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Volume 58 Issue 9



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May 2, 2019

**INSIDE**  
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Army beret colour changing to dark blue. Page 8

**Key  
ceremony**

The Brandon, Manitoba Chapter of Habitat for Humanity held a key ceremony Monday on the eve of Angelina moving in with her three children to a home built on Franklin Street, with volunteer help from members of RPOU(W) Det Shilo like Cpl Aaron Legg (inset) during construction in 2018. Alongside daughters Claryssa and Aneesa, Angelina received the keys to her new home from RPOU(W) Det Shilo OC Maj Jeremie Dulong. With two more homes being built starting this year, local Habitat for Humanity community engagement manager Bonnie Mills said volunteers from Maj Dulong's office will continue to provide construction expertise.

*Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag*



# RCA Museum announces medal acquisition MGen Strange medals invaluable to Royal Regiment's history

**Jules Xavier**  
Shilo Stag

The medals once worn on the chest of MGen Tom "Jingo" Strange are returning to the Royal Regiment at CFB Shilo.

That's the word from RCA Museum director Andrew Oakden following an April 10 auction held at Spink Auction House in London, UK, where the medals from Lot 501 were acquired for more than \$50,000 (24,000 pounds plus the 20 per cent auction premium).

"One of their representatives contacted us in January regarding the potential sale," he said. "They likely saw him listed on our website as a Great Gunner and thought we would be interested. That was true.

"A sizeable family collection of Strange medals were up for auction, including his son's [Harry Strange] medals. We were not successful with the bidding on his son's medals."

The medals arrived at the museum earlier this week after the Stag's publishing deadline, with Oakden opening the package for those in attendance at the museum.

"The RCA Senate raised the funds for this acquisition," said Oakden. "I would like to thank the RCA Senate for raising the money for these historic medals. I would also like to thank everyone that gave funds or helped with this project."

Oakden also recognized the efforts of Colonel Commandant, BGen (Ret'd) J.J. Selbie for leading the fundraising drive.

The MGen Strange medals are invaluable to the Royal Regiment, according to Oakden.

"Gen Strange had many accomplishments when you look back on his military career. In 1872, he was the first Commandant of B Bty and served in this capacity for a decade," explained Oakden. "He helped found and transform the

post-Confederation Canadian militia. In 1885, [Gen] Strange came out of retirement and commanded the Alberta Field Force during the Northwest Rebellion. This force fought in the last battle on Canadian soil."

"I should mention 100 per cent of the funds used for the purchase of the medals came from private donations," explained Oakden. "No government funds went towards the payment of the medals."

Oakden acknowledged Gen Strange helped open up the West and was a larger-than-life figure in Canadian history. In 1925, he became the first Colonel Commandant of the

Royal Regiment and is referred to as the "father of the Canadian artillery" and the first "Great Gunner."

"These facts make his military medals an exceptional acquisition," said Oakden

The Royal Regiment and the RCA Museum honour his legacy. On this Base, General Strange Hall (GSH) was named after the great man.

"There is little else in Canada to honour him," noted Oakden. "These medals help explain Canadian military history — a history that sometimes forgets its military heroes. His medals are evidence of his achievements and of our common heritage."

He added, "We repatriated these medals to Canada. They will stay in Canada at our Regimental museum. We will also create a traveling exhibit featuring the great man and his medals.

"As new generations of Canadian Gunners come [to CFB Shilo] they

will learn about the man and see his medals. We are very grateful to have these medals and we look forward to telling his story."

Born on Sept. 15, 1832 in Meerut, India, Gen Strange died in Camberly, UK, on July 9, 1925.

**More on this story will appear in  
the Stag's May 16 edition**



## New lights installation

Motorists in the vicinity of the Base's south gate might want to be watchful of workers. Crews have started installing new lights at the entrance to the Base, and along Royal Avenue.

*Photo Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag*



**MGen Tom "Jingo" Strange**

## Pet of the Week

### CHECKER

Keith Irvine says his dog Checker is his backpacking partner when they go hiking in the mountains. Checker carries his own food, tent, and other things such as his squeaky toys. He is also an awesome frisbee dog. Do you have a photo of your pet — cat, dog, bird, snake, hamster — you'd like to share with our Stag readers? If so, e-mail it to us via [stag@mymts.net](mailto:stag@mymts.net)



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**Ex IRON STAG**

# Cadets set to invade in tri-service weekend exercise

**OCdt J.P. Reil**  
Stag Special

There will be an increased hive of activity this weekend as the Base will host a sudden influx of teenagers.

Cadets from Brandon and surrounding areas will be in Shilo from May 3 to 5 for Ex IRON STAG.

The exercise will involve units from the Army, Navy and Air Cadets working together promoting teamwork and esprit de corps.

Plenty of activities will keep the youngsters busy – from team building to orientation and first aid to survival and even negotiating the confidence course.

