

THE/LE BULLETIN



President's Comments

By Léon Chamois, President OMMC

A month ago we assembled in our home towns to remember those who fought and died for our freedom. We did the same thing 15 years ago but then we had no idea that we would be growing a new generation of combat veterans who would take the place of the dwindling numbers of WWI and WWII veterans. I hope that 70 years from now we still assemble to remember them. I also hope that we would not have grown a new generation in the meantime.

As you know we are trying to expand our membership and to reach out to organizations and museums that may not thought of joining us in the past. One such group are the historical collections held in many unit lines; these are proto-museums that have not yet matured. If you know of any of them please let our secretary David know about them. They can probably use our help and we want to gather them into the fold.

Don't forget that next 27 May to 2 June we gather once again in beautiful Winnipeg. Costs are the same as they have been for a few years now – \$1,200 for full participation and \$600 for those who share a room or stay off site. Details to follow.

One of the reasons we are able to continue offering these low rates, and one of the reasons we finished 2017 in such good financial shape, is the hard work of Richard Ruggle, our financial shepherd.

Looking ahead to 2019, we have already done a basic recce of Edmonton; nothing definite, just planning but it would be nice to visit some place we have not been before.

Until next time.

Léon

Commentaires du président

Par Léon Chamois, président de l'OMMC

Il y a un mois, nous nous sommes rassemblés dans nos villes pour nous souvenir de ceux qui se sont battus et sont morts pour notre liberté. Nous avons fait la même chose il y a 15 ans, mais à ce temps-là nous ne savions pas que nous allions cultiver une nouvelle génération d'anciens combattants qui remplaceraient le nombre décroissant de vétérans de la Première Guerre mondiale et de la Seconde Guerre mondiale. J'espère que dans 70 ans, nous nous réunirons pour nous souvenir d'eux. J'espère aussi que nous n'aurions pas cultivé une autre génération entre-temps.

Comme vous le savez, nous essayons d'élargir notre nombre d'adhérents et contacter les organisations et les musées qui n'ont peut-être pas pensé à se joindre à nous par le passé. Un de ces groupes est constitué des collections historiques conservées dans de nombreuses lignes d'unités; ce sont des proto-musées qui n'ont pas encore mûri. Si vous connaissez l'une d'entre elles, veuillez en informer notre secrétaire David. Ils peuvent probablement utiliser notre aide et nous voulons les rassembler dans le giron.

N'oubliez pas que du 27 mai au 2 juin prochain, nous nous retrouverons dans la belle ville de Winnipeg. Les coûts sont les mêmes que ceux pratiqués depuis quelques années, soit 1 200 \$ pour une participation complète et 600 \$ pour ceux qui partagent une chambre ou qui restent hors du site. Détails à suivre.

L'une des raisons pour lesquelles nous sommes en mesure de continuer à offrir ces taux bas, et l'une des raisons pour lesquelles nous avons terminé 2017 en si bonne forme financière, est le travail acharné de Richard Ruggle, notre berger financier.

Dans la perspective de 2019, nous avons déjà effectué une reconnaissance de base d'Edmonton; Rien de définitif, juste la planification mais ce serait bien de visiter un endroit où nous n'avons jamais été.

A la prochaine.

Léon

Great for the holidays!
L'OMMC présente...

THE SUPPLY DEPOT!



The new online store for OMMC shirts and giftwear. All products are printed on-demand and will be shipped directly to you!

A wide variety of clothing and household items to choose from, with all proceeds going back to OMMC!

La nouvelle boutique en ligne pour les vêtements et les produits promotionnels de l'OMMC est accessible. Tous les produits sont imprimés sur demande et seront expédiés directement à vous!

Une grande variété de vêtements et de produits sont disponibles et tous le revenus retourneront à l'OMMC!

www.cafepress.ca/TheSupplyDepot

A Relic on the Canadian Prairie with a Polish Connection

By Captain Gord Crossley, 1 Canadian Air Division

For many years, the fuselage and wings of a DC-3 sat lonely in a field at the 17 Wing RCAF base in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.



