-Commissioned Member's At-Home, Regimental Sports Days, and of course Subbies Carolling (this will be discussed in Subbies' Corner).

I'm told that the first Black Hat Officers Mess Dinner since COVID-19 was a great success despite (or in spite of) my absence. In the lead up to the fateful day, The Regimental



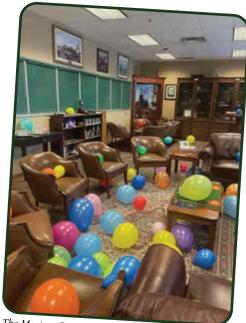
The Regimental Gavel and the 1954 Sherman, both of which received repairs this year.

Manual was dusted off and junior officers received multiple briefings from the Adjt and PMC de jour on what was and wasn't allowed during a mess dinner. At this time, the PMC, knowing that they would not be present and must defend themselves, issued a challenge to the subbies to steal the gavel. This challenge was met with audacious threats and predictions of success; however, as we would soon find out, **Lt Jeremy** *"All talk no action"* **McBride** would under deliver. The dinner itself was preceded with a rousing speech by The Armoured Corps Colonel Commandant, **Gen (retired) Walter Natynczyk** and followed by a well-planned (and definitely not last minute) dine-out presentation for **Maj (retired) Peter Beitz**. In presenting the facts about **Pete's** career, the CO made references to boots and underground newspapers as a slideshow featuring a variety of pictures of Pete mounting animals that were not quite horses, played in the background.



While slightly overshadowed by heated debates over the appropriateness of basil in dessert, the dinner itself was deemed a triumph by all and smoothly transitioned to the time-honoured tradition of formal toasts and Regimental Marches. Concluding the dinner, gavel-less (though not through the cunning of a subaltern) the Acting PMC escalated the attack from the Subbies by producing the considerably louder B Sqn alternate gavel to lead into some rather eventful toasts. Mr. Vice (Lt Woesal "I'LL DIE FOR ANY STRATHCONA" Dorjee), battered but not broken, managed to survive to the end and received a toast to his resilience by his peers. Overwhelmingly disappointed by the lack of the courage shown by the subbie collective, the Acting PMC gifted Mr. Vice the Contingency Gavel (a partially cleaned moose femur) as a reminder of the Subbies' collective failure, which they shamelessly carried for the remainder of the evening.

All in all, this past year was not one of "normal" shenanigans, but it was a start back to the "good ole days". And as is the case, we sadly (or gladly for some) said goodbye to 13 officers leaving Regimental strength, though we did see another large influx of Subbies to keep our traditions alive.



The Mariner Room 'decorated' for the CO's birthday.

Now as we transition into yet another year, we optimistically look forward to seeing what shenanigans our Subbies can get into in 2023. With the reintroduction of the Brigade Mess Dinner, I am confident that we will start things off in style. If you are ever in the area, feel free to come by and visit anytime, the coffee is always on, and the company is usually good.

The Sarcee Room

WO Derek Murdoch

Another year, and yet another Strathconian article. Yes, it's me again, the current longest running PMC of the Sarcee Room, **WO Derek** "Four More Years" **Murdoch**. This year has been an interesting one, with



a few more events and gatherings being able to take place now that we have escaped the grasp of the evil and scary cold known as COVID-19.

This year we were able to co-host a BBQ with the Mariner Room. Their members provided valuable skills, attained pre-enrollment as burger flippers, and our members just decided to throw money at the problem and paid them off. We were also fortunate enough to host our first Black Hat Mess Dinner in over two years, which was a great opportunity for some PD for all involved. This included 11 MCpls from the Green Point Lounge, who got to see that a mess dinner is not actually as bad as everyone makes them out to be. Also during which, **MCpl Sean** "*Big lips, Big dips*" **Armstrong** had the chance to perform his rendition of *Sweet Caroline* for the entire mess. Although his rendition was well received by all members, it is recommended that he takes a few more years in the Green Point Lounge to perfect his skills before seeking membership with the Sarcee Room.

