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Winner has a passion for Halloween Page 12



A section of the roof peeled off by heavy prairie winds sits on the ground in front of an adjacent Base Transport building.

Heavy prairie winds peel roof off Q102

Kimberley Kielley
Shilo Stag

Just like the lid on a can of sardines, the metal roof attached to Q102 Base Transport peeled back and plunged to the ground early Saturday morning during 90 km/hr winds.

But not before two 200-pound ventilation systems anchored to the roof crashed to the ground as well, leaving gaping three-foot holes in the original roof.

"The wind grabbed the corner of the metal roof and lifted the steel. It rolled over like a banana peel," MWO Don Fraser of RPOU-W

Det Shilo told the *Stag*.

Roughly 30 per cent of the roof was damaged he said.

"When I arrived, firefighters were already there. In 15 minutes, we assessed that we needed to move the fleet immediately," MWO Fraser continued.

Inside the building lay more than \$6-million in busses, snow removal machinery, 18-wheeler trucks and a few civilian vehicles.

"When I got the call, I expected to see a couple sheets gone. But there was a lot more."

"The vehicles had to come out. The heating units on top of the building had come off with

the steel. They could have ended up on top of a vehicle. If it had hit a bus, it would have been a write-off. It was imperative to get the equipment out of the building ASAP."

The cracking and moaning as the roof shifted in the wind was disconcerting. Sustained prairie winds in the right direction, and the age of the roof dictated what happened next.

"If the wind is in the right direction and it's the right time, it's just one of those things. We're very lucky no one was working that day. People could have gotten hurt," MWO Fraser noted.

See **YARD** page 3



An array of Base heavy equipment, plus busses, had to be moved outdoors after the roof was damaged. Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag



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Sr PSP manager	Craig Ethelston	ext 3073
Managing editor	Jules Xavier	ext 3093
Assistant Editor	Kimberley Kielley	ext 3013
Advertising rep		ext 3013
PAO Advisor	Lori Truscott	ext 3813

Fax: 204-765-3814 Email: stag@mymts.netMailing Address:
Box 5000, Stn Main
CFB Shilo, Manitoba, R0K 2A0

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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, 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 cutline which names the individuals in the photo; what's taking place; and the name, rank, and unit of the photographer.

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Facebook by visiting:<http://www.facebook.com/ShiloSTAG>

Past war sacrifices virtually recalled

Jules Xavier
Shilo Stag

There were no 2PPCLI soldiers standing in the Moosomin cemetery Nov. 11 at the grave of a Victoria Cross recipient from the Great War.

Sgt George Mullin was not forgotten, but because of the COVID-19 pandemic, fellow Patricias were unable to lay a wreath and raise a rum toast to their comrade.

In fact, across Canada, including here at CFB Shilo, Remembrance Day ceremonies were held virtually. MCpl Heather MacRae used her video camera, and editing suite, to put together a virtual Base Remembrance Day taped in advanced at the GSH for you to peruse Nov. 11 on the *Stag's* Facebook page.

So, I stood there in the Saskatchewan cemetery and thought about then 26-year-old Sgt Mullin's gallantry on a battlefield on Oct. 30, 1917 near Passchendaele in Belgium which led to his VC.

The citation written in the London Gazette on Jan. 11, 1918 explained why he received a VC: "For most conspicuous bravery in attack, when single-handed he captured a commanding 'Pillbox' which had withstood the heavy bombardment and was causing heavy casualties to our forces and holding up the attack. He rushed a sniper's post in front, destroyed the garrison with bombs, and, crawling on to the top of the 'Pillbox,' he shot the two machine-guns with his revolver. Sgt Mullin then rushed to another entrance and compelled the garrison of 10 to surrender. His gallantry and fearlessness were witnessed by many, and, although rapid fire was directed upon him, and his clothes riddled by bullets, he never faltered in his purpose and he not only helped to save the situation, but also indirectly saved many lives."

The Victoria Cross is the highest award for gallantry in the face of the enemy which can be awarded to British and Commonwealth forces.

Born in Portland, Oregon, in 1891 Sgt Mullin grew up in Moosomin after his parents left the USA for Saskatchewan. He enlisted in the army in December 1914. With the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI), Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the First World War, he served as a scout and sniper.

He had already received the Military Medal (MM) for his conduct on the occasion of the successful attack by the Canadian Corps during the Battle of Vimy Ridge in April 1917. He was 71 when he died on April 5, 1963.