A few lucky cadets will get the chance to fire the C7 rifle on the Base's training range, while others will play a mod-

ern version of Duck Hunt (remember Nintendo?) in the Small Arms Trainer at the MPTF.

"This will be an opportunity for the cadets to get experience with the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) aspects, learning from all three elements and doing things the cadets would not normally do," said Capt Connie Wilson, Commanding Officer (CO) 2502 RCACC Shilo.

She added, "The goal is to bring the cadets together promoting teamwork and hopefully making new friendships."

"My expectations are that the cadets and staff are going to have an exceptional experience participating in the well planned training, meeting new people, and experiencing new areas of the Base and the military environment on CFB Shilo," said Capt Dan Fontaine, CO 82 RCACS Brandon.

He added, "All in all it will be a good time and I expect all of our members will have fun."



Army Cadets with 2502 RCACC Shilo will be part of the three-day Ex IRON STAG being held on this Base, starting May 3.

Photo Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag

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For group reservations (12 and over) or more information call 204-765-3000 ext 3736. Limited reservations accepted until 11 May. Plenty of rush seating available. ONLY 800 TICKETS AVAILABLE!

**Pet Vaccination Clinic**

**Saturday, May 25**  
Community Centre Parking Lot (MFRC)  
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Rabies Vaccine - \$13  
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Volume 58 • Issue 9

Regular Circulation: 3,000

Printed bi-weekly by  
Struth Publishing, Killarney MB

**General manager** Mike McEwan ext 3073  
**Managing editor** Jules Xavier ext 3093  
**Base photographer** ext 6008  
**Reporter/photographer** ext 3013  
**Advertising rep**  
**Editorial advisor** Lori Truscott ext 3813  
**Proof reader** Lisa Barnes ext 3736

Fax: 204-765-3814 Email: [stag@mymts.net](mailto:stag@mymts.net)

**Mailing Address:**  
 Box 5000, Stn Main  
 CFB Shilo, Manitoba, R0K 2A0

*This newspaper is issued by authority of LCol David MacIntyre, Base Commander, CFB Shilo. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Department of National Defence or of the editorial staff. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit, to abridge, to reject copy or advertising to adhere to the policy, as outlined in CFAO 57-5, and for clarity and/or content.*

The Shilo Stag is produced every second Thursday.

Deadline for submissions is the Thursday prior to the week of publication. Submissions can be sent to the Stag via email at [stag@mymts.net](mailto:stag@mymts.net), dropped off at the Stag office located in CANEX or via Inter-base mail.

**Submitting articles and photos for print:**

- Please submit articles as a MS Word Document.
- Include the author's full name, rank, unit and contact information.
- Include photos with your articles whenever possible, however, do not embed photos in word documents.
- Please submit photos as high resolution jpegs (if scanned 300 dpi), digital images or in hard copy format.
- With photos, include a caption that names the individuals in the photo; what is taking place; and the name, rank, and unit of the photographer.

•••

Follow the Shilo Stag on  
Facebook by visiting:<http://www.facebook.com/ShiloSTAG>

Soon CFB Shilo's PMQ area will be a hive of activity as posting season ramps up, movers arriving to empty a duplex on one street, and another moving company on a neighbouring road emptying its contents into the home of newcomers.

Photo Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag



## CAF posting season changes announced

### Stag Special

The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) is making key changes to improve relocation services effective April.

These changes are based on feedback from members and their families, and aim to improve how relocation services are delivered.

Every relocating member will begin the process of moving by scheduling a customized individual planning session with a BGRS agent.

This will be done either on the phone or through video-chat. The first session will be within five business days of a member registering with BGRS. Upon registering, the website will launch a video.

It is important for members and their families to watch this video before their first session with BGRS.

During that first session, the agent will explain the program, outline the process, and assist members with website navigation. If there is an issue, or the member requires additional one-on-one support following this session, they will be able to schedule additional sessions.

Members will be offered a final session at the end of their relocation to ensure that all applicable items and benefits have been covered and claimed.

Members will also be able to contact their base Canadian Forces Integrated Relocation Program (CFIRP) co-ordinator or director relocation business management to resolve issues.

In addition, the program is being amended so that BGRS, CAF's relocation contractor, handles payments to third party service providers (TPSP) instead of the member.

Third party service provider services include: home inspection, appraisals, real estate commission, rental searches, and legal/notary fees. That means, beginning April 1, BGRS will be responsible to reimburse participating TPSP fees directly.

The aim is to reduce the pressure on members who will no longer have to request an advance, pay the TPSP, and reconcile the claim — BGRS will handle that workload. This applies to members who use third party service providers from the approved TPSP directory.

Members may also choose to use third party service providers that are not listed in the directory. If they do so, they will pay those third party service providers directly and claim the reimbursement.

It is important to note the amount to be reimbursed must

be within authorized limits.

To help facilitate a smooth relocation for members and their families, members will be given time during their work day to organize their moves.