Speaking of membership, we welcomed several new members





Left to right: WO Colin "Buckled" Davidson, WO Kevin "Keepin it between the mustard and the mayo tonight" Crowe, WO Derek "Long hair don't care" Murdoch, Sgt Trevor "Backwards and upside-down rounds" McQueen all enjoying the first mess dinner after Covid.

into the mess this year: Sgt Meaney, Sgt McQueen, Sgt Grubber, Sgt Kewely, Sgt McNair, Sgt Weir, and Sgt Collier.

We also said goodbye to some who were posted out or moving on to greener pastures; namely our outgoing TOMS, MWO Kenneth "I never cry" Sheills, who was posted to the Transition Centre as their Sergeant Major. The mess gifted MWO Shiells with a replica HEAT round for his new desk, to serve as a constant reminder of where he came from. The mess also had the pleasure of saying goodbye to our outgoing RSM, CWO Kevin "All right, I could cry a little" King, to whom we gave a very sentimental gift. A quilt created by our very own, Mrs. Veronica "First lady of the Sarcee Room" Murdoch, using PT shirts donated by members of each of the Squadrons that now Capt King served with during his time in the Regiment.

All-in-all a great year of memories for the mess, certainly for this member who looks forward to four more years, four more years!

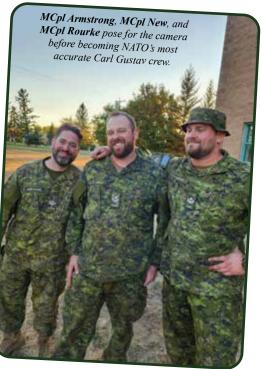
The Green Point Lounge

Master Corporal Mitch McKenzie

Courses, Church's chicken, many hats, and lightbulbs. The four words that sum up this year in the Green Point Lounge. The MCpls of the Regiment found themselves gainfully employed for the entirety of the year, many of us with multiple jobs at the same time.

Early in the year, the mess saw a major shake up with the entirety of the committee starring down the barrel of postings. We held a quick mess meeting and voted in a brand-new rag-tag group of degenerates to helm the ship. A traditional GPL feast of Church's Chicken was held by all to mark the transition from old to new and to say goodbye to our compatriots that were moving on to greener pastures (I'm still not sure I believe Wainwright is greener than Edmonton).

B Squadron moved into Ex STEELE BREACH, contracting the services of kill house Subject Matter Experts **MCpl Jackson** "*I paid for this room*" **Steinke** and **MCpl Ethan** "*This plate carrier is issued*" **Fulljames**. Many rounds were fired, and the exercise gave the MCpls a good chance to practice managing a small team in complex environments.







MCpl Marshall, MCpl McKenzie, and MCpl Vanthournout act as the model Leopard crew during DFIG.

The Regiment soon kicked off with the annual PCF cycle, seeing most of our members tasked out as instructors, and the remainder were kicked away to Gagetown for crew commander courses of various titles. The Lounge went from a hotbed of activity to a ghost town for most of the summer, as is the natural ebb and flow of our mess. To put it into perspective, when all was said and done, and the GPL gathered around our table to discuss air conditioner options (I'm still working on it MCpl Dustin "Where's My Air Conditioner" Stephenson!), we had to consult the book to see who was actually a paying member! As it turns out MCpl Jackson Steinke had inadvertently single-handedly funded the room for the better part of six years and as such is granted the honorary title of Grand Emperor of the GPL.

As I sit here writing this article in the scarlet and myrtle green mood lighting of the GPL (Our solution to the great light bulb fiasco of 2022) I think of all of our members that are posted out. I wish them luck in their temporary homes and remind them that when they come back, there is a room full of their brothers and sisters waiting for them, carrying on the tradition of good food and good company for roughly an hour each day.

The Track Pad

Corporal Dane Frizzell

Don't call it a comeback. After a long COVID break, the Track Pad is back in full swing. With our first official meeting back this past June, the Track Pad has now surpassed 100 new members. **Cpl Giani** "*I pick things up, & I put them down*" **Mancini** won over hearts and minds and is now the Vice-PMC while **Cpl Kyler** "*Sidehustle*" **Bebee** supplied the mess with farewell gifts.