This aircraft, now in faded Transair livery, once wore dull green war paint, and served with the Royal Air Force during the Second World War. It also has a special place in the history of Poland. After Poland fell to attacks by Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union in 1939, many pilots in the Polish Air Force were able to escape to France to continue the fight, and later escaped to Britain when France was defeated in 1940.

Our particular C-47A-1-DK Skytrain / Dakota III was built in Oklahoma City in 1943, and taken on strength with the United States Army Air Force, before being transferred to the RAF in 1944, where it carried additional Polish markings to highlight its all-Polish crew. It was named "Spirit of Ostra Brama" after a gate in the city of Vilnius, Lithuania, which was part of Poland during the Second World War. The aircraft was used as the personal transport of the General Inspector of the Polish Armed Forces, General Kazimierz Sosnkowski.

The aircraft remained part of the RAF after the war, until July 1946, when it was acquired by Trans Canada Airlines (TCA) for civilian transport. Registered CF-TES, it served with TCA until midnight on 12 April 1963, when it landed in Winnipeg, completing the last flight of a DC-3 by TCA. The aircraft was subsequently sold to Transair Ltd, where it was repainted, and served for four years with that carrier. It was subsequently sold to Lambair in 1967, but retained its Transair livery and was salvaged for parts and removed from the flying registry in 1970. The aircraft became property of the Western Canada Aviation Museum (now titled the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada), and once its wartime history was discovered, it was transferred to 17 Wing Winnipeg for preservation in 2002.





Unfortunately, while it was stored in a field on the base, the wing roots and engine nacelles were removed and scrapped in 2006 by persons who were not aware that the aircraft was being retained for historical purposes. What remains of the aircraft today is the fuselage, both outer wings, one landing gear assembly, one tail wheel assembly, and the vertical fin.

In October 2016, the fuselage was moved into a compound on the base to secure it from further damage. Recently, to highlight the past of the aircraft, the wartime markings are being re-applied by volunteers at 17 Wing. Using wartime photos of the aircraft as a guide, the name has been painted on the port side of the nose, and the

Polish national insignia have been applied to both sides of the fuselage behind the cockpit. Painting of Type C1 roundels and its Second World War number on the rear fuselage have been completed.

Over the years contact had been maintained with the Polish military. In March 2017, Colonel Andy Cook, Commander 17 Wing, met with Colonel Cezary Kiskowskiak, Polish Defence Attaché to Canada, to inspect the aircraft. On 23 Oct 2017, the Ambassador of Poland, Mr. Andrzej Kurnicki, the Polish Consul Mr. Włodzimierz Czarnecki along with Col Cook visited the aircraft. They were very pleased with the work that the 'Ghost Squadron' volunteers have done restoring the wartime RAF and Polish insignia on the aircraft to highlight its history. Col Cook estimated the aircraft would not likely be moved to Poland until the spring, as internal cleaning and removal of all soil is required before it can be exported.



The Final Phase: Veterans Wall of Honour

By Pat Murphy, Vancouver Island Military Museum

Three years ago, when the Vancouver Island Military Museum launched the first phase of the wall of honour, we had no idea how many local families would step forward to honour a family member or friend with a granite plaque.

Almost as soon as we made the announcement that plaques were available for purchase, hundreds of local families from all over central Vancouver Island attended the museum to obtain an application to purchase a memory plaque. Several families purchased a pair of plaques to honour a husband and wife, some for a son or a daughter; one family purchased five memory plaques, and several families from the interior of B.C. purchased a memory plaque to honour a family member that had lived on Vancouver Island at one time.

With three phases of the Wall of Honour now complete, we are anticipating the same reaction for the fourth and final phase; we now have 341 granite memory plaques mounted on the front of our downtown location. With the addition of phase four we will have a total of 416 memory plaques.

Some families who have moved to the central Vancouver Island area from other countries have honoured family members that served in the Royal Navy, Royal Air Force and the British Army. Moreover, we have several individuals that have served in the armed forces of the United States of America.

If you have a family member that is serving or has served in any branch of the Canadian Military or RCMP, honour their service and share your pride with a quality granite plaque that will last for decades. Application forms are available at the military museum and payment can be made with a credit card - each plaque is priced at \$195. Honour a family member and support the Vancouver Island Military Museum.



