



RAUSI News

United in Service of Defence and Security

Royal Alberta United Services Institute

April — June 2021

Contents

RAUSI Reports

- President’s Report..... 1
- Digitizing RAUSI Documents 3
- Finance Committee Update 4
- Programs Committee..... 7
- Vice President’s Report 6
- Communications Committee..... 8
- 2020 Journal Update 10
- Governance Committee Update 11
- Honorary Chaplain Reverend Major Lloyd Northcott, CD (Retired) Departure..... 12
- Padre’s Corner 13
- RAUSI Social Media Update 14
- HMCS Tecumseh Fire Revisited 15
- HMCS Tecumseh, 1923-1981 16
- The Calgary Highlanders..... 18
- The King’s Own Calgary Regiment..... 19
- Cadet Program Update..... 20
- When the Robocall Scam Rings 21
- 41 Canadian Brigade Group (CBG) 22
- 5 Things to Never Do With Passwords.. 23
- Homes for Heroes Foundation..... 24
- New Acquisitions for the Royal Canadian Air Force 26
- The Last Post Fund..... 27
- Veteran’s Corner 27
- Valour Canada Update 28
- Stay Safe On Public Wi-Fi 30
- Interesting Dates in History..... 31
- Upcoming Events 32
- In Memoriam..... 32

President’s Report

By Maj Mark Soehner, CD (Ret’d), RAUSI President

Greetings Members. All of us are into the second year of the pandemic, and all of us are tired of the various lockdowns and restrictions.

Concurrently, this was the year of my Presidency, so that leaves me doubly exhausted. Leading to the Presidency was my effort in the Secretary-Treasurer position for 8 months, and the planning of the potential Royal Visit of our Patron Prince Andrew. For those who may have nodded off during this recent two year period, the Royal Visit and the Grand Centennial Dinner of 8 May 2020 did not take place.

With the declaration of the Pandemic last March, our office room #312 at Mewata and access to it, was declared out of bounds to us by DND. The Officers’ Mess (CGOM) too has been out of bounds and closed. We have not had a function or meeting at Mewata since February 2020.

With Mewata not being available, and our office assistant



leaving us 1 September, when limited access was permitted, I was culling files and turfing stale dated paper records. With no one to answer the phone or use the computer, both the landline and Internet cable were cancelled.

We have had qualified contractors physically do the bookkeeping, monitor social media, and build the website, and that will continue remotely.

Our office lease with DND expired one year ago 1 April 2020 and I have not seen a replacement contract. Perhaps we will return to complimentary accommodations like we saw in the first 97 years of our existence. We do need secure and significant accommodation to retain our many

Continued on page 3



Royal Alberta United Services Institute

Patron

HRH The Duke of York,
KG, GCVO, ADC(P), CD

President

Maj Mark Soehner, CD (Ret'd)

Vice-President

Maj Steven Gasser, CD (Ret'd)

Secretary/Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair

Maj Joe Howard, CD (Ret'd)

Programs Committee Chair

MGen Paul Bury, OMM, CD (Ret'd)

Communications Committee Chair

Maj Kent Griffiths, MMM, CD (Ret'd)

Membership Committee Chair

Col Eppo van Weelderden, CD (Ret'd)

Governance Committee Chair

LCol Ross Wickware, CD (Ret'd)

Directors

MGen Paul Bury, OMM, CD (Ret'd)

Maj Kent Griffiths, MMM, CD (Ret'd)

Lt Tom O'Sullivan

LCol Bill Schultz, MSM, CD (Ret'd)

Col Eppo van Weelderden, CD (Ret'd)

LCol Ross Wickware, CD (Ret'd)

Honorary Piper

Pte Michael O'Sullivan

Honorary Chaplain

Rev Maj Lloyd Northcott

Rev Capt Derwyn Costinak

Honorary Solicitor

2Lt Morris Smeltz, QC (Ret'd)

Newsletter Editor

Maj Bruce Henwood, MSM, CD (Ret'd)

Webmaster

Angela Craig

Social Media

Tokie Brideaux



Calgary Garrison Officers' Mess (CGOM)

Commanding Officer of the Mess

LCol Ryan Palmer, CD

President of the Mess Committee

TBA

Vice-President of the Mess Committee

Lt Stefan Sabo-Walsh

Email

mewatamessmanager@forces.gc.ca



RAUSI Foundation

Maj Mark Soehner, CD (Ret'd)

Maj Steven Gasser, CD (Ret'd)

Maj Joe Howard, CD (Ret'd)

LCol Bill Schultz, MSM, CD (Ret'd)

2Lt Morris Smeltz, QC (Ret'd)

Maj Bruce Henwood, MSM, CD (Ret'd)

Maj Ken Sivertsen, CD (Ret'd)

MGen Paul Bury, OMM, CD (Ret'd)

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RAUSI Office

The RAUSI Office is closed until further notice. The virtual office can be reached by email.

Office Administrator TBA

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Website

www.rausi.ca



Instagram

[@rausi_alberta](https://www.instagram.com/rausi_alberta)



Facebook

[@TheRAUSI](https://www.facebook.com/TheRAUSI)



LinkedIn

[company/therausi](https://www.linkedin.com/company/therausi)



YouTube

[RAUSI](https://www.youtube.com/RAUSI)

Continued from page 1

President's Report

archival records.

Our annual payment to CGOM was made for 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021, however we did not receive any use as we have either been shut out by DND or the Provincial COVID gatherings rules. I have appealed to the Mess President for a rebate for the year ending and relief for the year starting. Time will tell if both our annual \$2,006 payment is adjusted retroactively and the one going forward.

Our 2020 financial results are being audited with the report expected very shortly. I am pleased that the Institute was able to break the recent decade of annually running in the red. I expect to report to you of the Institute having a \$2,662 surplus in the Operating Account for the year.

The Auditors, MGen Barry Ashton and BGen Robert Millar have completed their thorough audit of the Foundation for the past year 2020. Secretary-Treasurer Maj Joe Howard and I worked with the auditors and thank them for their detailed examination. The Foundation's 2020 Financial Statements are available in the Members only section on the website.

Our Chaplain Rev Maj Lloyd Northcott approached me last month asking for relief as our spiritual leader. His personal

situation has changed, and he has now cut back in his many various charitable Chaplain roles. Rev Northcott has done excellent work serving the Institute and others, and I wish he and Grace "All the Best" in their new residency and reduced activities.

I am pleased to announce that Capt Derwyn Costinak, pastor for the Anglican Good Shepherd congregation and Chaplain for the Kings Own Calgary Regiment, has graciously accepted the Institute's Call that he continues the good works of Chaplain Maj Northcott as our

Digitizing RAUSI Documents

RAUSI's President Mark Soehner has invested a great deal of time culling RAUSI digital and paper files, collating documents, requesting historical records from members all with the intent of preserving RAUSI's history. Over the past year, the President has compiled documents and sent them to Western Digital to scan paper files that were not digitized, and

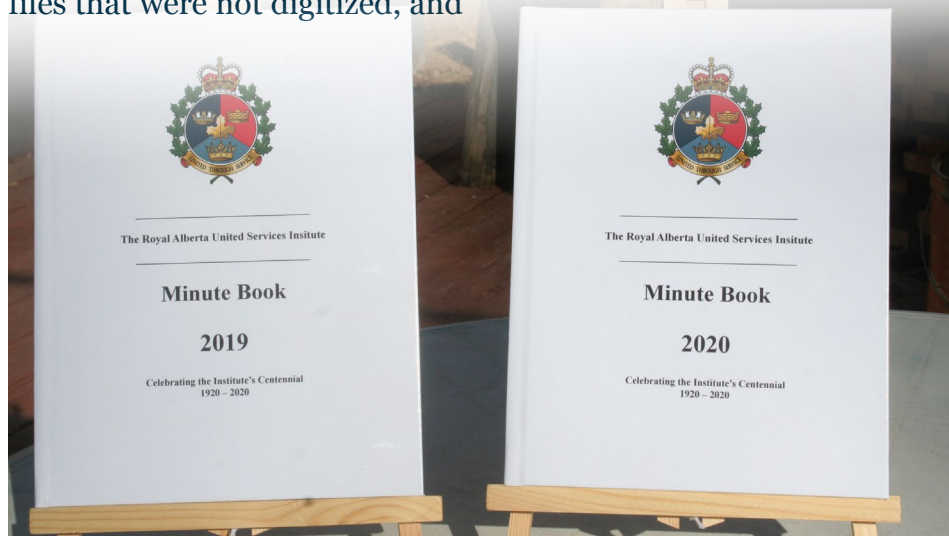
Honorary Chaplain.

The Institute AGM is 22 April and I look forward to addressing everyone via Zoom. We will have a list of candidates willing to join the Board of Directors, and thank those who have served in the past.

For me personally, after the AGM I look forward to continuing to serve but in the role as the Immediate Past President. I do this with enthusiasm, as I can imagine in the new role as "President emeritus," the daily hours expended will be reduced with great significance! 🍁

had them bound into books, these files previously took up dozens upon dozens of three ring binders.

The President has reported that this project is now complete and there are approximately fifty similar bound books as shown below (in both digital and paper versions). 🍁





Finance Committee Update

By Maj Joe L Howard, CD (Ret'd), Secretary-Treasurer and Chair Finance Committee

Two issues may interest readers.