Specifically, following registration with BGRS, members will be given a half day to conduct their first call with their agents and to familiarize themselves with the online service.

Members will also be given relocation administrative time as required. This will be conducted in one- to two-hour blocks, in co-ordination with the member's chain of command.

For new members who have just completed their training, the chain of command will ensure they have access to computers.

The BGRS website and mobile app are now available. Members who are posted to a new location will have further details in their posting messages, such as how to access the BGRS website and who to contact in case of problems with the online service.

They can also expect to have their claims settled within 15 business days of BGRS receiving the required information. To ensure Bases and Wings are prepared to support our members who will be posted

this summer, representatives from all Bases and Wings will meet in Ottawa at the end of March for demonstrations and familiarization by subject matter experts from the Department of National Defence (DND) and the contractor.

Your feedback matters and the CAF leadership is listening. The payment card (Relo Card) was eliminated and all funds due to the member will be through electronic funds transfers (EFT).

In addition, the CAF leadership wants to know more about your relocation experience, including the information and service provided by BGRS.

This will be measured using an annual relocation satisfaction survey following the Active Posting Season.

The results of the survey will be provided to CAF leadership. This is to ensure the service being delivered continues to meet the needs of members and their families.

One of the most stressful things the CAF demands of its members and their families is relocating from one post to another.

DND and the CAF leadership are invested in a relocation program that is fair to military members and their families, and will continue to work on improving the move process.

For more information, contact your BGRS agent, your Base or Wing CFIRP co-ordinator.

These changes are based on feedback received from members and their families.

#### Three important changes are coming to improve relocation services for relocating CAF members:

- Members will be entitled to a customized one-on-one planning session.
- The chain of command will give members time to organize their moves: a half day to conduct their first call with their agents and to familiarize themselves with the online service; and administrative time as required in one- to two-hour blocks.
- The relocation contractor will now handle payments to third party service providers, rather than the member.

These changes are based on feedback received from members and their families.

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# Base MP will Raise the Curtain performing with orchestra

**Jules Xavier**  
Shilo Stag

A military member with 1 MP Reg Det Shilo will showcase her musical talent when the Brandon Community Orchestra holds its spring concert May 5 at the WMCA.

Cpl Anita Hessling from the patrol section is part of the 7 p.m. show called Raise the Curtain. If you are looking for her in the orchestra pit, you'll see her playing a double bass.

The orchestra — led this year by Silvio Unrau, a Brandon University School of Music Masters conducting student — will play an array of works, ranging from Strauss, Mozart and Haydn compositions to popular works such as Muppet Medley and the Broadway production of Les Misérables.

Is there a musical story behind Cpl Hessling's joining the local orchestra?

"The greatest part of the story is my limited talent," she offered, "as I have only been playing double bass, for the past three years. The year prior to playing bass, I had played the violin, cello and viola, however, once I finally let myself look at the big bass, I found the instrument I love to play."

Cpl Hessling acknowledged the BCO has unconditionally accepted her skills and talents, being truly encouraging.

"My only musical skills prior to my involvement with classical music were in playing trumpet in junior high school, a long, long time ago," she quipped.

Cpl Hessling pointed out the orchestra's style of training works well for her musical background. Moreover, she'd welcome to see more of her peers from CFB Shilo, who perhaps played in the high school band, to contemplate joining.

"I definitely want other military members to know what a wonderful group this is and if they are playing an instrument, this group is a wonderfully accepting venue to join."

There have been other military members posted to CFB Shilo in the past who have been part of the orchestra.

Joining the Canadian Armed Forces

(CAF) at age 37, Edmonton-born and raised Cpl Hessling has had a "broad and electric education" which included a year of chemical technology.

Both of her parents emigrated from Germany and met in Canada — Alberta to be specific, and played musical instruments.

"My father had been a tailor in the German Army, but quit the military," she recalled. "He played violin by ear, prior to leaving Germany. My mother had played the mandolin."

Cpl Hessling was posted to CFB Shilo's MP detachment in July 2018.

While she has no solos to perform for the audience, fellow orchestra member and oboe soloist Reilly Sutlic will be performing Gabriel's Oboe from the movie Mission. The 12th grader at Crocus Plains High School has been a member of the orchestra for two years.

He enjoys playing music with people of different backgrounds, ages and regions of Westman every Saturday morning in the BCO.

Gabriel's Oboe has been his favourite piece ever since he first heard it, and he is looking forward to performing it with the orchestra.

Reilly plans to pursue his musical studies at BU next fall.

Also featured in the concert will be a woodwind quintet (BCO Winds) and a brass ensemble (Skyfall).

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and free for children aged 12 and younger.

Tickets are available from orchestra members, so stop by the MP detachment and ask for Cpl Hessling. Or grab one at the door on the day of the show.