With a very large bank account, the Track Pad made sure to host lots of giveaways with the key ones being Edmonton Elks and Edmonton Oilers ticket giveaways, an Xbox raffle and a summer pizza party. Summer of 2023 will feature Season Tickets to the Edmonton Elks.

2022 marked the return of the Trooper Funk Games. It was a very busy few months of planning but in the end the Track Pad came up with some great challenges to truly find out who the top Trooper of



The Trooper Funk belt on display.

the Regiment is. Activities included a tank relay, artic tent setups, and a FORCE Test style event. In the end, **Cpl Kyler Bebee** passed the belt to **Tpr Aaron Smith** who is now the newest champion. Following the games, the Regiment moved to the Lamplighter lounge for post event celebrations. **Cpl Stephen** *"We gotta have an open bar"* **Graystone** ensured the Troops were well fed and hydrated. It was an amazing day full of positivity and teamwork.

While the Track Pad prepares for more and more activities, one thing remains the same – the heart and devotion of all Troopers / Corporals of the Regiment remains high. While for many members, this is the first time they have seen an active Track Pad, it has struck many peoples' interests and is now hopefully moving in the right direction. Now that 2023 is upon us, it's time to create more lasting memories and continue the legacy of the Track Pad!



Members participate in the maintenance relay.



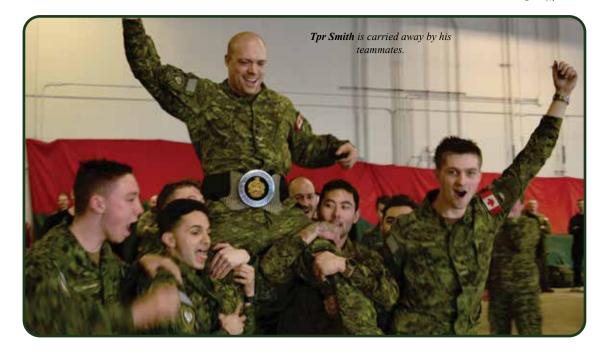
Cpl Graystone speaks prior to Trooper Funk.



Tpr West completes the blindfold weapon assembly.



Tpr Semwal completes the Regt'l knowledge test.





All Ranks Dinner and Dance

Captain Charles Bennie

With the COVID-19 pandemic slowly yet surely making its way into the Regiment's rear-view mirror, the time had finally come to gather all Strathconas and their significant others together once again to share a meal, some cheap drinks, and a whole lot of laughs. Cue the resumption of the All Ranks Dinner and Dance (ARDD), which was hosted this year at Midway Music Hall on June 29th, 2022.

Attendees were greeted with complimentary drink tickets and gaming tokens by Lt Jeremy "Am I getting paid for this?" McBride and made their way inside to sample a plethora of arcade games from pinball to Mario Kart, where unfortunate Troopers and Corporals soon found themselves at the mercy of the former Transport WO, MWO James "Dibs on Princess Peach" Hamilton. It wasn't long before the buffet was stocked with pulled pork sliders, chicken fajitas, and churros amongst many other choices, all of which was quickly and happily devoured by hungry Strathconas and their significant others.



Sharply dressed Strathconas enjoying drinks and games

With in-house DJs pumping modern hits and libations being enjoyed responsibly all around, the time came to draw some fantastic prizes. **Cpl David Olaes** won a 4-person tent from Cabela's, with **WO Susan Coupal** and **MCpl Christopher Allard** (and guest) taking home prizes for Best Hat and Best Dressed Couple respectively. The first of the big prizes, a Nintendo Switch OLED package, was taken home by **Cpl Derek Steeves**. The grand prize, a Bradley Digital Smoker, was taken home by **Cpl Trevor** *"Can you hickory smoke celery?"* **Kelly**. Members of HQ Sqn SHQ are still awaiting our first samples of his efforts.

The ARDD was deeply enjoyed by all who attended and provided a great opportunity to relax, rekindle old bonds and enjoy the resumption of mess gatherings for the Strathconas and their guests. With a busy PCF cycle just around the corner, a return to normal with events like this is just what the doctor ordered.

Holiday Celebrations "The Return of Fun and Games"

Master Corporal Jordan Schemenauer



The McNair family visits Santa.