Firstly, some preliminary discussion among a few members has arisen recently about revisiting the purpose of the R.A.U.S.I. Foundation and the real effect it is having on the community it is intended to serve. As a registered charity for income tax purposes, the Foundation holds a particular status in its being able to accept donations and issue tax receipts. Several arguments arise.

1. On the one hand, recent history suggests the number of donations has declined. On the other hand, such past performance is not necessarily an indicator of future performance, and donations may once again increase.

2. On the one hand, having the Foundation remain extant requires a separate regime of bookkeeping, auditing, financial reporting and stewarding, all of which incur costs in terms of not only financial expense, but also a great deal of time and professional expertise from several volunteers who have other duties to perform. On the other hand, to wind up the Foundation would require a large amount of time not only from volunteers to investigate how to wind up the Foundation and analyze the effect(s) of winding it up, but also, perhaps, from outside experts at a commensurate financial cost.

3. Moreover, a wind up may require relinquishing the status of being a registered charity and the capacity to accept donations, a status and capacity that is administratively difficult to acquire in the first place.

In sum, at this time, this issue is merely an idea whose advantages and disadvantages are being outlined in principle. More discussion will follow, and your comments on this sensitive issue are warmly welcomed. See 2020 Summarized Statements for more details (page 5).

Secondly, as noted previously, RAUSI's demand for credentialed financial management by which the directors of RAUSI can meet their fiduciary duties continues

to increase. Regardless of the amount of annual financial and cash flows of RAUSI, which will vary from year to year, the extant requirements for stewarding, bookkeeping, auditing, financial reporting, budgeting and monitoring continue to become more complex. RAUSI and its directors must satisfy an increasing number of technical regulatory requirements emanating from many administrative regimes, including but not limited to those of the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission, the Canada Revenue Agency, the Alberta Provincial Registrar, and Service Alberta. For example, starting from February 2021, select RAUSI directors must now complete criminal background checks and submit fingerprints, hence putting further demands on volunteer time for no immediately visible value added.

Further, with fixed income yields at historically low rates, RAUSI's directorship and its conservatively managed investment portfolio requires more credentialed, more astute and more experienced investment acumen than it currently has. While RAUSI may currently have directors with credentialed financial accounting literacy, it has no directors with credentialed financial investment literacy.

Moreover, directors of RAUSI are now curating and posting an

increasing amount of research, all constituting intellectual property. Such research emanates from many nations, including but not limited to Canada. In turn, this requires that RAUSI and its directors remain fully cognizant of and compliant with all Canadian and international copyright law.

Lastly, with such greater responsibilities being assumed by RAUSI and its directors, greater demands are placed upon the directors of RAUSI to satisfy the complexities and limitations of its corporate governance model. These include gaining a better understanding of all the nuances of not-for-profit organizations, related fiduciary duties and liability for breach of contracts and for torts accruing to directors, and of the related Directors and Officer's insurance extant.

In sum, with RAUSI's becoming more relevant to members and to civil society in the 21st century, its financial administrative and related burden is materially increasing. Yet, its critical demand for credentialed talent to assume these various tasks competently remains only partially fulfilled. Hence, should you know of professionals with intellect, courage, an affinity for matters military and a desire to enrich RAUSI's bench-strength in leading in these functional areas, please let me know at ljosephhoward@gmail.com. Thank you. 🌟

THE ROYAL ALBERTA UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE
Summarized Statement of Financial Position
As at December 31, 2020

	Operating Fund	Casino Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
Assets				
Current Assets	\$ 18,125	\$ 47,951	\$ 66,076	\$ 101,707
Investments	236,483	-	236,483	249,810
	\$ 254,608	\$ 47,951	\$ 302,559	\$ 351,517
Liabilities and Net Assets				
Current liabilities	\$ 5,761		\$ 5,761	\$ 104,007
Deferred Contributions	-	\$ 47,951	47,951	-
Net Assets:				
Internally restricted	160,773	-	160,773	182,762
Unrestricted	88,074	-	88,074	64,748
	248,847	-	248,847	247,510
	\$ 254,608	\$ 47,951	\$ 302,559	\$ 351,517

Summarized Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets
For the Year ended December 31, 2020

	Operating Fund	Casino Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
Revenue	\$ 20,158	\$ 44,033	\$ 64,191	\$ 77,074
Expenses	19,928	44,926	64,854	87,346
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	\$ 230	\$ (893)	\$ (663)	\$ (10,272)
Net Assets - beginning of year	\$ 160,543	\$ 88,967	\$ 247,510	\$ 257,782
Net Assets - end of year	\$ 160,773	\$ 88,074	\$ 246,847	\$ 247,510

THE R. A. U. S. I. Foundation
Summarized Statement of Financial Position
At December 31, 2020

	2020	2019
Assets		
Current Assets	\$ 7,853	\$ 16,118
Investments	162,270	142,279
	\$ 170,123	\$ 158,397
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities	\$ 2,060	\$ 2,000
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	\$ 9,663	\$ 12,000
Internally restricted	158,400	144,397
Total Net Assets	\$ 168,063.00	\$ 156,397.00
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 170,123	\$ 158,397

THE R. A. U. S. I. Foundation
Summarized Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets
For the Year ended December 31, 2020

	2020	2019
Revenue	\$ 14,993	\$ 16,626
Expenses	3,327	5,257
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	\$ 11,666	\$ 11,369
Net Assets - beginning of year	\$ 156,397	\$ 145,028
Net Assets - end of year	\$ 168,063	\$ 156,397

Full financial statements are available on the website, [Members > Financials](#).



Programs Committee

By MGen Paul Bury, OMM, CD (Ret'd), RAUSI Director and Chair, Program Committee

In my discussions with many individuals across the country, I hear time and again of the great anticipation many hold for all that Spring 2021 will bring. RAUSI shares this anticipation and looks forward to being able to eventually engage with our members on a more personal level. However, until that time, we are working to provide RAUSI members with several products which we hope all will find interesting. The first item I would like to highlight is the upcoming RAUSI-Valour Canada, Battle of Vimy Ridge's 104th Anniversary web-based presentation. This will be held on 8 April 2021 (Thursday) at 1800hrs. Information on how to join is available on our website.

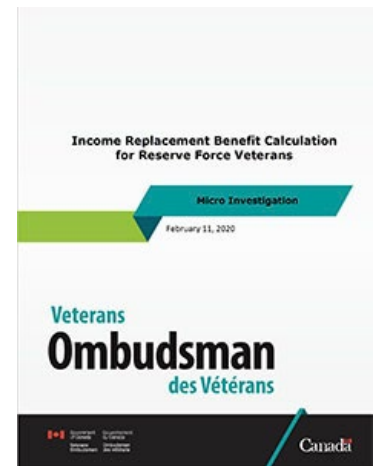
Secondly, RAUSI has recently begun to post a number of articles related to the changing

security situation in the Arctic region on our website. The Arctic is embedded in Canada's historic narrative. However, climate change and the aggressive stance taken by competing nations vis-à-vis the Arctic is forcing Canada and its allies to rethink how we protect our interests in that region. In a [recent article](#) published by The Canada Institute, US General (Retired) Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy and USAF BGen Peter M. Fesler, discuss how competing nations are able to take advantage of current weaknesses in North American defence capabilities. With the ongoing discussions between the US and Canada on NORAD modernization, and the expenses that will need to be incurred by those nations in a post-pandemic world, this issue will remain topical for months to come.



Additionally, with a view to providing our members with current information regarding systemic inequities which exist between members of the

Canadian Armed Forces based upon their component of service, we provide the following paper entitled [Income Replacement Benefit Calculation for Reserve Force Veterans](#). Written by the Veterans Ombudsman, the paper confirms that Reserve Force members remain at a significant disadvantage, when compared to their Regular Force peers when the calculation of the Income Replacement Benefit (IRB) for a service-related injury is being completed. This will lead to an unfair outcome for Reservists and may place their families in financial distress. Many of the RAUSI members are Reservists; they need to understand how the current DND/CAF policy may place them at a disadvantage.



Thanks to all of our members who continue to provide their input to ongoing discussions surrounding Canada's defence and security matters. Your views add significantly to the discussions. 🍀



Vice President's Report

By Maj Steven D Gasser, CD (Ret'd), RAUSI Vice President

It has been a pleasure serving as the RAUSI Vice President over the past three years. There has been an incredible transition over this period. From pistol

shooting competitions, happy hours at Mewata, and guest lecturers at the Danish Canadian Club to online zoom meetings of the Board – what a difference a year makes!

Your President has worked diligently over this past year to preserve the heritage of the Institute, and the Board of Directors have been hard at work creating new content for the various social media platforms. All of this in concert with the Strategic Plan developed in June 2019.

Personally, I have assisted both the current and Past Presidents during my tenure, taking over as Acting President in January 2020 until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

in March, and serving on the Executive Committee, as well as the RAUSI Foundation Board.

We transitioned to an all online zoom presence in March of last year and experienced the largest turnout for our AGM in years! With the roll-out of the vaccine and promises to have every Canadian adult receive their first shot by Canada Day things are beginning to look hopeful for a return to near normal in the fall.

I encourage all members to participate in the virtual webinars that can be found on our calendar until then, our social media channels, as well as to plan to return to face to face sessions as soon as they are safe to do so. 🍀

Are you a 2021 Member?