A lot has changed since Sgt Mullin fought on muddy battlefields in France or Belgium. Fast forward to the early 2000s, and Canadian soldiers — including 20 who were based here — died under dusty conditions in Afghanistan after fighting Taliban at close quarters, or their LAV hitting improvised roadside bombs.

War is a plague on humanity which has existed as long as people have gathered together and will unfortunately and without doubt mar our lives again.

Not a year has gone by in recorded history where at least one civil war, revolution or insurgency has not taken place. It has been said that the one constant in the history of man is war. No matter how many young men or women perish or how many lives are turned upside down, war persists.

When you can, take a walk to the cenotaph in Brandon, Douglas, Souris, Boissevain or other Manitoba hamlets, towns and cities and try to picture the faces of those who never returned home after losing their lives on the battlefield. The names are engraved on those stones.

Like the three Bowes brothers who died in the Great War, and are among 59 names inscribed on a towering cenotaph

unveiled in 1920 in Boissevain which features an Italian carved statue of a soldier.

The community of Glenboro saw 34 men and women lose their lives in the Great War, including nursing sister Christine Frederickson, who died on Oct. 28, 1918, and 13 in the Second World War (1939-1945), including F/O T. Frederickson.

There is a community north of Edmonton, the hamlet of Vimy — named after Vimy Ridge in France where 11,285 Canadian soldiers perished during the First World War. Of this total, there were eight men from Boissevain who died at the Battle of Vimy Ridge in 1917, including Hank Anderson and buddy Gordon Little from the 44th Battalion. These two as well as Cliff Mains were profiled in a locally produced documentary *Warpaths: Every Town Had A Soldier*.

We keep reminders such as a cenotaph close to our communities and in sight to remind us of the folly of war. Cit-

ies, towns and villages list their fallen on the cenotaph, with some of those soldiers who died on the Vimy battlefield having trained in trench warfare in 1916 at nearby Camp Hughes. Like Kendra Minary's great-great-uncle Pte Cecil Minary, who trained at Camp Hughes before going overseas. The Souris resident shared his story with the *Stag* after researching his CEF career, which was cut short when he was KIA on Aug. 28, 1918. During an attack on enemy positions at Bois du Vert, he was killed instantly by an explosion from a German artillery shell.

There are 11 soldiers buried at Camp Hughes, but their deaths were attributed to disease during training. Pneumonia was especially cruel to young soldiers, with seven dying, including four privates who died in a 13-day span in July 1916: John Davidson (13th), John Messenger (17th), Walter Barringer (22nd) and William Perkins 26th).

The First World War was labeled as the War to End All Wars, but perhaps a more fitting name would be the war to herald a new age of warfare. Poison gas, tanks and machine guns all evolved from the bloody trenches of that era.

Now more than ever before, with the destructive forces at our command, the message behind Remembrance Day rings true; war is mankind's greatest and deadliest folly.

Walk through the Brandon cemetery and its military section and gaze at granite slabs above

veterans who survived the conflict overseas so that Canadians could enjoy their freedoms. Amid the many rows is one for MCpl Timothy James Wilson, who was KIA on March 5, 2006 while in Afghanistan with 2PPCLI.

It has been 102 years since the First World War ended, and 75 since the last shots were fired in the Second World War. Our veteran population from three conflicts, including the Korean War, grow fewer with the passage of time.

Every Nov. 11, Canadians across this country pause in silent moment of remembrance for the men and women who served our country during wartime. I also thought about my great-grandfather Pte Thomas Sampson, who survived four years with the KOS Borderers, coming to Canada in 1919 from England. He lived to 88, dying in Nanaimo, BC, when I was about to turn five in 1964. But not this year. We reflected virtually, or as I did by social distancing outdoors in a Saskatchewan cemetery.

Canada's last known First World War veteran, 109-year-old John Babcock, died in 2010.

They grow old today, but their actions should not be forgotten, just as their comrades who sacrificed their lives and their future so that we may live in peace, whether in France or Afghanistan. Lest we forget!



Pte Cecil Minary



Sgt George Mullin

Shilo Theatre
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Retrofits, sustainability improvements

Energy savings project currently underway on Base

Stag Special

An energy savings project is currently underway on the Base.

The \$12-million project will deliver a program of energy retrofits and sustainability improvements intended to reduce energy costs and consumption, and associated greenhouse gas emissions.