With the relaxing of COVID protocols, the Regiment returned to traditional holiday events. First, a Sports Day, organized by **Capt Philip** "*GAF 5/100*" **German**, where Strathconas competed for the honour of their messes in ice hockey, soccer, handball, and dodgeball. Matchups pitted the Mariner Room against the Sarcee Room, and the Green Point Lounge (GPL) against the Track Pad. The grit and determination of the Snr NCOs led them to victory on the ice, but the Officers prevailed in the remaining sports. The GPL fought like the Spartans of Thermopylae against the Track Pad, but to no avail.

The Kid's Christmas Party was the next event, organized by Lt Ryan "*Holiday cheer*" Tompsett with support of the B and D Sqn membership. Children





Fun and games at the SAD.

ran from bouncy castle to hockey to face painting; fuelled by pizza and sugar. Key events also included an airsoft range and inflatable obstacle course. Santa Claus himself – much fitter and more handsome than stories describe – and four dedicated elves (Lt Liam Misner, Lt Timothy Carroll, Lt Jeremy McBride, and Lt Kevin "*Knee slider*" Kwok) made a guest appearance. Together, they handed out gifts to the kids, whether naughty or nice. The day ended with children and elves racing through the obstacle course.

The Soldier's Appreciation Dinner (SAD) went off without a hitch and was a much cheerier affair than the acronym implies. The usual tradition of replacing the CO and RSM with the youngest Tpr and oldest Cpl was observed, with **Tpr Dakota** "*Let's work nights*" **Ellis-Hopewell** as the Acting CO, and **Cpl Serge** "*I served under Sam Steele*" **Poitras** as the Acting RSM. Under their dutiful command, morale was high and discipline swift. The Acting CO

ensured that the mess was filled with cheer by ordering the Subbies to sing Christmas carols, some even managed to do so in tune. Notably, the festivities marked **Cpl William** "*Didn't show up to my own party*" **Rayment's** last SAD, and much effort was spent prying a brief speech from him.



Capping off the holiday events was the At Home, where the officers hosted the Snr NCOs at the mess. Both were treated to an evening of inspiring conversation and games. **Capt Thomas** *"Schau Mal!"* **Hume** organized a German beer hall game involving a chair, milk crates, pool cues, and a lot of balance. The traditional holiday events were a rousing success, ushering in feelings of normalcy to a pandemic weary unit membership.





The acting CO and RSM carving the turkey for the troops. Note the proud look on the face of one of our Regiments Cooks.

The Officers serenading the troops with festive songs.



Officers and SNCOs of the Regiment ensuring the troops are well hydrated and nourished.

Subbies' Corner Captain Charles Bennie

2022 was very much a "Changing of the Guard" year for Strathcona subalterns, as Gagetown's graduating class of 2019 made their way around the world and on to new beginnings. Their coffeebrewing and silver-polishing duties were solemnly passed on to not one, but two new classes of subbies fresh from the newly reformatted ATL course. The new subbies quickly fell in line and accepted their fates as glorified baristas, with even senior officers taking notice of how quickly the sugar they spilled was cleaned with smiling faces and broken souls.

The role of Senior Subaltern was passed down from **Capt Miles** "*Playing the SCRIT game*" **Smith** to **Capt Ekamjit** "*I want a second opinion*" **Uppal**, who himself also passed on the role not two months later when the CO determined that the newly invigorated Op UNIFIER task in the UK required the expert hand of someone with only one functioning knee.



Capt Clare, Capt German, Capt Shki-Giizis & Lt Misner Winners of the 2022 STEELE CLUBS Golf Tournament.

Miles, likely with dreams of tiny-crowns-on-rank-slips in his head, moved eastward to Kingston to join Tech Staff for Procurement. God willing, the bureaucracy and red tape won't drag his spirits down. **Capt Mike** "*All great men have moustaches*" **Uusoue** made a brief six-month stopover in Latvia before making his way to the sunny beaches and craft breweries of Kelowna, solidifying (just as **Capt Kai Keewatin** did before him) that all you need for a good go at the Regiment is a good haircut and commanding facial hair. Not to be outdone, after injuries once again derailed his dreams and brought him back to reality, **Capt Shea** "*Third time's a charm*" **McGlone** finally made his way to Dwyer Hill. We look forward to seeing **[NAME REDACTED]** in future H&A CANFORGENs.