For more information about the concert, or to find out more about the local orchestra, visit [www.brandoncommunityorchestra.com](http://www.brandoncommunityorchestra.com) or follow the BCO on Twitter @BcoContact



**"My only musical skills prior to my involvement with classical music were in playing trumpet in junior high school, a long, long time ago."**

**— MP Cpl Anita Hessling**

**Shilo Theatre**  
(Located in General Strange Hall)

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May 10 *Isn't It Romantic* Rated PG  
May 17 *Lego Movie 2* Rated G

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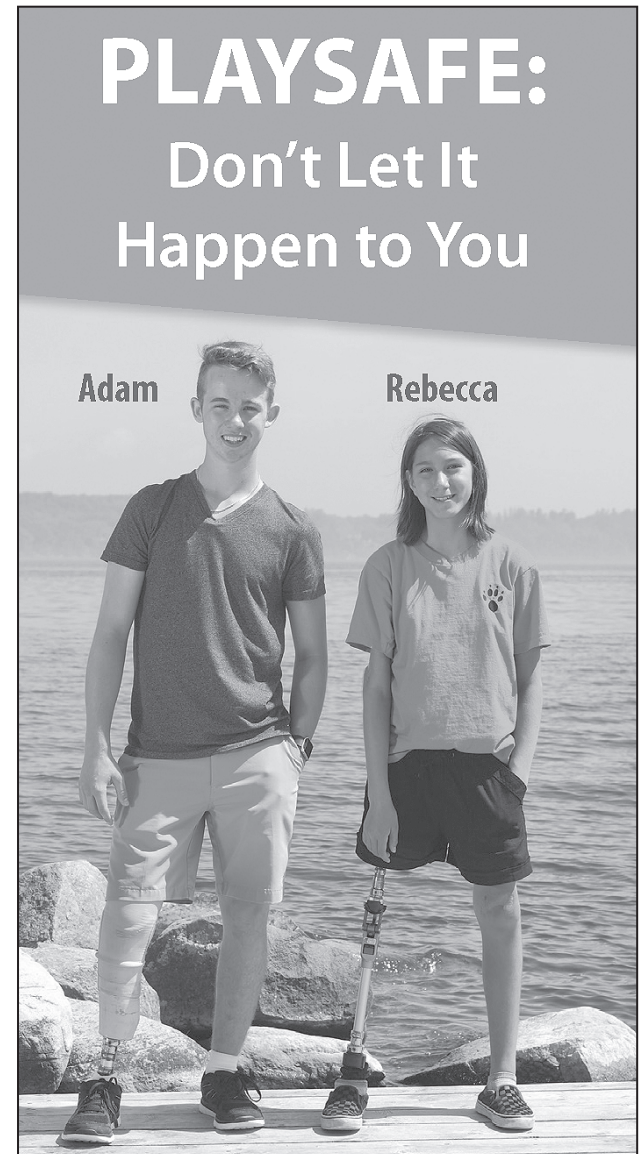
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## Notice of AGM

June 6 at noon El Prado Club

Agenda includes: Receive the annual reports of officers and committees; receive the auditor's report; appoint an auditor; elect officers; and deal with any other business which comes before the assembly. Members have the right to attend meetings, to bring business before the assembly (make motions), to debate and to vote. If you have business to bring to the assembly, contact interim board chair Victoria Miles via e-mail [boardchair@shilomfrc.ca](mailto:boardchair@shilomfrc.ca) in advance of the meeting or bring your business to the meeting to be heard.

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**The War Amps**

# Forgotten no more: Victoria Cross display opens at War Museum

The Victoria Cross (VC), the British Commonwealth's — formerly the British Empire's — highest military honour for bravery in battle, was created by Queen Victoria in 1856. During the First World War, 73 Canadians were awarded VCs. Six went to men who demonstrated uncommon valour at the Battle of Hill 70, a significant Canadian victory. The Canadian War Museum collection currently holds 39 of the 99 Victoria Crosses awarded to Canadians, of which 33 are from the Great War.

## Steven Fouchard Stag Special

The Canadian War Museum (CWM) has acquired the complete set of Victoria Cross (VC) honours awarded to six Canadians for their bravery at the Battle of Hill 70 in August 1917, shining a spotlight on what has long been considered a forgotten chapter of the First World War.

The medals are now on display in the CWM's Royal Canadian Legion Hall of Honour following an unveiling ceremony held in late March.

"The capture of Hill 70 was one of the hardest-fought victories for Canada during the First World War. We are proud to commemorate that victory by giving these medals a special place at the War Museum," said Mark O'Neill, president and CEO of the CWM and the Canadian Museum of History in a press release. "Together, these medals tell a story of extraordinary collective achievement, through six Canadians of different ranks and backgrounds who showed great courage and leadership when it counted most."

At the event, O'Neill noted the museum now has 39 of the 99 VCs awarded to Canadians in total, calling them nothing less than "national treasures."