Once complete by fall 2021, the project will be a proud achievement in support of DND's Defence Energy and Environment Strategy and Canada's defence policy, Strong, Secure, Engaged.

The primary scope of the project involves replacing CFB Shilo's nearly 70-year old central heating plant with new more efficient heating systems at 15 buildings around the Base.

Further improvements will include upgrades to heating and ventilating systems, HVAC controls, utility metering, and building management systems as well as energy-efficient lighting replacements by RPOU tradespersons.

Site-wide construction started this past March and will



CFB Shilo's aging steam central heating plant will be decommissioned and replaced by efficient decentralized hot water and steam heating systems to be installed in 15 buildings located on the Base resulting in a significant reduction in natural gas use and resulting GHG emissions.

Photo supplied

continue through the fall of 2021.

Work is currently underway to expand and upgrade the buried natural gas distribution system.

Construction on the satellite boiler plants in buildings L101, L102, L103, L104, L111, and L142 was expected to commence this past July.

The improvements are expected to reduce the Base's annual utility costs by just under \$150,000 – a 10 per cent savings from the baseline year.

In addition, annual Green House Gas (GHG) emissions will be reduced by more than 1,000 tonnes of eCO₂ – a 16 per cent reduction from the baseline year.

The cumulative impact of these utility savings and avoided GHG emissions enables CFB Shilo to contribute to DND's goals, set out in the Defense Energy and Environment Strategy, to reduce utility spend by 15 per cent and GHG emissions by 40 per cent by 2030.

The project is being delivered under an Energy Performance Contract on behalf of DND, administered by Public Services and Procurement Canada and delivered by MCW Custom Energy Solutions Ltd.



A section of Base Transport's roof on west side of building is peeled back.

Yard littered with pink insulation

From the front

The electrical supply and natural gas were shut off immediately as was the water for the fire suppression system. It was drained to prevent freezing pipes.

The yard surrounding Q102 was littered with pink insulation and gnarled metal sheeting.

"We have civilian contractors for clean-up on the ground to pick up the loose steel from the roof," he added.

Repair on the roof will be expensive.

It's going to cost around \$750,000 to repair both roofs — the roof under the steel one which was damaged in Saturday's wind, plus the steel roof on top.

MWO Fraser explained the original roof acted like reinforcement to the steel building. Fastening strapping and insulation on top, a second metal roof was installed rather than ripping up the original one. Both need fixing.

The building sides had little damage, he added.

"There might be a few dents. Just minor damage," he added.

Defence Construction Canada (DCC) will oversee the roof repair as the job is more than \$60,000.

MWO Fraser hopes work on the roof will start in the next six to eight weeks, just as winter becomes official.

"Those times are tentative," he noted.

Once construction is completed, there's still the matter of re-connecting the electrical, natural gas and water supply for fire suppression. And those must pass inspections before anyone is allowed back into the building.

MWO Fraser noted roofing shingles and nails are a hazard during wind storms and to avoid driving over them as roofing nails can puncture car tires.



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protect your community.

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Manitoba 

Once a Gunner, always a Gunner

New 11 Health Services Centre CO has brass roots

Kimberley Kielley
Shilo Stag

The new CO of 11 CF Health Services Centre is like an onion.

There are so many layers to Maj Joel Bernier, one must start on the outside and peel away at the layers to determine what motivates a former reservist Gunner turned health care administrator as the newest CO of a very busy unit.

Maj Bernier began his military career in 2003 when he enrolled in the primary reserves as a Gunner at the 6th Field Artillery Regiment based in Levis, Que.

Born in Yellowknife, NWT, to military father Yves Bernier and mother Danielle Boulet, Maj Bernier moved from Yellowknife to Moncton, Borden, and Gagetown following his father's military postings.

"In '94, when my father took his retirement, we moved to Montmagny, Quebec where my mother is from. I grew up there," he said.

With a background as a reservist Gunner and making the jump to where he is today, it's intriguing to know what motivates someone to make the leap from artillery to health administration.

"I had just started CGEP right after high school. I had planned to get into the reserves as soon as I finished cadets. When I was 18, I finished cadets and went right into the reserves. All my friends were in that regiment. It just felt normal to keep going in the artillery."

Spending nine years in the reserves exposed to multiple exercises, courses and field time, Maj Bernier was a MBdr in Afghanistan during FO 1-109 Op ATHENA with 5 RALC in Bravo Troop.