The new subalterns quickly found themselves with big shoes to fill, some much larger than others. Several subbies were immediately sent to the Brigade and Div HQ, doomed to spend their first few



months away from the warm embrace of their Regiment (because who else is going to fill the G3's coffee mug?). **2Lt Ryan** "*Caillou impersonator*" **Tompsett** was quickly thrown into the role of Acting OC D Sqn, a role which he quickly took to like a fish to dry land. **2Lt Mark** "*Too broken to eat crayons*" **Snetzko**, excited to take on the role of Transport Officer, decided that catching COVID three days after arriving at the Regiment was a far better outcome than learning how to make lowbed plans. Still, the subbies had their share of fun this year, from trips to the West Edmonton Mall Waterpark and the resumption of Ex STEELE CLUBS.

In spite of the uncertainty created from an ongoing conflict in Eastern Europe, subbie life continues as it always has, for better or worse. We can only hope the change to McDonald's coffee in the Mariner Room indicates a brighter future for us all.

Saying goodbye to Capt McGlone as he leaves for Dwyer Hill.

Strathcona Spouses

Michelle Englehart & Tristy Mallette

As always, the Strathcona Spouses gathered together this year, despite a high tempo and various deployments, for a variety of activities, including a brunch, a potluck, a craft workshop, and to exchange holiday baking.

A brunch was held in May with the lovely spouses in attendance enjoying a variety of treats and fun conversation. Plant cuttings in teacups or coffee mugs were given to all attendees.

In September, the group held a potluck meet and greet. Although it was a small group, a great meal was enjoyed, and wonderful conversations were had.



Coffee and Mimosas for Sunday Brunch



A fused glass workshop was well attended in November with many beautiful holiday decorations being created.

Fabulous baking was exchanged in early December, to ensure everyone had a wide variety of treats for holiday entertaining. A craft activity led to some laughs and some new holiday décor for all. Extra cookies from this event were brought to the Strathcona duty center on Christmas Eve for soldiers to enjoy throughout the holidays.

The Strathcona Spouses group set-up a table at the Strathcona Kids Christmas party to spread word of the Spouses Facebook group and connect with more

spouses. Please search for the group "Strathcona Spouses" to join us on Facebook (be sure to answer the two admission questions) or email: ldshspouses@strathconas.ca, to learn about upcoming events.

We look forward to meeting more of you in 2023!

Spouses Group members shared a delicious Potluck dinner.



81



The Royal Lancers (Queen Elizabeths' Own)

Captain CJSD Mackaness



2022 has been an extraordinary year for the Royal Lancers (Queen Elizabeths' Own). The Regiment began the year with B Squadron deployed to Kosovo as part of the NATO contribution to safety and security in the country. D Squadron were preparing for their deployment to Poland in October as part of the Enhanced Forward Presence, and C Squadron were beginning their preparations to take over from them in 2023. This involved the conversion to JACKAL, or High Mobility Terrain Vehicle – a wheeled variant that is lightly armoured but very manoeuvrable.

The Regiment soon discovered that it would be involved in two further operations. In the spring, it became clear that we would provide another Squadron to deploy to Kosovo in April 2023 (A Squadron), and in the autumn we discovered that we would be contributing to training Ukrainian conscripts as part of

the West's contribution to the war in Ukraine. The Royal Lancers have therefore ended 2022 with one Squadron deployed to Poland, one Squadron soon to deploy to Kent to train the Armed Forces of Ukraine, one Squadron to deploy to Poland, and one Squadron to deploy to Kosovo. Our final Squadron would be furiously converting to WARRIOR, a tracked, well-armoured infantry fighting vehicle.

However, 2022 hasn't been solely operationally focussed. In the summer, the Regiment deployed to the Galloway Forest in south-west Scotland on Ex LUCKNOW LANCER, a Battlegroup-level exercise that included Sub-Units from our Danish allied regiment – the Danish Guard Hussars – and the Household Cavalry. In the absence of a collective training event provided by the Army, we built our own exercise on which we were able to train as a Battlegroup against a Squadron-sized dynamic enemy force. It was a fantastic experience for everyone involved, particularly for our junior soldiers who had never deployed on an exercise of that scale.