Brian McFadden and Roger Bird of the Vancouver Island Military Museum hold a pair of memory plaques that will become part of the Veterans Wall of Honour seen in the background.

Un lancement réussit pour le programme éducatif du Musée du Royal Montreal Regiment

Par Mélanie Presseau-Dumais, le Musée du Royal Montreal Regiment

Cet automne, le Musée du Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) en partenariat avec la Fondation du RMR a lancé un projet éducatif conçu pour les élèves du deuxième cycle du secondaire. Le Programme d'apprentissage sur la Grande Guerre consiste en cinq modules indépendants, chacun étant consacré à une thématique spécifique permettant une compréhension approfondie du rôle du Canada lors de la Première Guerre mondiale.

Le Programme d'apprentissage sur la Grande Guerre est né du désir d'intégrer le Royal Montreal Regiment ainsi que le Musée du RMR dans sa communauté. En 2016, Le Lieutenant-Colonel à la retraite Colin Robinson lance le projet et Chantal Clabrough, enseignante en Univers social à Westmount High entame le développement du contenu pédagogique.

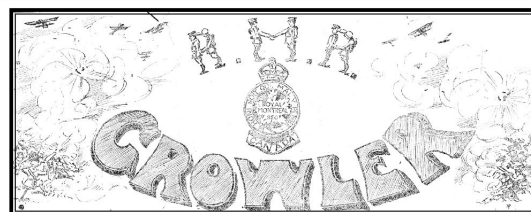
Le résultat final est un programme éducatif de type clé en main disponible via le nouveau site web du Musée du RMR. Ces outils pédagogiques se divisent en trois grandes catégories; les troussees éducatives, la section des élèves et des ateliers pratiques.

Les troussees éducatives comportent l'ensemble des ressources pédagogiques disponibles pour l'enseignant. Elles sont disponibles en ligne et protégées par un mot de passe afin d'éviter que les élèves aient accès au contenu du cours. Pour chacun des modules, on y trouve un guide pour l'enseignant et un manuel pour l'étudiant. En plus de ces guides, certains des modules ont également une présentation multimédia qui illustre les propos abordés dans les activités. La conception graphique du matériel est basée sur The Growler, un journal d'information régimentaire paru pour la première fois en 1916.

La section des élèves est une zone complémentaire aux activités contenues dans le guide de l'élève. On y trouve des graphiques, vidéos et liens additionnels montrant différents aspects moins souvent explorés de la Première Guerre mondiale. L'information y est présentée de façon parfois sérieuse, parfois humoristique.

Le Musée offre quatre ateliers pratiques qui peuvent être donnés en classe ou au Musée. L'un de ces ateliers, Renégocier le Traité de Versailles, invite les participants à incarner des chefs d'États présents à la fameuse conférence afin de défendre les intérêts de leur pays. Cette activité permet aux élèves de tirer leurs propres conclusions quant aux impacts de la Grande Guerre sur les relations internationales de l'époque.

Pour en apprendre davantage sur nos ateliers et notre offre éducative, nous vous invitons à parcourir notre Site web, le www.rmr-museum.com/fr.



TEACHER GUIDE UNIT 2

WORLD WAR I AND THE ROYAL MONTREAL REGIMENT (RMR) FOLLOW CANADA: THE LAST 100 DAYS

Canada's role in WWI became strategic and pivotal in winning the War. Canada's and the RMR's role as shock troops (the name comes from the literal translation of the German word *Stoßtrupp* and is used to describe highly mobile troops sent as reinforcement to critical battle points to provide a quick and strong attack) in the "Last 100 Days", the evolution of warfare and acts of valiance by "ordinary" Canadians led to

Armistice on November 11, 1918, albeit at the devastating cost of thousands of lives.

TEACHER NOTES ON:
Intro: Canadian battles, victories
Trench warfare & warfare evolution
Victoria Cross & the RMR
Duties & contributions of RMR

In this lesson students will explore how the technological advances of warfare affected

Canadians' battle strategies and outcomes as well as the tremendous cost of victory. The merits of the Victoria Cross will be examined as well as the role and responsibilities of The Royal Montreal Regiment in the last 100 Days of the War.

This icon represents a clickable link to a video.