"I was on the FOB. We did our job and on a fire mission. We do what we need to do," he said.

When he finished Afghanistan in '09, "I was looking for a job. I was finishing my Bachelor's of Administration Marketing, which was taking some time. When I came back from there [Afghanistan], I was still questioning what do I want to do?"

He added, "Being able to speak fluently in English and French, and I like teaching. Let's see if I can do English as a second language degree to be an English teacher."

He started that process. At the same time he received a full-time job Class B with the training centre at CFB Valcartier as a sergeant. There he taught DP1s and soldier qualifications as a reservist for two and a half years waiting for his commission.

Finishing his administration degree and starting the ESL degree, he worked full-time on a Class B at the same time.

"I kind of wondered if this was going to be it for the next five years?," he pondered.

"There was a lot of uncertainty and I wasn't sure when my transfer was going to happen."

He commissioned in 2012.

But the question on everyone's mind is what made him go into the medical side of administration?

"I had an administration background but when I was in Afghanistan, I had a Teachable C Combat Casualty Care Course which gives you a bit more than your basic First

Aid. You learn to control hemorrhages and control a bit more with airways."

That got him into the UMS on FOB WILSON. Every time there was a mass casualty, they would call for all the Teachable C's in the camp.

"So that's when me, my 3IC and UMS would give a hand on whatever patient was there."

That experience helped form Maj Bernier's interest on the medical side of things.

"So, I didn't know what I was getting into when I looked up health-care admin. When I looked at the video, it looked all cool and this is what you're going to do."

In 2015, he left for Nepal on Op RENAISSANCE, with DART following a devastating earthquake in that country, as the Health Services Support Platoon 2IC. At this point, he was a fully trained healthcare admin having commissioned in 2012.

"The people [in Nepal] my God, are amazing. They work hard. When we got there, they were already starting to build back up," he said.

"I was the person on the ground, commanding the troops, was myself. It was a great experience."

Keeping ahead of health-related administration and leadership came into play during that deployment.

"Management and leadership sort of merged together. It's a good piece to think about. HCA is not only management and command clinics. We also do a lot of field stuff, too."

At that point, he was at 5 Field Amb [5e Ambulance de Campagne] where he was Platoon CO after receiving his HCA training doing the basic, entry level job of a healthcare admin. During his seven years there, he occupied many positions including Assistant General Support Manager, Med Coy Plt Comd, CA Decontamination Coy Med Plt Comd, Med Coy OC (interim), Adj Plans Officer, Operations Officer and Unit CBRN officer.

"That's pretty typical of any officer to wear triple or quadruple hats," he said. "I got a lot of experience out of that."

When he was appointed CO of 11 CF Health Services Centre at CFB Shilo, "I was surprised [it happened] so quickly."

"I was only a one-year major. This is my second year of being a major. I would have expected this maybe next year or the year after. I didn't expect it to come this quick."

But there were a lot of things going on at the time.

"Our COVID restrictions hadn't happened yet. It was mid-March. At that point, we just learned we were pregnant," he said.

He and wife Claude-Emilie Talbot had just moved to Ottawa the year before.



Maj Joel Bernier holds the brass casing from firing his last round after switching careers from artillery to health services in the CAF.

Photo Kimberley Kielley/Shilo Stag

"I didn't complete a full year in Ottawa."

They were seven years at CFB Valcartier without being posted, despite having asked for one because he was looking for extra experience.

"The Field Amb really gave me all the positions I could do over there as a captain. They got me ready operationally, that's for sure."

Whatever the military threw at Maj Bernier, he accepted with his wife's full support.

"That's a decision we took when I decided to switch from Reserves to Reg Force. So we actually sat down and said, this is what's going to happen."

He informed her, "We're going to be posted. I'm going to go on courses. You're going to be alone a lot of time. You're going to be alone with the kids. Are you ready for this?"

His mother played a part in the decision as well.

"Claude-Emilie spoke to my mother to find out what an army wife was. Expect to be alone she was told," he said chuckling. "We both decided we were good to go."

He wasn't interested in commissioning into the artillery, he conceded.

"In my mind, being number one on the gun was one of the best jobs in the

artillery. That was a check in the box. I had hit my goal. I needed a new challenge. You can't beat being a number one on a gun."

But coming from an artillery background has given Maj Bernier an appreciation for the people who work in that field.

"This is great. This is good for the family. I like my job. I like to be on the ground. And I like to get things moving. I like challenges."