He added, "The impact of having all six Hill 70 medal



Wounded Canadian soldiers during a pause in fighting at the Battle of Hill 70. Six Canadians received Victoria Crosses for their valour in this First World War battle, all of which are now in display at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

*Photo DND/Library and Archives Canada.*

sets on display together is considerable ... attesting both to the intensity of the battle and the outstanding courage of Canadian soldiers."

Col Mark Hutchings, a 27-year veteran of the Canadian Army (CA) and former Honorary Colonel of The Princess of Wales' Own Regiment, also spoke at the unveiling.

As chair of the Hill 70 Monument Project, a driving force behind the Hill 70 Monument in Lens, France that was

opened to the public in 2017, he thanked the CWM for creating "a nexus in Canada for future generations to find out more about their country and about Hill 70."

Col Hutchings joked that all the attention now on Hill 70 may serve to invalidate the title of *Capturing Hill 70: Canada's Forgotten Battle of the First World War*, a book published in 2016 as part of the Monument Project's educational program, but welcomed the change in public awareness.

"One thousand, eight hundred seventy-seven Canadians died at Hill 70 and the fact that there was no monument there to commemorate them was unconscionable. [The monument] is a beautiful thing. People are travelling from all over the world to see it. Not just Canada but from England, Australia, New Zealand, Germany. The town of Lens is really delighted that they are now on the tourist map."

The medals making up the Hill 70 set are on loan from a number of sources, including the Governor General's Foot Guards (GGFG) Regimental Museum and the British Columbia Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own) Museum Society.

Estelle Lane, co-curator of the GGFG Museum, said she is pleased that the VC of Acting Major Okill Massey Learmonth will have a wider audience at the CWM.

"At first I was a little sad about seeing it go," she said. "But here a lot of people will be able to see it and appreciate the sacrifice."

The Battle of Hill 70 took place between Aug. 15 and 25, 1917 and was the first major action by the Canadian Corps under the direction of a Canadian officer: LGen Sir Arthur Currie.

More than 9,000 Canadians were killed, wounded, or designated as missing after the battle to capture Hill 70, which overlooked German-occupied Lens.



Sgt Filip Konowal, VC, illustration by Arthur Ambrose McEvoy, Beaverbrook Collection of War Art, Canadian War Museum.



Maj O. M. Learmonth, VC, illustration by James Quinn, lent to the Canadian War Museum by the Governor General's Foot Guards Regimental Museum.



Private M.J. O'Rourke, VC, illustration by Ernest George Fosbery, Beaverbrook Collection of War Art, Canadian War Museum, lent by the BC Regiment (DCO) Museum Society.



Pte Harry Brown, VC, illustration by Sharif Tarabay, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals, Canadian War Museum.



Sgt Frederick Hobson, VC, illustration by George Horne Russell, Beaverbrook Collection of War Art, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals, Canadian War Museum.



Coy Sgt/Maj Robert Hanna, VC, illustration by A.Y. Jackson, Beaverbrook Collection of War Art, Tilston Memorial Collection of Canadian Military Medals, Canadian War Museum.

# Victoria Crosses earned by Canadian soldiers fighting at Hill 70

*Sgt Frederick Hobson* — he was killed after digging out a machine gun position that had been buried as a result of a nearby artillery impact. He turned it on the advancing enemy. When the weapon jammed, he left a comrade to clear it, charging at the enemy and holding them back using only his rifle as a club and his bayonet until he was felled.

*Cpl Filip Konowal* — he single-handedly attacked and destroyed two enemy machine gun emplacements on two separate days and is credited with killing at least 16 enemy troops before being severely wounded.

*Pte Harry Brown* — When communications were lost in a German counterattack, Pte Brown, who had a severely wounded arm, made his way successfully through intense enemy fire to deliver a critical message to headquarters. He died a few hours later.

*Pte Michael James O'Rourke* — he was a stretcher bearer who jumped out of a trench into enemy fire to assist wounded comrades, including one who had been blinded. His VC citation notes that, "He showed throughout an absolute disregard for his own safety, going wherever there were wounded to succour..."

*Acting Maj Okill Massey Learmonth* — he is credited with "most conspicuous bravery and exceptional devotion to duty" under heavy fire. He reputedly caught and tossed back a number of enemy grenades and refused to be carried out of the battle after being wounded. He continued to give instructions and advice. He was eventually carried to hospital where he succumbed to his wounds.

*Sgt Maj Robert Hill Hanna* — he is credited with "courageous action" for leading an attack on a German position protected by a machine gun. His citation includes credit "for the capture of a most important tactical point, and but for his daring action and determined handling of a desperate situation, the attack would not have succeeded."

The Canadian War Museum is Canada's national museum of military history. Its mission is to promote public understanding of Canada's military history in its personal, national and international dimensions.

Work of the Canadian War Museum is made possible in part through financial support of the Government of Canada.



## Spring feeding

With the advent of spring, an array of bird species return to the Base, foraging for food when they are not looking for a nesting site to begin a new family.