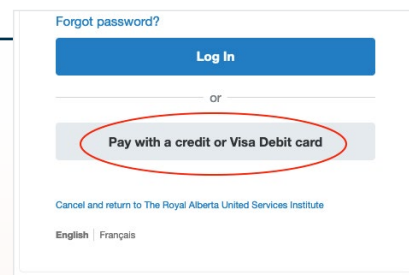
The Board and volunteers have been active during the COVID-19 pandemic, creating new ways to deliver value for members. Your continuing support of the Institute is very important.

- Ordinary Members in good standing may stand for election and vote at the AGM.
- Active members receive monthly emails, quarterly newsletters, and access to resources on the RAUSI website.
- Active members receive privileges with RAUSI's

affiliate organizations, such as a recent registration discount of \$200.

- Membership supports ongoing development of educational resources, research and communications.
- When safe to do so, members enjoy social events and a sense of community with fellow members.

The website (rausi.ca) has been updated and you are now able to quickly join or renew your membership online with a PayPal Account, Visa, Mastercard or debit card payment.



If you do not have a PayPal account, you can still make a one-time payment through PayPal. When taken to the PayPal page, choose "Pay with a credit or Visa Debit card," as circled above.

Payments can also be made via Interac e-transfer to admin@rausi.ca. Please make a note that the payment is for 2021 Membership. 🍀



Communications Committee

By Maj Kent Griffiths, MMM, CD (Ret'd), RAUSI Director and Chair, Communications Committee

With no update on future casino events from AGLC, the update on communications focusses on social media and the website, www.rausi.ca.

The team of Angela Craig – Website Manager and Tokie Brideaux – Social Media and Cross Promotions Coordinator have done a fantastic job revamping our website and postings on social media with the goal of supporting the RAUSI Mission: To encourage and promote the Arts, Sciences and Literature related to Canada's Defence and Security Community.

Log in and Payment Options are working well as they have streamlined the processes and



RAUSI

United in Service of Defence and Security

added a new logo. Monthly Dispatches include personalized, email type information as well as links to website articles.

The website has incorporated event information such as the [2021 Speaker Series: The Battle Of Vimy Ridge](#) - RAUSI and Valour Canada are jointly organizing a virtual presentation about The Battle of Vimy Ridge on 8 April 2021 (see "Valour Canada Update" on page 28).

There are also timely articles on Research and world affairs: [The Relationship Between Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment in the U.S. Military](#) - RAUSI notes that sexual harassment leading to sexual assault is an institutional issue. This recent US RAND Corp's study explores in depth this phenomenon within the US military establishment. RAUSI questions if the study's conclusions may very well apply to many other nation's military establishments, including Canada. RAUSI suggests that the RAND Corp's study will make for credible, informative and timely reading.

There has been a focus on the arctic. With small population

centres and limited infrastructure, Canada rightly exerts its influence and sovereignty in the Arctic on a continual basis, through several initiatives. However, with climate change allowing increased maritime access to Canada's Arctic region, RAUSI believes it is prudent to review Canada's current posture and its ongoing work with the Arctic Council. In the coming weeks, we will contrast these efforts with those of other Arctic and near-Arctic nations.



[The Arctic Council: A Quick Guide](#) - Canada was one of the chief architects of the Ottawa Declaration and a founding member of The Arctic Council. This international body meets regularly to discuss transnational issues pertaining to the Arctic. The Arctic Council

represents far more than nation state perspectives as it includes Indigenous and stakeholder voices. The Arctic Council primer will update RAUSI members on their current work and goals.



[Highlights of Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework](#) - Canada has a long and robust narrative which surrounds all aspects of the Arctic. This narrative is under attack due

to climate change and international pressure exerted by competing Arctic and near-Arctic nations. Over the next few months, RAUSI will curate a series of articles which will allow our members to update their knowledge on current Canadian policy and our cooperative work with Allied nations. The following infographic issued by the Government of Canada will quickly allow readers to understand the aim, scope, and timelines which our government is working to.

Interesting items have also been extracted from the Archives.

- [The Geoffrey Jameson portrait of Lieutenant Colonel Mark Tennant, President of the RAUSI 1979;](#)



- [“BETSY” — Six-pounder Anti-Tank Gun;](#) and
- [What Became of Previous Trophy Winners?](#) (which is an interesting read when combined with [“RAUSI Honours Top Cadets.”](#))

All in all, more articles are being posted and more people are reading them.

We look forward to your comments. Find out more about joining RAUSI debates below.



Introduction to Disqus Software

Several sections of the RAUSI website now encourage interaction with Disqus software.

Disqus is used on several major websites, and you can sign up for a free account that will work on any site with Disqus integrations.

Login is also available through your Facebook, Twitter or Google account. Once logged in, you can comment on articles and reply to other people's comments.

Login is not required to rate an article, a general indication of whether you found the information informative, agreed, or disagreed.

These discussions are open to the general public. Invite your peers to participate!



2020 Journal Update

By Maj Joe L Howard, CD
(Ret'd), Secretary-Treasurer
and Chair Finance Committee

As noted previously, the 2020 Journal [to be issued shortly] adopts a more serious tone than previously. Its theme centers on how RAUSI must create new value, renew legacy value and include both in its value proposition offered to members and prospective members alike. Doing so enables RAUSI to be more relevant to more members of civil society. Recognizing provincial/regional economic complexities in employment and disposable income, RAUSI endeavours to provide current and future members with greater value for their dues.

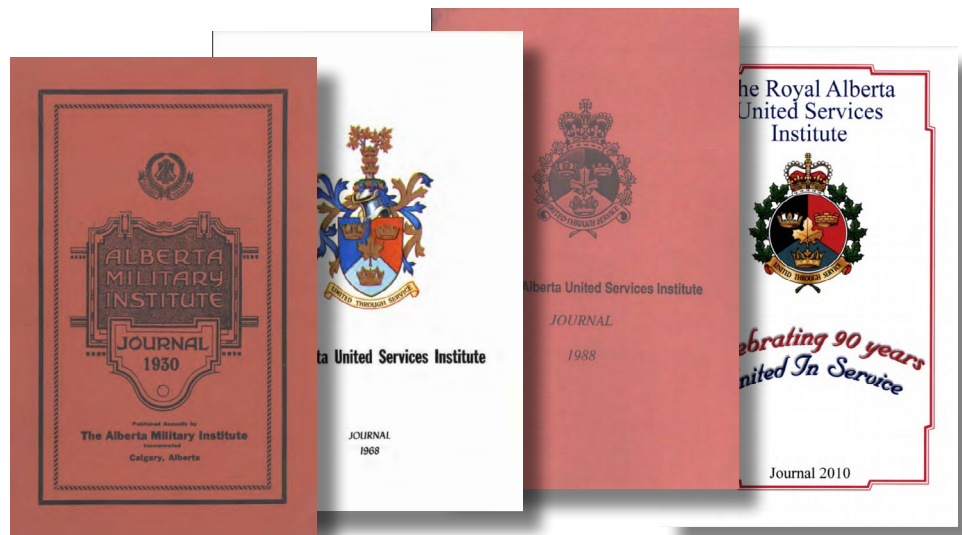
To further explain this shift in RAUSI's main campaign effort, and taking a cue from its financial management, the large proportion of RAUSI's financial resources are now being deployed to empower the RAUSI website, www.rausi.ca, with which RAUSI provides members and readers with relevant and timely information on defence and security, information that they might not otherwise receive. To date, that information includes an array of analytical briefings and notes written by credentialed RAUSI members, of curated articles written by informed Canadian and foreign practitioners and academics, and of links to Canadian and international online symposiums offering

alternative views from foreign perspectives on issues of concern to Canada and its allies.

As such, and except for burials, RAUSI has had to limit its earlier practice of donating Casino funds to third parties.

In sum, the Journal will be a signature statement of the foregoing intent. In the meantime, if the opportunity presents itself, I hope you might advise your friends and colleagues who previously allowed their RAUSI memberships to lapse, or who might be inclined to join RAUSI now, that there is a concerted effort to optimize the real-time value of being a member.

Please visit www.rausi.ca to see evidence of my point. 🍁



Check out Journals from the last 100 years in [Members > Journals](#).



Interesting Websites

Last Post Fund ensures that no Canadian veteran is denied a dignified funeral, burial and military gravestone

www.lastpostfund.ca and en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Field_of_Honour



Governance Committee Update

*By LCol Ross Wickware, CD (Ret'd),
Chair Governance Committee*

It seems like forever since we were able to get together, in our 100th year of the Royal Alberta United Services Institute, a history that includes the warriors and families from too many wars and operations since 1920. Spring and vaccines bring new energy to our lives.

We are trying to bring our governing documents in-line with the necessities of today and the future continued operations of our Institute.

On April 22, 2021 we will be having our Annual General Meeting including the election

of the Executive and Board. Additionally, we will propose some amendments to our Bylaws and engage members with your opportunity to help guide the Institute forward. We are pressing forward to adjust and overcome some barriers to our continued success and the battle is arduous. Please plan to participate with us to keep the Institute viable.

There are seven (7) vacancies on the Board for your election vote: President; Vice President; and five (5) Board positions. In the last newsletter there was a call for nominations to the Board and your Nomination Committee has been successful.

We are excited to have Kent Griffiths nominated as President, Eppo van Weelderen as Vice President, and Karen Storwick, Doug Stinson and Anna Kocot accepting nomination to our Board. Tom O'Sullivan and this scribe have agreed to seek yet another term, with your agreement. The election will be conducted electronically, with hard copy ballots being provided to members who have requested them.