ACTIVITY	SUMMARY	TIME NEEDED	COMPETENCIES
Introduction		15-20 minutes	
1	Questions on the cost of war (informations in the PowerPoint)	15-20 minutes	Interprets a social phenomenon
2	Description of life in the trenches	25-30 minutes	Uses information and communication technologies
3	Research on RMR soldiers	15-20 minutes	Exercises critical judgement
4	Reflection on Victoria Cross and heroism	15-20 minutes	Adopts effective work methods



Successful Education Program Launched by the Royal Montreal Regiment Museum

By Melanie Presseau-Dumais, The Royal Montreal Regiment Museum



This Fall, the Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) Museum, sponsored by the RMR Foundation, launched an educational program aimed at students in the second cycle of secondary school. The Great War Education Project consists of five independent learning modules, each focused on a specific theme to showcase Canada's role in World War I.

The Great War Education Project was created with a view to better integrate the RMR and its Museum with the community. Lieutenant-Colonel (retired) Colin Robinson started the project in 2015 and Chantal Clabrough, Senior Social Science teacher at Westmount High School, was hired to produce the educational content development in 2016.

The final product is five turnkey teaching modules available online on the RMR Museum's brand-new website

created specifically to support this initiative. These educational tools are divided into three categories; the educational toolkits, a student zone, and hands-on workshops.

The educational toolkits include a package of educational resources available for the educators. Available online, they are protected by a password to avoid students getting their hands on the content before the class. For each module, the teachers have access to a teacher's guide and a student's guide complete with marking rubric. A multimedia presentation to help illustrate the content is also provided in certain modules. The graphic design of the material was based on *The Growler*, a regimental newsletter published in 1916.

The student zone is full of material complementary to what is seen in class. Infographics, videos and additional links are found in this section to explore the different themes related to the Great War. A different tone, at times serious and at times humoristic, is used in this section.

Along this educational offer, the GWEP offers hands-on workshops to be given in class or at the Museum. For example, the Versailles Treaty Reenactment invites the participants to take on the role of a head-of-state at the Versailles Conference to defend their country's best interests. This activity allows students to draw their own conclusions about the impact of the Great War on international relations at the time.

To learn more about our workshops and educational offer, please visit: www.rmrmuseum.com.

A Busy Summer with Les Fusiliers Mont-Royal By Anouk Langlais, Museum Technician

Les Fusiliers Mont-Royal Regimental Museum, which aims to perpetuate the history of the oldest francophone regiment in Montreal, had a particularly busy summer.

Summer Exhibit

As it does each year, the Museum took advantage of the summer holidays at the regimental armoury to set up a large exhibit.

This summer, our exhibit showcased some recently acquired artefacts, such as a 19th century Iver Johnson revolver.

The museum team also shouldered a few innovative projects, such as the renewal of the regiment's Battle Honours, proudly displayed in the drill hall; the creation of bespoke curtains for the armoury's spacious windows, featuring a few segments of regimental history; and the creation of new display panels, also dedicated to the Battle Honours.

Montreal Museums Day

The Regimental Museum has long held an Open House Day in the spring. This year, for the first time, our event was held under the auspices of the Montreal Museums Society, of which the regimental museum is now an official member. Montreal Museums Day, held last May 28, was a roaring success, with over one thousand visitors touring the Museum.

Tasked with showcasing a particular artefact as part of the Your Favourite Curiosity contest, we selected the regimental drums, which are associated with a rather funny anecdote:

wanting to protect the drums during heavy fighting in Normandy, Lieutenant-Colonel Guy Gauvreau decided to store them temporarily in an amiable farmer's barn. Unfortunately, the Regiment was then sent to Holland, and the drums remained hidden in the hay and mud for the next nine years.



Dieppe Raid Commemorative Ball

Never one to rest on its laurels, the Museum team immediately began preparing for the 75th anniversary of Operation Jubilee (Dieppe Raid), which took place on August 19, 1942.

After weeks of research, the team created two light panels dedicated to the memory of the 119 Fusiliers who passed following the Raid, as well as a series of 25 frames dedicated to the Fusiliers who were decorated for their actions at Dieppe. These productions were showcased on October 14, on the occasion of a commemorative ball held by the regiment.