Photo Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag

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# Army returns to dark blue or khaki berets for Foot Guards, technical corps

**Steven Fouchard**  
Stag Special

The first colour most would associate with the Canadian Army (CA) is green but, in light of a new change in dress policy, some CA members will be wearing dark blue or khaki berets.

In total, 16,000 new berets will be issued in a process that began this past March.

The dark blue berets are a shade known officially as "Army Blue" and are being issued to members of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery (RCA), Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RCEME), Royal Canadian Corps of Signals (RCCS), and Canadian Intelligence Corps (C Int C).

"We Gunners are honoured by the restoration of our distinctive blue beret and look forward to wearing it proudly alongside our RCCS, RCEME and C Int C comrades-in-arms," said BGen (Ret'd) J.J. Selbie, Colonel Commandant of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery.

Those being issued the blue berets are authorized to wear them with all Orders of Dress, which include formal ceremonial wear and operational dress, both in the field and in garrison.

Army Blue is a dark shade but lighter than the almost-black worn by CA members in the post-Second World War period. It is also not quite as dark as the traditional Royal Blue, which is worn by many Corps and Regiments as facings on their formal mess dress and often mistaken for black.

Army Blue was chosen by a team of Corps Sergeants Major and CA heritage experts, who wanted to ensure a traditional look and feel was maintained. Compatibility with the current Army Service Dress uniform was also a consideration.

Dark blue is a key component of the CA's historical identity. During the Victorian era, scarlet tunics were worn as field dress and blue was the colour of almost everything else.

As the first 'technical' Corps developed, the RCA and Royal Canadian Engineers chose to



Colonel Commandant BGen (Ret'd) J.J. Selbie announced the Canadian Army is going back to a dark blue beret during the 2018 RCA Reunion dinner held at L25.

*Photo Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag*

highlight their distinct identities by wearing more blue. With the later emergence of the RCCS and RCEME, they naturally also adopted blue as an identifying colour.

The initiative to re-adopt Army Blue berets was led by the RCA. After some discussion, the RCEME and RCCS also submitted requests to return to this traditional colour. The newly reformed C Int C also requested it.

The new berets are a reinforcement of C Int C's distinct identity. It operated under that name from 1942 until 1968 when, as part of the merging of the Army, Navy, and Air Force under the single Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) banner, it was incorporated into the CAF-wide Intelligence Branch.

It was re-named Canadian Intelligence Corps in 2016 — part of a wider trend which has seen it and other Corps adopt historic names. Additionally, khaki berets are being issued to the CA's Foot Guard Regiments — the Governor General's Foot Guards and the Canadian Grenadier Guards. Wearing of the khaki berets by Foot Guard members is limited to combat dress, as these Regiments wear a forage cap with all other Orders of Dress. A forage cap is a peaked cap worn during parade and other dress occasions instead of a beret.

In the discussions on new berets, members of the Foot Guard Regiments considered staying with their current green or adopting either Army Blue or khaki. They opted for the latter to recognize their unique role as the only Household Regiments in Canada supporting the Queen's representative, the Governor General.

The choice is also an acknowledgement of strong historical connections to the British Household Regiments, which adopted khaki berets in the 1970s.

"The Guards are privileged to adopt the khaki beret affirming our role as Household Troops in support of the Queen's representative in Canada, Her Excellency the Governor General," said Col R.M. Foster, the senior serving Guards officer. "We stand shoulder to shoulder alongside the other corps and branches of the Canadian Army in operational dress with distinctive berets."

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# Red River College signs on to support CAF members, veterans

**Lt Stacie Nelles**  
Stag Special

There's a new relationship between Red River College and the Canadian military.

Col Nigel Whittaker, assistant Chief of Staff Support for 3 Div, and LCol John Groves, Deputy Commander of 38 Canadian Brigade Group, attended a signing ceremony at Red River College (RRC) in Winnipeg in early April.

The ceremony recognized Red River College as the newest post-secondary institution to join the National-Advanced Placement and Prior Learning Program (N-APPL), which applies the skills and accomplishments of military training and experience towards academic credentials at various post-secondary institutions.

RRC is the first institution in Manitoba to join this federal program. Dr. Christine Watson, vice-president of academic at Red River College and emcee for the event, said Business Administration is the first curriculum that has been mapped out for RRC.

"We recognize, honour, and value the training and experience that military members bring to post-secondary education, and that the military has already invested a great deal of time, effort, and money into training and into the dedication of the professional and personal growth of these members."

Dr Watson added the college wants to do the same by offering advanced standing to serving Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members and veterans, meaning qualified students would begin the two-year program already ahead by one to two semesters.

In January 2017, 3 Div made a commitment to support the N-APPL program by signing a memorandum of understanding on behalf of the CAF.

Col Whittaker acknowledged that since then, the program has grown in Western Canada and nationally.