Have a healthy and happy Spring, let's get together again on April 22, 2021. 🍁



Interesting Websites

Canadian Research and Mapping Association interactive maps "The Road to Liberation"
www.project44.ca

A BBC article on Canada and the CF105 Avro Arrow
www.bbc.com/future/article/20200615-the-record-breaking-jet-which-still-haunts-a-country

History of the C130 Hercules
skiesmag.com/press-releases/history-behind-the-hercules/

Canadian Defence Review on-line magazine on Canadian and International military affairs
canadiandefencereview.com/

Canadian Army Today
canadianarmytoday.com/category/news/



Mark your Calendar

RAUSI Annual General Meeting via Zoom
Thursday, 22 April 2021, 1900 hours



Honorary Chaplain Reverend Major Lloyd Northcott, CD (Retired) Departure

By Maj Mark Soehner, CD (Ret'd), RAUSI President

I am taking this moment to give a public thank you to Reverend Major Lloyd Northcott, CD, (Retired) for his excellent service to the Institute and the many organizations that he has assisted in the Calgary Military Community. Notably being the Chaplain at the annual Remembrance Day ceremonies at The Military Museums.

Major Northcott accepted the position of Institute Honorary Chaplain in 2013 and has served our Community exceptionally well the past 8 years. We have been fortunate to have had Chaplain Northcott as our spiritual leader.

Padre Lloyd was much more than just our Honorary Chaplain; his

love of history has led to several historical walks through the old Currie Barracks, and his most recent “Inside Mewata” video tour sharing the history of the Armoury and the Institute’s connection with Mewata over the past 100 years.

All members of the Institute wish Padre Lloyd and his wife

Grace all the best with their upcoming move (downsizing) and settling into their new place. Once COVID-19 restrictions are over, I am sure Lloyd and Grace will be seen at various RAUSI and other activities and events around the City. Until then!!!

Thank you Chaplain, and God Bless You. 🍁

Inside Mewata with Rev Maj Lloyd Northcott



In November 2020, Rev Maj Lloyd Northcott, MGen Paul Bury, and Angela Craig went to the Mewata

Armoury to film a behind the scenes tour.

Lloyd takes us from the basement to the bar, sharing stories about the history of the Armoury and the Institute’s connection with the building over the past 100 years.

Watch the [video](#). 🍁



Padre's Corner



*By Rev Capt Derwyn Costinak,
RAUSI Honorary Chaplain*

Greetings to you all! As I step into the role of Honorary Chaplain—knowing full well that I cannot fill Rev Lloyd Northcott's shoes — I look forward to making my contribution to the ongoing work of RAUSI. It makes good sense, then, to begin with an introduction...

I am currently the Chaplain for the King's Own Calgary Regiment, having enrolled in June 2019, but this is not my first

stint in the CAF. I entered pastoral ministry as a Pentecostal minister back in 1994. While pastoring a church in Squamish, BC, I was introduced to the Canadian Cadet Movement and enrolled in November 2000 to serve as an officer with 835 Griffin Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron. I served initially as the Admin O before taking on leadership as the CO. This was short-lived, however, as I ended up relocating to take a church in Nelson, BC, in 2003. In Nelson, I attached myself to 561 Osprey Squadron and became the CO there a year later. After that, I took command of 531 City of Trail Squadron. With a move to Toronto in 2009 to do graduate studies, my final posting before retiring from the Air Force was to serve as Duty Ops O at the Blackdown Cadet Summer Training Centre in CFB Borden.

While in Toronto, I switched teams, as it were, and became an Anglican. I also began to explore military chaplaincy as a career option. My change of religious denomination, however, created a barrier to easily moving into the Regular Force, so we shelved that idea for the time being, focussing instead on re-entering full-time pastoral ministry in a

local parish. After completing my Master's degree and then my wife, Wanda, earning her B.Ed., we moved to Calgary in 2013.

I served as the Assistant Priest at St James Anglican Church in Ranchlands for 3½ years, and during this time I was approached by Ken Nettleton about taking on the role of Chaplain to the Calgary Highlanders, since he would soon be leaving the unit. Unfortunately, the timing wasn't right for me at that point, but it sparked my interest in military chaplaincy again. When I left St James, it was to become the sole priest at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Spruce Cliff, and this transition opened the door for me to enrol.

Since LCol Darryl Watts and I were already friends, it was a simple matter to ask him about the possibility of coming on strength with the KOGR ... and the rest, as they say, is history!

More of my story will come out in future articles, and I hope my experiences and observations will help paint a picture of my desire to support those giving of themselves to serve in the Canadian Armed Forces. Onward! 🍀

Did you Know...

You can find the latest newsletters from Edmonton United Services Institute, USI Nanaimo and North Island, RUSI Nova Scotia and The Journal of Military, Veteran and Family Health in the Members area of the RAUSI website. Go to [Members > Newsletters](#).



RAUSI Social Media Update

January through March 2021

By Tokie Brideaux, RAUSI's Social Media Coordinator

With an addition of a company profile page on LinkedIn, RAUSI's four social media platforms – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn - continue to see an increased number of engagements. Facebook continues to be RAUSI's most popular social media platform (with 91 followers), followed closely by Instagram (88 followers). All social media platforms continue to see a steady pace in the increasing number of Followers and Likes.

In addition to our regular posts, we offer sub-series such as “Introducing Canadian USI organizations” (Facebook, January 2021) and “Highlighting women in the Canadian Armed Forces” (Facebook, March 2021).

Our profile photo is updated once a month with the same image we use in the month's Dispatches (except LinkedIn) for continuity and to provide a new and fresh look. We continue encouraging photo submission through social media and Dispatches to engage with our followers and readers.

Currently, we are cross-promoting the co-sponsored virtual talk event with Valour Canada (scheduled for April 8th). We expect this cross-promotion will help their followers to discover our organization through their social media posts.

We continue to reach out and encourage other USI organizations to follow our social media channels.

Some key statistics from January 1st to March 15th are as follows.



The Royal Alberta United Services Institute

@TheRAUSI · Nonprofit Organization

Facebook

[@TheRAUSI](https://facebook.com/TheRAUSI)

Page Followers: 91 (+4)

Page Likes: 86 (+4)

Instagram

[@rausi_alberta](https://instagram.com/rausi_alberta)

Page Followers: 88 (+6)

Twitter

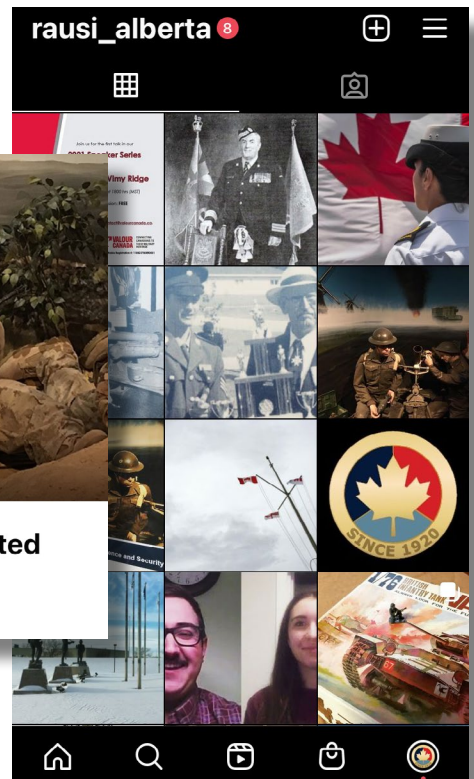
[@TheRausi](https://twitter.com/TheRAUSI)

Page Followers: 15 (+5)

LinkedIn

linkedin.com/company/therausi

Page Followers: 22 (+22) 🍁



HMCS Tecumseh Fire Revisited

By Maj Mark Soehner, CD
(Ret'd), RAUSI President

I am introducing the following archival story on the Great Fire of HMCS Tecumseh that took place 40 years ago. The story was published in the 1981 Institute Journal and is reproduced after this introduction.

Forty years past, I was a junior member in the Calgary Fire Department (CFD). I had been away for a university semester and on my return, gladly proved through station drills to the station crew, that I had not forgotten what the job was about.

The day in question, Lt Ian McLean and I left #8 Station located at 17 Ave and 45 St SW in the standard shift 8 Aerial Ladder on a driver training excursion after our lunch. Our destination was to the Children's Hospital at 17 Ave and Crowchild. I knew as a crew member at 8 Station, we were dispatched here usually weekly for alarm bells, so our trip was to confirm that I knew the route, could shift the gears, and knew the specific staging location on arrival.

I was the driver of 8 Aerial Ladder and as we drew closer to the destination on 17 Ave SW,



*Mark Soehner battling the HMCS Tecumseh fire — note the mustache!
Photo by CFD photographer Orlo Tveter.*

the Lieutenant and I could see a haze drifting across 17 Ave at HMCS Tecumseh. I expected to see a roofing crew at Tecumseh, as I knew on my recent return to the city, that there were various roofing projects currently on the go up the road at Base Calgary.

There was quite the commotion on the North side of Tecumseh as we passed. You would think we were Santa Claus and his eight reindeer passing by, with all the happy and excited people waving at us, and waving and waving and cheering and shouting and cheering us we casually drove East on 17 Ave on the north side of Tecumseh.

My goodness ... what is that glow from the drill hall windows. What is the commotion with these people?