Other preparations for this ball included the confection of a great number of ceremonial uniforms, in order to dress many regiment members for formal events; the preparation of period uniforms for use in the Fallen Comrades' Ceremony; the production of a short film made of World War 2 newsreels; as well as the faithful reproduction of a vintage document: the DIEPPE booklet, penned by Bob Bowman.

Recently, the museum took part in the second Canadian Army Reserve Armouries Open House, on November 4. In the near future, the Museum will produce a new series of 40 frames dedicated to all Fusiliers Mont-Royal who were decorated over the course of the Second World War.

Un été fort occupé chez Les Fusiliers Mont-Royal

Par Anouk Langlais, Technicienne en Muséologie

Le Musée Régimentaire Les Fusiliers Mont-Royal, ayant pour mission de perpétuer l'histoire du plus ancien bataillon francophone montréalais, a connu un été particulièrement occupé.

Exposition d'été

Comme chaque année, le Musée a mis à profit les espaces vacants du manège militaire pour y tenir une grande exposition. Cet été, l'exposition mit en valeur quelques artefacts récemment ajoutés à la collection du musée, dont un revolver Iver Johnson datant du 19^e siècle. L'équipe du musée se chargea également de plusieurs projets novateurs, tel la réactualisation des Honneurs de Batailles, fièrement affichés dans le hall de parade; la création de stores, arborant quelques pans de l'histoire régimentaire, pour habiller les fenêtres du manège; et la création de nouveaux panneaux explicatifs, eux aussi consacrés aux honneurs régimentaires.

Journée des Musées Montréalais

Le Musée Régimentaire tient depuis maintes années une Journée Portes Ouvertes au printemps. Cette année, pour la première fois, celle-ci se tenait sous l'égide de la Société des musées de Montréal, dont le musée est devenu membre officiel. Cette journée, tenue le 28 mai dernier, fut un franc succès, un peu plus de mille visiteurs y ayant visité le Musée.

Un artefact particulier devant être choisi dans le cadre du concours Votre curiosité favorite, nous avons sélectionné les Tambours régimentaires, dont l'historique est cocasse : voulant protéger les tambours lors des combats en Normandie, en juillet 1944, le lieutenant-colonel Guy Gauvreau décide de les cacher temporairement dans le grenier d'un aimable fermier. Le Régiment devant partir pour la Hollande, les tambours resteront cachés dans la paille et la boue pendant neuf ans.

Gala commémoratif du Raid de Dieppe

Loin de se reposer sur ses lauriers, l'équipe du Musée, ayant en vue le 75^e anniversaire de l'Opération Jubilee du 19 août 1942 (Raid de Dieppe), débuta immédiatement ses préparatifs pour souligner cet anniversaire.

À la suite de plusieurs semaines de recherche, l'équipe réalisa deux grands panneaux lumineux en hommage à la mémoire des 119 Fusiliers morts suite au Raid, et une série de 25 cadres en l'honneur des Fusiliers décorés pour leurs actions. Ces réalisations furent mises en valeur le 14 octobre dernier, lors d'un Gala régimentaire commémoratif.

D'autres préparatifs pour ce gala incluent la confection d'une grande quantité d'uniformes de cérémonie, afin de vêtir les membres du Régiment lors d'événements officiels ; la préparation d'uniformes d'époque pour leur utilisation lors de la Cérémonie des compagnons disparus; la production d'un court film basé sur les films d'actualités de la Deuxième Guerre; et la reproduction fidèle d'un document d'archives : la brochure intitulée DIEPPE, rédigée par Bob Bowman.

Dernièrement, le musée participa à la deuxième Journée Portes Ouvertes de la Réserve de l'Armée canadienne, le 4 novembre. Dans un avenir prochain, le Musée produira une nouvelle série de 40 cadres en l'honneur de tous les Fusiliers Mont-Royal décorés au cours de la Seconde Guerre mondiale.



Big Artifact Maintenance: Lesson Learned *Entretien d'artéfact imposant : Leçon retenue*

By/Par Normand Roberge, Adjuc (retraité)

Although it is a very good tool to facilitate cleaning and sometime scrubbing, caution should prevail while using the pressure washer. Recently Artillery Ironwork received a gun from Parks Canada to restore and we could see damage cause probably by the use or misuse of a pressure washer. Pressure washers can put water where normally it wouldn't be able to access. It also means that there is probably no way for that water to get out, then the damage will occur.