"This investment in our most precious asset — our people — is important to us, particularly in the Reserve Force. We recognize that every investment we can encourage our members to make in their broader professional development will pay back handsomely, in that they are more likely to find a successful civilian career to complement their reserve military career."

Paul Vogt, president and CEO of RRC noted that several students who attend RRC programs are veterans of the Reserve and Regular Force.

"Not only does this partnership formally recognize military service," he said, "it allows the college to offer a broad talent pool for employers and open new career paths for Canadians who serve our country."

Leadership, communication, problem-solving, teamwork, and resilience — traits that become a natural part of a CAF member's life with time — are all skills that transfer from a military career to civilian education and are eagerly anticipated by civilian employers.

"All of these soldiers are honoured and proud to do what they do, and of who they are," said LCol Groves, adding: "As an Army Reserve formation that traverses three provinces, 38 CBG understands that the benefits of strong, healthy relationships are necessary and essential to our success as an institution."

"As a stakeholder in this partnership, it is important to enrich our collective objective of achieving professional competence through education and training. Advancing professional self-development and taking charge of that journey is key to moving forward in one's plan to achieve the academic credentials needed to reach their current or future career goals."

The National-Advanced Placement and Prior Learning Program at RRC is open to reservists, Regular Force members, and veterans in Manitoba.

## GRAND OPENING

Shilo's Military Family Resource Centre  
Counselling Centre

The Shilo community are invited to attend the grand opening of the new Shilo MFRC Counselling Centre located in the former Thriftshop May 8, with ribbon cutting at 10:30 a.m. at Shilo's MFRC building (T114). Cake and coffee to follow a short ceremony.

Follow us on Facebook for updates by visiting  
[www.facebook.com/Shilomfrc/](http://www.facebook.com/Shilomfrc/)



# Bulk garbage pick-up on Base scheduled for May 21

**Jules Xavier**  
Shilo Stag

Mark May 21 on your garage calendar if you have bulk garbage collecting dust in your PMQ basement or garage.

That's the day Real Property Operations Unit (West) - Detachment Shilo (RPOU-W) workers will be out to collect your items left out at the end of the driveway.

"Items are not to be placed earlier than the evening of [May 20]," said RPOU-W OC Maj Jérémie Dulong.

"As per the CFHA notice, all appliances that contain freon — fridges, A/Cs, water coolers etc — will not be picked up by the fall bulk garbage pick-up. Residents may disposed of those items at the Eastview landfill site."

Further information can be found at the City of Brandon landfill overview website [www.brandon.ca/sanitation/landfill/landfill-overview](http://www.brandon.ca/sanitation/landfill/landfill-overview)

If you have been collecting bulk garbage at home since it was last picked up last October, there is another alternative you can do without leaving the Base, according to Maj Dulong.

"Shilo dump remains available for bulk garbage drop off throughout the year. It is located three kilometres east of CANEX following Aldershot Road and is open Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m."

Formerly Engineering Services (CE), RPOU-W Det

Shilo provides the infrastructure and municipal services found in most cities.

Under the guidance of the OC, all activities pertaining to the design, construction and maintenance of works, buildings, roads and grounds as well as the operation of utility systems — heat, water and sewage treatment are looked after by RPOU-W

Maj Dulong and his staff are responsible for real property management services of 221 buildings encompassing 165,188.83 m2 of floor space and an additional 100,000 acres of range and training area.

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# Becoming a Ceremonial Guard an 'enriching' summer experience in Ottawa

**Jeremiah Hemens**  
Stag Special

A position with the Ceremonial Guard (CG) is a great opportunity for a rewarding and unique full-time summer employment experience with a variety of benefits and professional development opportunities.

The Army Reserve is currently hiring, and joining is the first step towards becoming a member of the CG. In addition, qualified Reservists are guaranteed full-time summer employment for their first four years of service, with paid, full-time work opportunities between May 1 and Aug. 31.

**What does the Ceremonial Guard do?** CG members execute public duties from June to August every year in the National Capital Region while proudly wearing their distinctive ceremonial scarlet uniforms and bearskin hats. Guardsmen, musicians and support staff are all essential positions supporting public duties.

Examples of public Duties include being posted at the residence of the Governor General of Canada, participating in the daily Changing of the Guard ceremony on Parliament Hill and providing ceremonial musical performances and honour guards for visiting dignitaries.

There is also Fortissimo, a military and musical spectacular event that has attracted thousands of spectators to Parliament Hill in Ottawa every July since 1997. It features massed military bands, pipes and drums, artillery fire and period rifle drill. Guest performers from around the world join the CG soldiers and military band to present an impressive traditional sunset ceremony.

**Who can become a member of the Ceremonial Guard?** While many CG members are students, Regular and Reserve force members of the Canadian Army (CA), the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) and the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) also may participate in these highly sought-after duties.