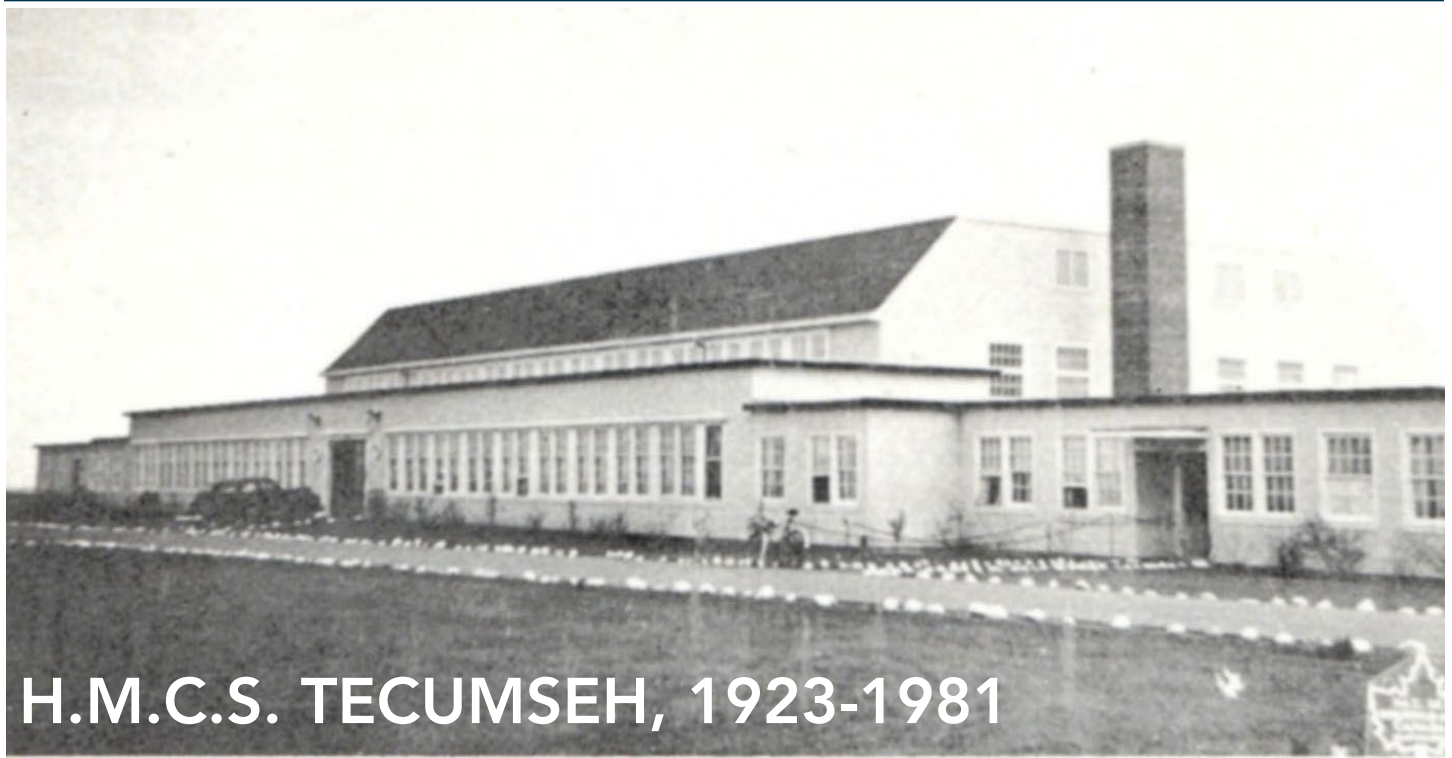
Hey — *this place is on fire!*

Lt McLean radioed “Fire Dispatch. Do you have a call from Tecumseh?”

A pause, not too long, not too short, not too hot, not too cold, “Negative Eight Aerial. No call from Tecumseh” came the male dispatcher’s reply in a calm voice.

Lieutenant McLean: “You better send everything you’ve got — *Tecumseh’s on fire.*”

And that was the reported start of the fire at HMCS Tecumseh, the Stone Frigate, on a gorgeous sunny early afternoon 30 April 1981. With a dried wood structure, a delayed report of fire, Tecumseh was doomed. Stations dispatched were #2, #5, #8, #20. Nothing could be done to save the drill hall and the immediate structure. 🍁



A Naval Reserve in Calgary? What a preposterous idea having a Navy in the Prairies! This is the kind of thinking that has plagued the Prairie Naval Reserve Units for years. But really, who can blame these non-believers? Unless a person can understand the purpose of the Naval Reserve Unit, whether it be on the coast or in the middle of Canada, its usefulness cannot be fully appreciated.

The Naval Reserve was first formed in Canada when she was struggling to have a Navy of her own, apart from the Royal Navy. In 1922 Commodore Walter Hose thought of developing a body of “citizen sailors” who would be trained in the ways of the Navy. It was Commodore Hose’s belief that a Naval Reserve force was important for the future defence of Canada.

H.M.C.S. Tecumseh, when newly built, in around 1948.

He felt the need for a readily available trained force which could be called upon in times of emergency to support the regular Navy. This is the primary purpose of the Naval Reserve.

In March 1923 the Naval Reserve came to Calgary in the form of what was called a Half Company of 50 members. All billets were quickly filled, and there was even a waiting list! Equipment such as hemp, block and tackle, rifles, and a twelve pounder gun was supplied by Esquimalt. Members met twice a week to parade in a building located across from the Stampede grounds. The men received 25¢ per drill. In the 1930’s as unrest was being felt in Europe, more supplies and equipment were sent to Calgary. Training was increased and the complement

of members was increased from 50 to 80 members.

On September 10, 1939 an official telegram was received, and within 24 hours the Reserve members were off to Esquimalt. With their departure replacements were required. Many people volunteered, and with this great influx it was obvious that new barracks were necessary. New premises were found on the corner of 7th Avenue and 3rd Street S.W. Mr. George Lancaster, the owner of the building, had it renovated at his own expense.

On November 1, 1941 all the Naval Reserve Units were named and Commissioned as Ships. Calgary’s Unit was named HMCS Tecumseh after a famous Algonquin Indian. Tecumseh

was known for his achievement in uniting the Indian tribes in an effort to save their land, and for fighting on the side of the British in the war against the Americans.

As the war progressed, it became evident that present facilities were no longer adequate. 15 acres of land located on the corner of 17th Avenue and 24th Street S.W. were donated and this is where Tecumseh moved into permanent quarters in 1945, although now there are only 10 acres as 5 were returned to the City for the construction of Crowchild Trail.

During the war and since, the Naval Reserve in Calgary has proven its worth time and again. Walter Hose's goals have been realized. From September 3, 1939 to June 30, 1947 4,506 officers and men and women have passed through the gates of Tecumseh to serve Canada, and Tecumseh has earned the reputation of being one of the finest units in Canada. Many organizations have formed through this establishment such as the Sea Cadets, Navy League Cadets, and "Jenny Wren" Wrenette Corps and there are a number of Naval Associations in Calgary.

On April 30, 1981 the main building, "A" Deck of Tecumseh, burned to the ground. In accord with the best traditions of the Royal Canadian Navy, the "Battle of the Atlantic" Church

parade planned for the following Sunday, May 3rd was held ... on the Parade Ground below the still warm remains of the well-loved building. Apart from a few classes for students undertaking 'Student Summer Training' all training and all activities not only of the Naval Reserve but of all the various groups whose home is on board HMCS Tecumseh have been carried out 'on board' ... under considerable difficulty on occasion but none have left home!

Instead of bringing an end to the Naval Reserve in Calgary, it has sparked a new beginning. Priceless memorabilia which were generously donated and collected throughout Tecumseh's history were destroyed and valuable training aids lost, but the spirit of Tecumseh remains undaunted. A Restoration Committee has been set up among the members to try to restore or replace lost artifacts. People who originally donated trophies are being contacted and many are replacing the lost ones. All donations are gratefully accepted whether they be artifacts or money. One donation which has been received was a \$4,000.00 cheque from the Calgary No. 1 Branch, Royal Canadian Legion.

HMCS Tecumseh will hopefully be rebuilt early in 1983. Plans have been approved for a two-storey masonry structure of 40,000 square feet. It will house

all three messes, offices, classrooms, and a drill deck comparable in size to the old one.

The completion date is set for early 1985. In the meantime, Tecumseh is not sitting idle. Upper "B" Block has been renovated to provide more office, storage, and classroom space. The two remaining ends of "A" Deck are being sealed off and fitted with power and heating. An Atco complex has arrived from Kelowna which will provide more offices and classrooms. Tecumseh is to receive a permanent boatshed which will serve as the drill deck until the new building is completed.

Although many artifacts were lost, many of which we were all proud of, such as the twin 4" guns the memories of times spent there still remain in all of us. With the support of the members of the unforgettable Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve (RCNVR, the Wavy Navy), the Royal Canadian Navy Reserve and today's Naval Reserve - past and present, and civilians alike we can rebuild H.M.C.S. Tecumseh once again to be a Ship which we can serve with pride.

"Shipshape and Bristol fashion she were, and will be again." ♣

Source: The Royal Alberta United Services Institute Journal 1981, pages 29-31.

Article is reproduced in full. Ellipses are part of original article.



The Calgary Highlanders



By Maj Kent Griffiths, MMM, CD (Ret'd), Regimental Major and Regimental Secretary, and RAUSI Director

The Calgary Highlanders have been conducting both live and virtual training during the COVID-19 period.