Bien que ce soit un très bon outil pour faciliter le nettoyage et parfois le récurage, il faut faire preuve de prudence lors de l'utilisation des laveuses haute pression. Récemment, Artillery Ironwork a reçu de Parcs Canada un canon à restaurer et nous avons pu constater des dommages causés probablement par l'utilisation ou l'utilisation abusive devrais-je dire de laveuse haute pression. Celles-ci peuvent insérer de l'eau où normalement il n'y en aurait pas. Cela signifie également qu'il n'y a probablement aucun moyen pour que cette eau de s'écouler et de sortir c'est à ce moment que les dommages se produiront.



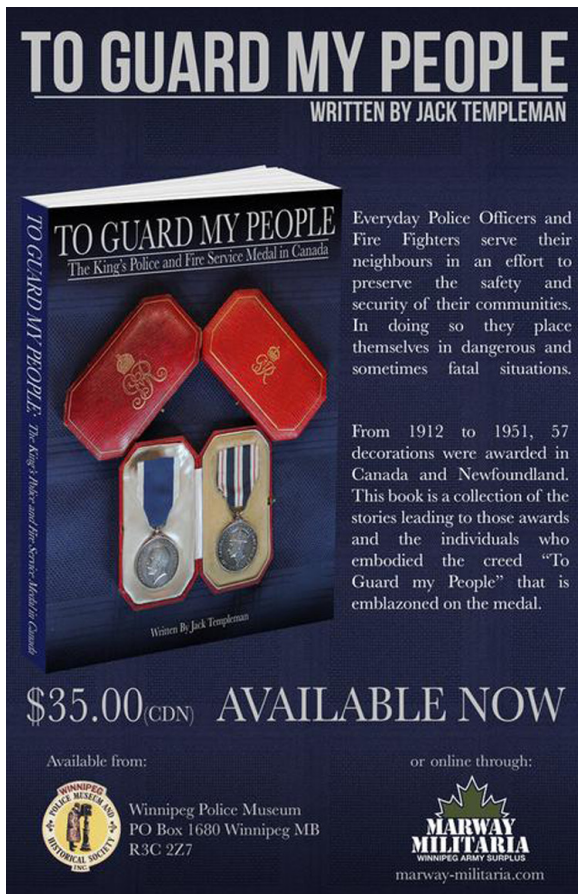
Part of the carriage and axle tree of a gun severely rotten.
Section de l'affût et de l'essieu rouillé et pourri.



After buffing the use of epoxy is required.
Après le nettoyage l'utilisation d'époxy est nécessaire.



Book Announcement: 'To Guard My People'



This book began over 20 years ago with the simple discovery of a single unknown medal found among the collections in the Winnipeg Police Museum. Awarded to Constable Leonard James Davies, the decoration was found to have been the King's Police and Fire Services Medal. Of the 52 medals awarded in Canada and five in Newfoundland between 1912 and 1951, five were awarded to Winnipeg Police officers.

The author sent away to the National Archives of Canada for some information to answer a few simple questions about the medal, but was provided with a copy of the entire portfolio. This led to the project expanding to include the stories of all those who were, and some were not, awarded the medal.

The Organization of Military Museums of Canada

Executive

Léon Chamois: President
Anne Lindsay-MacLeod: Vice President
Dave Stinson: Secretary
Richard Ruggie: Treasurer

leon.chamois@forces.gc.ca
anne@asmac.ab.ca
davelach@telus.net
shepherd@kw.igs.net

Directors

Bethany Aitchison
Rory Cory
Greg Gallant
Dale Murray
Eric Ruel
Bruce Tascona
James Whitham

bethany.aitchison@live.ca
Mor-curator@telusplanet.net
greggallant@pei.sympatico.ca
juddal@pacificcoast.net
eric.ruel@museedufortsaintjean.ca
tasconab@mymts.net
jim.whitham@warmuseum.ca

'The Bulletin' is the official publication of the Organization of Military Museums of Canada. The editor is Bethany Aitchison. Articles can be submitted to bethany.aitchison@live.ca.