He added, "Once I'm done with the target, I find a new one and engage."

At 11 CF Health Service, he manages the clinic. Not the clinical piece. That belongs to the A/Base Surgeon Dr. Steven Nordstrom.

"My job is to insure all people under this roof have the tools they need and require to do their job. The background the military gave me did prepare me for this type of job. I've had a plethora of experience from the military to get me to where I am. Everyday is a new challenge."

CFB Shilo literally opened the door to his children for playing outdoors, meeting new friends and speaking two languages.

"I haven't seen my kids this happy in so long," he said.

"With COVID and being confined in Quebec, they couldn't play with their friends. They couldn't go to the parks. Out here, it's different."

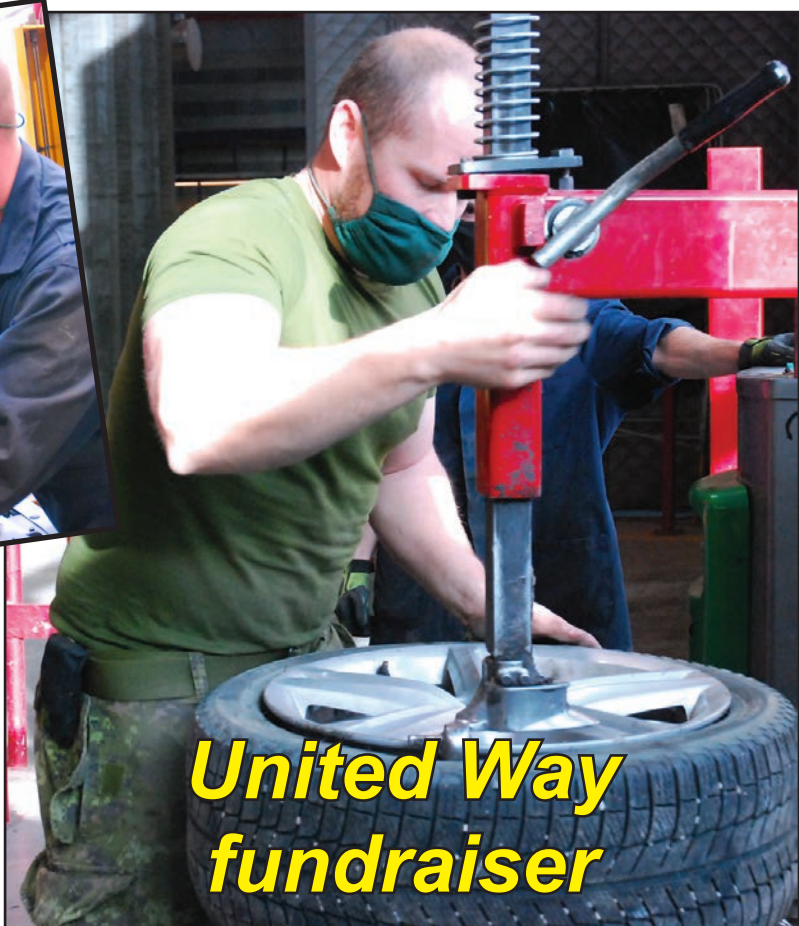


M777 push

Soldiers with 1RCHA work as a team to manoeuvre an M777 into place from outdoors to their indoor artillery lines. It has been a busy past few weeks for 1RCHA, with soldiers returning from the training area following Ex LIMBER GUNNER.

Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag





Base Maintenance hosted a three-day fall car care clinic starting Nov. 4, with money raised going towards the Base's 2020 United Way campaign. Besides an oil change, tire changes or rotations were also offered.

Photos Kimberley Kielley
Shilo Stag

**United Way
fundraiser**

Incorrect Corps Crest finally replaced at WO Dave Lucas' grave

*Rest Good Gunner Rest
You have stood where Gods have stood
and rent the sky with thunder.
You have served the guns as heroes would
Till care was cast asunder.
So here now, rest one breathing space
Face proud the end of day.
You bowed not down lest done in grace
For that's a Gunner's way.
Rest, Good Gunner Rest,
turn cartridge case aside.
You served your colours with the best.*

Jules Xavier
Shilo Stag

Laid to rest in the military section of the Brandon Cemetery in January 2014, WO (Ret'd) Dave Lucas was without a grave marker above his grave for a few years afterwards.

Two funeral home signs marked the spot where an artillery shell containing his cremated remains, along with another artillery shell for his wife Shirley, who had died in 2004, were buried on a frigid winter day.