On 21 March 2021, they graduated the newest class of qualified Machine Gunners as the Infantry Basic Machine Gunner (IBMG) Course 0067 wrapped up with two days of live fire ranges at CFB Suffield, Alberta. Seventeen Calgary Highlanders and eight members of the Loyal Edmonton Regiment (not

pictured) completed the final range shoot in Suffield between 19-21 March, which included C6 sustained firing (SF) PWT 1-3 range applications and tactical employment of the C6 in the sustained role.

The C6, 7.62-mm Medium Machine Gun is a fully-automatic, air-cooled, gas- and spring-operated machine gun that is belt-fed. Restricted to firing in full-automatic mode from the open bolt position, the C6 machine gun can fire from 750 to 1100 rounds per minute. This machine gun can be carried by dismounted soldiers to provide either fire support or sustained fire on a tripod mount. The C2 sight is used in conjunction with an aiming post to allow the crew to engage targets



they cannot see due to fog, smoke or darkness. The C6 is light enough to be carried and used by soldiers on a variety of operations or may be vehicle-mounted.

Plans for the Regimental Birthday on 01 April, the commemoration of the battle of St. Julien, and the change of Commanding Officer in June are all planned to be in a virtual format. Watch social media for highlights. 🍁



The 17 Calgary Highlander candidates are as follows: Pte Celis-Guevara, Pte Aguilar, Pte Kennedy, Pte Adu-Boahen, Pte Pasishnek, Pte Castro, Cpl Williams, Cpl Campbell, Cpl Kiddell, Cpl Arndt, Cpl Khalil, Cpl Nilson, Cpl Massarotto-Hinojosa, Cpl Watson, Cpl Fisher, Cpl Layug, and Cpl Campusano. The candidates were supported by their dedicated course staff: Sgt Lodge (A Coy), Sgt Oliver (A Coy – not pictured), MCpl Huynh (A Coy), MCpl Sargent (A Coy), MCpl Green (B Coy), MCpl Janzen (B Coy), Course Warrant WO Malenfant, and Course Officer Lt Sabo-Walsh.



The King's Own Calgary Regiment

Commanding Officer's Unit Update



*By LCol Darryl Watts, CD,
Commanding Officer*

Like much of the province, The King's Own had to reduce operations in November due to COVID-19 restrictions. Work from home began again and continued into January. Although routine administration at the Regiment is still done mostly from home, activities that support OPERATION VECTOR (CAF support to COVID-19 vaccine delivery), individual training and collective training have resumed while following all preventative health measures.

The Regiment continues with our armoured crewman training and driver training on the Tactical Patrol Vehicles (TAPV). We have personnel assigned to Op VECTOR and a logistics planner assigned to the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB). Like everyone else, we are pushing on with our routine work and training while being prepared for further requests. With the training year wrapping up soon, we are looking forward to further roll out of the COVID-19 vaccines and the likely resumption of more routine operations in the late summer and fall.

Until then we are working in the current COVID-19 restricted environment. For what is likely the first time for the Regiment, we will be recognizing St. George's Day while deployed in the field. With no ceremonial activities possible we will parade the Guidon while on exercise in CFB Suffield

and take time to recognize the recipients of Regimental awards.

In April, the Regimental Funds Foundation (RFF) will launch a virtual tour of the Regimental Museum. Although we started working with Valour Canada last summer on a virtual tour, it is a long process. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our Curator, Col (Ret'd) Roy Boehli and two of our RFF Directors, MGen (Ret'd) Jay Milne and BGen (Ret'd) Bob Millar the tour will soon be available. Watch our social media and website for the launch.

Like so many Canadians we have been following COVID-19 precautions and physically distancing, and I'm sure like many of you we are looking forward to more normal activities. Until then, stay safe and stay healthy.

Onward! ✦



Cadet Program Update

*By Capt Krissy Doner,
CD, Zone Training Officer
(Calgary1), Regional Cadet
Support Unit (Northwest)*

Retrospective

In March 2020, the Commander of the Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers ordered a pause of all in-person activities until further notice. Creativity became paramount during this pause as program staff at all levels developed new plans for virtual connection at the corps and squadron level. The remainder of the 2019-2020 training year was spent putting these engagement plans into action. The order to pause in-person

training also impacted the 2020 cadet summer training plan as all in-person were cancelled. In the absence of in person summer training, which normally constitutes a very large part of the cadet experience, 23 virtual cadet summer training courses were developed and delivered over the 6-week summer training time frame.

Current posture

The Cadet Program has adopted an asymmetric approach to returning to in-person program delivery, which follows local public health measures (PHM's) in every area. Training is being delivered virtually at the 53 cadet units in Southern Alberta, the objective is to keep program participants engaged and mentally healthy, and the

resulting programming is very different from typical years. In Alberta, with the exception of a 6-week period from October to mid-November when local PHM's allowed, cadets have met exclusively by virtual means. This has offered opportunity for cadet corps and squadrons to interact with other groups from around the country and across the commonwealth, engage with a wide variety of guest speakers, and has included an area wide CO's conference, year 5 cadet workshop, regional level music clinics and SCOP training. The formation of a new army cadet corps is in progress and, while final approval is pending from Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers, they are functioning as a satellite of 1292 Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) Army Cadet Corps.

The way forward

The Cadet Program will continue to follow its asymmetric approach to returning to in-person training and prioritizing the health and safety of its participants. Cadet summer training in 2021 will be composed of a variety of delivery methods and will reduce the number of in-person Cadet Training Centre (CTC) courses, billets and CTCs operating. In-person training will be focused on force generation meaning that the limited number of in-person courses being offered will focus on training cadets in specialty elemental skill sets that must be delivered in-person. This training will ensure that cadets, and in the future adult staff members continue to have the required

knowledge to deliver the cadet training programs.

This summer, Cadet Activity Programs (CAP) will be run in major cities, targeting 1,000 cadets within 1 hour of the physical location. The CAP will be a day camp style program run by local COATS members and staff cadets targeting younger cadets and offering fun and engaging general activities that support the aims of the CCO. The summer of 2021 will also see the return of Virtual Cadet Training Centers and these courses will up make the vast majority of summer training opportunities, taking advantage of the current situation to offer more training opportunities to a greater number of cadets.

In summary

While the past year has been challenging for many, the Cadet Program has capitalized on the opportunity to reinvest in its people and the organization as a whole has come through more resilient and modernized. While this is a continual process, the Cadet Program and its partners celebrate the many successes that have materialized and look forward to continued growth and development.

To learn more about the Cadet Program check out www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/cadets-junior-canadian-rangers/cadets.html. 🍁

Don't Say "Yes" When the Robocall Scam Rings

If you still have a landline phone, make sure you aren't snared in the latest robocall scam.

Anyone who still has a traditional home phone dreads the hated robocall. As part of the latest scam, the caller, instead of mentioning who they are, instead asks "Can you hear me?"

That could be a sign that a scammer is on the other end of the line.

When a caller says, "YES," that they can hear the robocall, their reply is recorded and used to authorize fraudulent charges via telephone on the victim's utility or credit card account.

The scam is prevalent, the fraudulent callers may impersonate familiar organizations to get you to answer and talk.

Don't ever say "YES" when the phone rings. 🍁



41 Canadian Brigade Group (CBG) Update



*By Col Mike Vernon, CD
Commander, 41 CBG*

So far 2021 has presented 41 Canadian Brigade Group (41 CBG) with a host of challenges and experiences. Adapting to operations within the pandemic environment, the Brigade has continued to train both virtually and in-person where practical. Recently, Exercise GRIZZLY READY took place in Calgary, where the Brigade's Territorial Battalion Group (TBG) was validated on its readiness by 3rd Canadian Division. The exercise focused on a wildfire scenario, based upon a Request for Assistance (RFA) from

Parks Canada and the Town of Canmore. LCol Mike Onieu, the new commanding officer (CO) of the South Alberta Light Horse, is also our current TBG CO.

The focus of the exercise was germane given 41 CBG's ongoing support to Operation VECTOR, the Canadian Armed Forces' support to sub-national governments for the distribution of vaccines. To this end the Brigade has force-generated a Domestic Response Company (DRC) of 68 personnel capable of responding to an RFA from the Province of Alberta. Potential tasks include transportation of personnel and goods, assistance to warehousing operations and general duties. Located in Calgary, the DRC's headquarters includes three additional personnel for planning, and the remaining members of the company are dispersed throughout the province. Since late February, four DRC members have provided real time support to COVID screening efforts at the Coutts border crossing as well.

With the summer fast approaching and the COVID-19 vaccination program underway, 41 CBG is preparing for another busy season of individual and collective training. Following the success of the Brigade's Battle School last summer, 19 courses will be conducted at 3rd Canadian Division Support Base in Wainwright between May and August of 2021. Several hundred candidates are expected to participate and the courses will be administered primarily by instructors from 41 CBG. To mitigate the risk posed by COVID-19, force health protection measures will again be applied, in addition to the ongoing vaccination program. LCol Ryan Palmer (Calgary Highlanders) and CWO Troy MacGillivray (King's Own Calgary Regiment) will reprise their 2020 roles as the CO and RSM of the Battle School this summer.