The Royal Lancers (Queen Elizabeths' Own) parade at Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's funeral procession.

It was with immense sadness that our Colonel-in-Chief **Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II** died in September, but the Regiment was privileged to be involved in the funeral procession. The Regiment had a special relationship with Her Majesty, and she had served as the Regiment's Colonel-in-Chief for 75 years. Twenty-four soldiers and two officers were involved in the marching party, with the Commanding Officer and Colonel of the Regiment involved also.

It has of course been a great pleasure for us to have **Capt Erik Giajnorio** continue to provide such a great example to our young officers. We will be sad to see him go in 2023, but very much look forward to welcoming his successor. We wish everyone at the Lord Strathcona's the very best for 2023, and we hope to do some joint events to keep the affiliation burning bright.



A Chinook airlifts a Jackal during Ex LUCKNOW LANCER.

Death or Glory.

10th Armored Cavalry Brigade Patron



General Stanisław Maczek



Polish soldiers patrolling the border.

Last year was quite an intensive period in 10th Brigade. From the very beginning soldiers have been backing the Border Guard. During this time, they protected the Polish borders during the migration crisis. This heavy service has had a profound influence on the Brigade's priorities during 2022.

In March 2022 there was a special driving course held in difficult conditions. Soldiers not only learned about reacting to unexpected situations on a road, but also trained their mechanical competences and the application of first aid.

In April 2022 the Brigade was mainly focused on training enlistees. They were taught by highly professional instructors. The schedule of the training contained subjects such as shooting, discipline and military behaviour rules, as well as physical exercises and drill. After their basic course, candidates swore

their oaths and started their professional duties in different units in Poland.

The most essential exercise during the last year was DEFENDER EUROPE 22 which took place in the Drawsko Pomorskie Training Ground. This exercise was an excellent occasion for international collaboration between soldiers from allied countries' armies. The cyclical exercise once again tested the Polish Armed Forces' ability for allied interactions with other troops of NATO countries in diverse conditions. Participants in the exercise were German, American, and Danish soldiers. This exercise was

about one month, and it encompassed 2000 attendees and 700 pieces of diversified equipment in total.

In 2022 there was a change of command of 10th Brigade which has been taken by **Colonel Grzegorz Barabieda**, who has got a promotion to general's rank from the President of the Republic of Poland, **Andrzej Duda** in August 2022.

Also in August, a brigade annual celebration took place. The date of the Brigade's Day was set to commemorate the fighting of 1st Armored Cavalry Division in Normandy. Moreover, the date of the 10th Armored Cavalry Brigade formation on August 8th 1944 falls on the anniversary of the 1st Division's participation in the Battle of Falaise, which was in 1944.



Polish sniper takes aim.



Brig. Gen. Grzegorz Barabieda receives command of 10th Brigade

was conducted in October. Cavaliers once again trained with US troops. The exercise involved both Leopard and M1 Abrams tanks. They led the attack with the support of mechanized troops, artillery, and aviation.

Some of the Brigade's final challenges in 2022 included the training of an anti-aircraft squadron in Ustka, the training of sharpshooters in urban terrain as well as non-commissioned officers and new Leopard tank crews' preparation.

Training in the

Training Ground

Nowa Deba



The NCOs of CTAT Jordan visiting Petra.

Capt Veale celebrating their birthday in front of the BG



Cpl Chauhan at the MUAS launch/recovery zone at night.

> Capt Phil German recuperating after his 4th shift on the bike.



1.4.1

Cpl Goralchuk (left) and **Cpl Blanco** (right) part of the flag raising ceremonies for a Calvary FC game.

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ROOTED IN TRADITION AND DEFINED BY EXCELLENCE

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



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PERSEVERANCE

ALLIED WITH

THE ROYAL LANCERS (QUEEN ELIZABETHS' OWN)

PARTNERED WITH

10 (POLISH) ARMOUR CAVALRY BRIGADE

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

CMT on Parade in Armstrong, BC