Becoming a part of the CG is a great opportunity for participants to showcase their abilities while representing Canada. Members serve on behalf of the Queen, the Royal Family and the Governor General.

MCpl Gaelen MacIntosh was a member of the CG in 2017 and currently serves as a section commander training recruits for the Governor General's Foot Guards, a Reserve infantry unit based in Ottawa.

"Anyone participating in the CG will learn to develop self-discipline and a meticulous attention to detail," said MCpl MacIntosh.

"This comes from having to ensure your uniform and boots are always in pristine condition. Most importantly, they will learn teamwork. Teamwork applies with regards to helping others with their uniforms and practicing drill with one another so that they may represent the CAF in the public eye to the fullest of their ability."

Cpl Gregory Tselis and Cpl Raquel Bitton are Reserve infantry soldiers with the Canadian Grenadier Guards in Montreal, Quebec. Both soldiers were CG members in 2018 and plan to return for the summer of '19. In addition to their commitment to the Army Reserve and the CG, both Cpl Tselis and Cpl Bitton are students with civilian jobs.

Cpl Tselis' area of study is currently in English Literature but he is switching to applied human sciences with a goal of becoming a military social work officer. He also volunteers at a veterans' hospital in Montreal.

As for Cpl Bitton, her area of study is digital marketing and she also works as a civilian freelance photographer. Cpl Tselis is the most recent member of his family to join the CG.

"I have two older brothers that are current serv-



MCpl Gaelen MacIntosh stands sentry at front entrance to Governor General's residence.  
*Photo supplied*

special national events and developing new skills. These include personal discipline and orderliness, mental and physical resilience, confidence, teamwork and leadership.

Cpl Bitton added, "Participating in Public Duties employment opportunities would be a good career move for current Army Reservists due to all the new skills that can be learned and applied to any career, such as the honing and display of high levels of discipline and reliability. I strongly believe the CG and public duties are good employment opportunities for Canadian students. The full-time tasking takes place in the summer, when most students are off from school. Also, the stable, full-time salary, in combination with the free lodging and meals and all the other benefits, make it a great way to get ahead financially."

Cpl Tselis said his fellow soldiers were the greatest highlight of his experience.

"It was a great privilege getting to work closely beside so many other members of the Canadian Armed Forces. The friendships I made there will last a lifetime."

"For me, the most rewarding thing about being in the CG is the opportunity to be a part of something of such high national importance," said Cpl Bitton. "In 50 years from now, I imagine such memories as having paraded on Parliament Hill or having met the Governor General and been one of her guards, will carry far more meaning than the memories of more typical summer jobs."

Interested in joining the Army Reserve and becoming a member of the Ceremonial Guard? Talk to a recruiter from your local unit. To find your nearest recruiter, visit Canadian Army Reserve.

ing members of the Canadian Grenadier Guards and my father was also a member of the regiment back in the 1970s," he said. "It was an honour to finally share the great feeling of being a guard on Parliament Hill."

Cpl Tselis said there are benefits beyond becoming a part of his family's history, and the greatest is the social environment.

"I was constantly communicating and working on my interpersonal relationships. It's a great place for anyone who wants to get out of their comfort zone and improve on their skills related to small group leadership."

Cpl Bitton has received a wide variety of benefits as a member of the CG, including the opportunity to be part of

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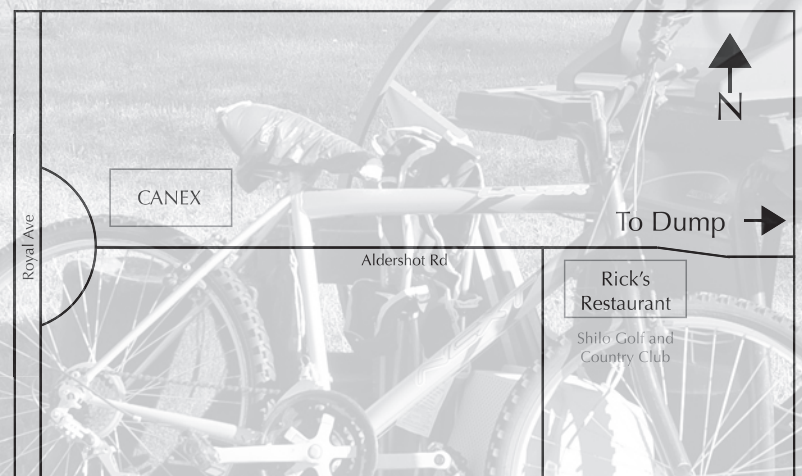
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Items may be placed for curb-side pick-up the following date **ONLY** for spring clean-up:

### May 21

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**Reading Stag at CFS Alert**

Military members posted to CFS Alert have access to CAF newspapers, including the *Shilo Stag*. Here, CFS Alert CO Maj Peter Kleinschmidt catches up on the news from this training Base on the prairies from his office in Canada's far north.

*Photo submitted by CFS Alert*

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