41 CBG's summer training will culminate in Wainwright at the end of August with Exercise





WESTERN SABRE, in collaboration with 38 and 39 Brigades. This will be the first Army Reserve concentration in the West in five years. LCol Mike Fawcett, former CO 41 Signal Regiment, is the Exercise Director. The week-long exercise will focus on training at Level 2 (section) live-fire and conclude with a Level 3 (platoon) live-fire event, designed to provide soldiers exposure to, and confidence in, the weapons and capabilities resident within the Army Reserve. ♣

Fortune Favours the Bold

Above: 41 CBG's bi-annual publication "Live It" was re-branded as "The Grizzly," with the first publication released in January 2021. It features cover art by Cpl Reid Fisher of the Calgary Highlanders.

Page 22: Lt Col Mike Onieu, right, CO of 41 Canadian Brigade Group's Territorial Battalion Group, delivers orders during Ex GRIZZLY READY at HMCS Tecumseh, Calgary, Alta 12-14 March 21. Photo by Capt D Forsythe.

5 Things You Should Never Do With Passwords

See my password on the back side

1. Don't use the same password twice. This is key, because if the bad guys get your password—no matter how strong—for one site, they'll try it on other sites.
2. Don't share passwords with anyone you don't trust completely. That's especially true of passwords to accounts that contain sensitive information or that can be used to impersonate you, like email and social media. However, sometimes you have to share a password, such as to a club blog with multiple authors. In that case...
3. Don't send passwords to shared sites via email or text message. If someone hacks into your recipient's email or steals their phone, the password could be compromised.
4. Don't write your passwords on sticky notes. Yeah, it's a cliché, but people still do it. Similarly, don't put all your passwords in a text file on your computer, if someone steals your computer, they could open that text file easily.
5. Don't change passwords regularly if you don't have to. As long as every site has a strong, unique password,

changing a password is a waste of time, especially if doing so makes you write down the password or communicate it insecurely.

If you're unsure of the best way to create a strong password, try taking the first letter of each word in a sentence you can remember, and also change a few words to digits. Then "Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party!" becomes a password along the lines of Nitt4agm2c2taotp!. So that no eavesdroppers learn your password, avoid saying your sentence out loud whenever you enter it! Or, combine four or five unrelated dictionary words, like correct-horse-battery-staple, that add up to at least 28 characters. (Don't use the examples in this paragraph!)

When possible, take advantage of two-factor authentication on sites like Apple, Google, Dropbox, Facebook, Twitter, and more. Accounts protected by two-factor authentication essentially require that you enter a second, time-expiring password as part of the login process. You'll get that second password via text message, authenticator app, or other notification method when you log in. ♣



Homes for Heroes Foundation



*By David Howard, President,
Homes for Heroes Foundation*

CP Rail's Spin 4 Vets Event an Amazing Success

It was the time of COVID-19, a time of lockdowns, shuttering of businesses, mask-wearing, hand washing and social distancing. Many said it was the worst of times; few if any would have said it could be the best of times. Holding a successful 4th Annual Spin4Vets event in the middle of a pandemic? They said it couldn't be done; they said nobody could do it – but CP Rail's Rory Thompson and his intrepid team of volunteer spinners weren't going to let that deter them – and CP Rail itself was right there with them, “covering their 6.”

On November 9th & 10th, seven CP teams participated in the 24-hour spin competition, riding a total of 5,382 kilometres, which is almost the equivalent distance from Vancouver

to Saint John, New Brunswick. Rory's team CP's military veterans won the competition, covering 866.8 kilometres, a mere 7.7 kilometres more than the second-place team.

Due to COVID restrictions, only CP employees were allowed to participate – so expectations were that the event would yield smaller results than in past years. But CP itself stood up and increased their matching donations to cover all contributions – not just those from CP employees.

This is the fourth year that CP has run this event. Thompson says it initially started because he had a desire to give back. “I transitioned from the military, and I was very lucky to have a seamless transition to a role at CP. However, I am very cognizant that through no fault of their own, some veterans don't have as much luck and ultimately end up on the streets, years after leaving the service,” he explained.

BGen (Ret'd) Stephen Lacroix named as Honorary Chair of Homes For Heroes Foundation

BGen (Ret'd) Stephen Lacroix has graciously accepted the position of Honorary Chair with the Homes For Heroes Foundation.



vimeo.com/486602596

With over 35 years of service in the Canadian Armed Forces, Stephen (Steve) Lacroix is a proven strategic leader and brings a wealth of experience to our charity.

His military career has been evenly split between duty in the Canadian Army and strategic staff portfolios at National Defence Headquarters. His most recent role was as Commander of the 3rd Canadian Division/Joint Task Force – West where he had the privilege to lead and soldier with over 15,000 military and civilians in the four western provinces and two territories.

Stephen is fluently trilingual (English, French and Spanish) and is competent in Portuguese. He holds a Bachelor of Military Arts and Science, a Master of Defence Studies and a Master in Public Administration from the Royal Military College of Canada.

Following his retirement from the CAF, Stephen was appointed as the Managing Director of the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA). He is currently seconded as the Executive Lead of a multi-disciplinary team of Alberta Public Service professionals, coordinating the delivery the COVID-19 vaccines to Albertans.

He is the Vice President of the Board of the Inter-American Defense Foundation, President



BGen (Ret'd) Stephen Lacroix at the Grand Opening of 908 ATCO Village – our first Veterans' Village located in the community of Radisson, Calgary.

of the Trust of the 12ième Régiment Blindé du Canada Association, an Advisory Board Member of No Stone Left Alone, and a member of the Treble Victor Group.

Steve is happily married to Ms. Isabelle Jean, a former Canadian Army logistician now serving in the Federal Public Service, and they are the proud parents of two lovely teenagers named Ophelia and Celeste. The family is thrilled at the prospect of growing roots in Alberta.

We encourage RAUSI members to sign up for our bi-monthly newsletter through our web site at www.h4hf.ca. 🍁



Interesting Websites

Top Aces, a Canadian company, providing air force adversary training receives F-16 Fighting Falcon jets

www.topaces.com

and

theaviationist.com/2021/02/02/top-aces-receives-former-israeli-f-16s-to-be-used-for-adversary-training-with-the-u-s-air-force/



New Acquisition for the Royal Canadian Air Force



By HCol JE. Melbourne, CD

During my service in The Royal Canadian Air Force I participated in Search and Rescue (SAR) Operations. During this time the aircraft available to us were the Dakota, the Single Engine Otter, the venerable Lancaster and the Canso. In the years since, SAR has gone through numerous changes in the way operations were carried out and the air craft used. The C-115 Buffalo and the C-130 H Hercules were used.

Requirement for a new Fixed Wing SAR aircraft was long overdue. The Buffalo, although a capable aircraft was aging

and a newer modern aircraft with more up to date avionics was needed. The exercise to obtain new equipment dragged on for many years when finally, a contract was awarded to Airbus Defense and Space for 16 aircraft.

Finally, on September 1, 2020 the first CC-295 Kingfisher was received at 19 Wing Comox BC. A total of 16 aircraft were ordered and they will operate out of 19 Wing Comox BC, 17 Wing Winnipeg, MB, 8 Wing Trenton, ON and 14 Wing Greenwood, NS.

The contract will also provide a complete, modern and technologically advanced search and rescue solution, including maintenance and support services until the year 2042. A new Simulator training center will also be constructed in Comox.

The new CC-295 is a twin engine medium range multi-purpose

transport aircraft, powered by 2 Pratt and Whitney PW 127G Turbo Prop Engines with a cruise speed of 244 knots or 281 mph. The range of the aircraft is 4,500 km or 2,439 nautical miles. The crew compliment is 6 (Pilot, Co-Pilot, 2-SAR Techs, Combat Systems Officer and Flight Engineer) and it can carry up to passengers.

The new aircraft will be using integrated sensors to allow crews to be able to locate persons or objects such as downed aircraft from more the 40 kilometers away allowing the aircraft to carry out critical life-saving search and rescue missions across Canada's vast and challenging territory including the arctic.

The addition of the Kingfisher CC-295 to the Royal Canadian Air Force is a welcome addition and will greatly assist in life saving operations by our Search and Rescue Squadrons across the country. 🍁



LAST POST FUND FONDS DU SOUVENIR

The Last Post Fund

The Last Post Fund's mission is to ensure that no Veteran is denied a dignified funeral and burial, as well as a military gravestone, due to insufficient funds at the time of death. Its primary mandate is to deliver the Veterans Affairs Canada Funeral and Burial Program which provides funeral, burial and grave marking benefits for eligible Canadian and Allied Veterans. The Unmarked Grave Program provides military markers for unmarked Veterans' graves. In

March 2019, the Indigenous Veterans Initiative was launched in an effort to commemorate and honour the memory of over 18,000 Indigenous Veterans, many of whom are thought to lie in unmarked graves.

The Last Post Fund owns and manages its own military cemetery, the Last Post Fund National Field of Honour in Pointe-Claire, QC, as well as supporting and promoting other initiatives designed to honour

the memory of Canadian and Allied Veterans. A national non-profit organization, the Last Post Fund's National office is located in Montreal, supporting the Provincial Boards across the country. The Last Post Fund is supported financially by Veterans Affairs Canada and by private donations.

More than 160,000 veterans from across Canada have received assistance from the organization to date, with more than 22,000 finding their final resting place at the National Field of Honour. For more information see www.lastpostfund.ca or call 1-800-465-7113.

"To honour and protect in death seems but a small return to those who have protected their country in life." Arthur Hair, Founder 🍁

Veteran's Corner

If you need help with a disability claim, or know someone who does, the Royal Canadian Legion can assist. The Royal Canadian Legion has Service Officers who are trained to navigate Veterans Affairs Canada myriad of Programs, Benefits and Services. You may contact the Legion at www.legion.ca or call toll-free 1-877-534-4666.

Alternatively you can contact Veterans Affairs Canada directly at www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/ or call toll-free 1-866-522-2122.



Image from veterans.gc.ca





Valour Canada Update

By Aaron Curtis,
Valour Canada

Our museum program, the Character of Canadian Military History program (CCMH), is on hold until late October in the hopes that the virus situation will have stabilized by then. In the meantime, we have been busy creating additional educational materials and new virtual tours.

Virtual Tours: Battlefields, Assets, Monuments, and Regimental Histories

We have launched two new virtual tours, one of the Calgary



Soldiers' Memorial, and the other showing the Field of Crosses at Mount Royal University. In addition, we have added an educational package for each of the Lancaster FM159, HMCS Haida, and Dieppe tours. We have also started to build virtual museum and regimental history tours!

Watch for the King's Own Calgary Regimental History tour to launch on the Regiment's birthday (April 1) and a virtual tour of the Calgary Highlanders' gallery to follow soon after.

To experience our virtual tours, please visit our VT page valourcanada.ca/virtual-reality/.

Trench Warfare, with Andy Robertshaw: Educational short videos on YouTube

Valour Canada has partnered with battlefield archaeologist Andy Robertshaw to produce a 12-video series of short educational vignettes that will inform young Canadians about trench warfare on the Western Front during the First World War.

As of March 1, the following videos have been released: Trench Tour, 24 Hours in a



To help us continue educating young Canadians about Canada's military history, please consider becoming a member or making a donation. Connect with us at: contact@valourcanada.ca

Trench, Trench Construction, and Weapons of Trench Warfare, and can be viewed on ValourCanada.ca or on our YouTube channel's "Valour Canada at War" playlist.

Valour Canada History & Heritage Scholarship Contest 2021: Now Open

The aim of Valour Canada's History and Heritage Scholarship (VCHHS) is to support Canadian high-school students in their college or university pursuits by providing an engaging, thought-provoking, and memorable scholarship contest. Eligible entrants have until June 16th to create the best essay and video response to:

Visit a local Canadian war memorial or monument and analyze its historical context, significance, and current meaning. Finish with a brief discussion about the role of Canadian war memorials in the 21st century.

The first-place winner will be awarded \$1,500; second place will receive \$750. Visit our [scholarship](#) page for the rules and regulations.

Last year's award-winning student videos can be viewed [here](#). 🍁

Valour Canada History & Heritage Scholarship

Best Essay & Video: \$1,500
Runner-up: \$750

WAR MONUMENT IN FERNIE, B.C.


VALOUR CANADA

Valour Canada and the Royal Alberta United Services Institute (RAUSI) present ...


2021 Virtual Speaker Series: The Battle of Vimy Ridge - 104th Anniversary

on Thursday April 8th at 1800 hrs (MST)


Virtual Admission: **FREE**



Allied Strategy 1917 in the lead up to the Battle of Arras
By Dr. Spencer Jones
Senior Lecturer in Armed Forces and War Studies at the University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom



Canadian involvement at the Battle of Vimy Ridge
By Dr. Patrick Brennan
Associate Emeritus of History at the University of Calgary



Remembrance and Vimy Ridge
By Dr. Geoffrey Bird
Professor and Project Lead of the War Heritage Research Initiative at Royal Roads University

To register, please email: contact@valourcanada.ca.

VALOUR CANADA | CONNECTING CANADIANS TO THEIR MILITARY HERITAGE
Charitable Registration #: 118823780RR0001

RAUSI | United in Service of Defence and Security

Stay Safe On Public Wi-Fi

Free public Wi-Fi at the coffee shop, airport, or hotels can be great. But having your ID stolen isn't. Just because a Wi-Fi network has a password, doesn't mean it's safe. Help protect yourself online with these tips:

- Be selective about which sites you visit—avoid those with a login. Check your accounts, online email, and social sites later on a secure site.
- Avoid making purchases while on public Wi-Fi.
- Be aware that antivirus protection can't protect you from public Wi-Fi threats.

Courtesy Norton by Symantec 🍁



Essential numbers for seniors in Calgary

9-1-1 Emergency (24-Hour)	403-SENIORS (403-736-4677) The Way In
For EMERGENCY medical, fire and police response. Call the non-emergency police line at 403-266-1234 to report an incident that is not an emergency.	Information, advice and help accessing programs and benefits for older adults.
8-1-1 Health Link (24-Hour)	403-266-HELP (403-266-4357) Distress Centre and SeniorConnect (24-Hour)
Health advice (including dementia advice) from a registered nurse.	Crisis support and urgent social work response (including if you are concerned about a senior at risk in the community).
3-1-1 City of Calgary (24-Hour)	403-943-1500 Access Mental Health
Information on all City of Calgary services. www.calgary.ca	Non-urgent advice on navigating the addiction and mental health system.
2-1-1 Community Resources (24-Hour)	403-705-3250 Elder Abuse Resource Line (24-Hour)
Information and referrals for community and social services. www.ab.211.ca	Confidential information and support, or to report a suspected case of elder abuse.

Telephone language interpretation service available on all lines.



Interesting Website

City of Calgary Age-Friendly links for seniors in Calgary
www.calgary.ca/csps/cns/seniors/seniors-age-friendly-strategy.html

Interesting Dates in History

1 APR 1865	First Canadian April Fools' Day on record	15 MAY 1756	England declared war on France starting the Seven Years' War
1 APR 1999	Nunavut territory is established	20 MAY 1845	HMS Erebus and HMS Terror under Franklin's command sail from England
5 APR 1923	Firestone Tire Co starts producing inflatable tires	26 MAY 1940	The evacuation of Dunkirk begins
8 APR 1820	The Venus de Milo discovered on the Aegean island of Melos	27 MAY 1941	The Bismarck is sunk
12 APR 1838	Matthews and Lount are publicly hanged in Toronto for their part in the Upper Canada Rebellion	31 MAY 1916	The Battle of Jutland, the largest naval battle of World War 1
15 APR 1885	Fort Pitt surrenders to Cree warriors during the Northwest Rebellion	1 JUN 1969	Tobacco advertising is banned on Canadian radio and TV
16 APR 1953	The Royal Yacht Britannia is launched	5 JUN 1900	British troops take Pretoria in the South African War
20 APR 1973	Canadian ANIK A2 becomes 1st commercial satellite in orbit	7 JUN 1800	David Thompson reaches the mouth of the Saskatchewan River in Manitoba
23 APR 1923	The Canadian Air Force (at that time) adapts the motto "Per Ardua ad Astra" (Through Adversity to the Stars)	10 JUN 1933	John Dillinger robs his first bank in Ohio
29 APR 2005	Syria withdraws from Lebanon, ending 29 years of occupation	14 JUN 1942	Walt Disney's "Bambi" is released
1 MAY 1939	Batman Comics hit the street	17 JUN 1965	1st bombing by a B-52 in the Vietnam War, just 50 km north of Saigon
5 MAY 1877	Chief Sitting Bull and his band cross into Canada and remain for 4 years	20 JUN 1214	The University of Oxford receives its charter
6 MAY 1937	Hindenburg disaster in New Jersey	23 JUN 1943	The RAF discover Wernher von Braun's V1/V2 base in Peenemunde
9 MAY 2014	Canada's mission ends in Afghanistan with a National Day of Honour	27 JUN	PTSD Awareness Day
11 MAY 1916	Einstein's Theory of General Relativity presented	30 JUN 1980	British sixpence demonetised after being in use since 1551

Upcoming Events

All planned events are subject to change due to COVID-19 precautions and restrictions.

All in person Board Meetings are cancelled until further notice, occurring remotely by Zoom.

Please note that dates and times are accurate at the time the Newsletter is sent out. Things do change, especially with COVID-19 impacting many events.

Members are kindly requested to check the RAUSI website at www.rausi.ca regularly. The website has been revamped and there are many interesting links to follow for general interest. 🍁

2-4 APR	Good Friday and Easter Monday	6 JUN	Canadian Armed Forces Day
6 APR	Tartan Day	27 JUN	PTSD Awareness Day
8 APR	<u>Speaker Series: The Battle of Vimy Ridge (18:00)</u>	1 JUL	Canada Day
9 APR	Battle of Vimy Ridge's 104th Anniversary	24-25 JUL	Snowbirds at Wings Over Springbank Air Show
22 APR	<u>RAUSI Annual General Meeting by Zoom (19:00)</u>	7-8 AUG	Railway Days at Heritage Park TBC
25 APR	ANZAC Day	8 AUG	Peacekeepers' Day at Peacekeepers' Park TBC
2 MAY	Battle of Atlantic Sunday	6 SEP	Labour Day
9 MAY	Mother's Day	19 SEP	Battle of Britain Day
24 MAY	Victoria Day		

In Memoriam

Donald "Don" Glen SKINNER

Former Royal Alberta United Services Institute Director
On 17 February 2021 in Edmonton, AB, age 92
Originally from Brisbane, Australia

Jack THOMPSON

Former Royal Alberta United Services Institute Director
On 4 March 2021 in Calgary, AB, age 91
Originally from Oakworth, Yorkshire, England

LCol Henry Vincent "Vince" O'CONNOR, QC CD

Former Royal Alberta United Services Institute Honorary Solicitor and
Former Commanding Officer The Calgary Highlanders
On 20 March 2021 in Calgary, AB, age 91
Originally from Calgary, AB