When a military grave marker was finally placed at the grave site it was pointed out after *Stag Facebook* followers saw a posted photo from a No Stone Left Alone event that showed Lucas had an incorrect Corps Crest engraved on the granite facade.

The Shilo Service Club, with leadership from former Sr PSP manager Mike McEwan, spearheaded a campaign where funds were raised and paperwork completed so Lucas would finally have a grave marker alongside his military comrades.

That stone has finally been corrected this past month thanks to a number of individuals associated with the now defunct 3RCHA.

From the 3RCHA *Facebook* page the following was posted re-

lated to Lucas, who was 80 when he died on Dec. 28, 2013:

"To all former members that may have served with or knew WO Dave Lucas, or, to those that may have met him and befriended him, in uniform or not, I sincerely trust the following uplifting story will bring you pride and confidence that our Corps does not take our sworn commitment to stand, with resolve, in the corner of each and every soldier that wears or has worn UBIQUE on their hat badge.

"Some months ago, BGen (Ret'd) JJ Selbie, Colonel Com-

mandant Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery, was informed that an unintended error had occurred during the planning for and construction of Dave's headstone which resulted in an incorrect Corps Crest being engraved and erected on his gravesite.

"Following a lengthy and co-operative investigation; filled with interest and good will of many retired ex-serving members [like] Dave's daughter Susan Banks, Dave's many friends, Sandy Jasper, City of Brandon's Parks and



The photo showing an incorrect Corps Crest (left) on WO Dave Lucas' grave stone during a No Stone Left Alone event at the Brandon Cemetery rallied friends and former military colleagues to have it changed recently (right).



Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag

Recreation Services, Brandon Municipal Cemetery, and in particular, Shilo Service Club and their wonderful and generous offer to fund a new headstone, we can now, with pride and respect to an amazing Gunner, wish Dave Lucas."

For those new to CFB Shilo, while he might have seemed gruff on the exterior, young soldiers who mentored under Sgt Lucas concede he was also soft-hearted when it came to the soldiers under his tutelage with 3RCHA.

Lucas, a regular fixture at Base activities including November's Remembrance Day and December's Canoe River memorial ceremonies, was 80 when he died on Dec. 28, 2013 at his Sprucewoods home.

"Dave was an artillery icon. His first encounter with myself was as the number one of a 105mm gun detachment," recalled Roger Eppert.

"My first impressions 'who is this madman and why is he yelling at me.' Beyond his gruff personality was a soft-hearted father-type who looked after the underdog.

"Many young Gunners have looked up to him for advice and Dave never let them down. He was a dedicated hunter and enjoyed his passion while maintaining high morals in what he harvested.

"He enjoyed teaching young people in weapons handling and hunting courses as he thought this to be important to prepare the next generation."

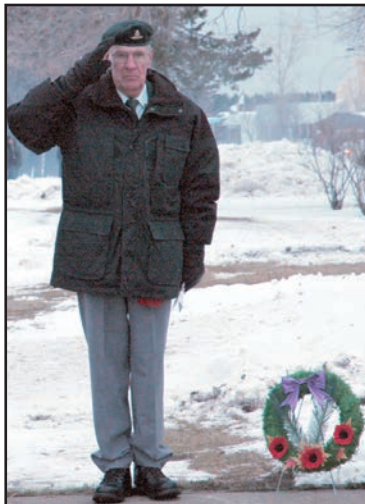
Born on Aug. 16, 1933 in Wilcox, Sask., Lucas served in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) for 38 years, and settled in Sprucewoods following his retirement.

Former RCA Museum director Marc George enjoyed sharing army stories with Lucas.

"I met him as a young officer in Shilo and enjoyed our annual breakfasts together after the Canoe River memorial service."



WO Dave Lucas was a fixture, his salute crisp, representing his fellow Korean veterans at CFB Shilo's Remembrance Day service (left) at L25, or December's outdoor Canoe River memorial service.



Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag

CAF announces comprehensive sexual misconduct response strategy

Stag Special

The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) is striving to create an environment free from sexual misconduct, where all people are treated with dignity and respect.

As an organization, we have made it clear that any form of sexual misconduct within our ranks is unacceptable.

It harms our people, jeopardizes our operational effectiveness, and is inconsistent with our values and ethical principles.

"This strategy builds on our continued efforts to fight sexual misconduct across the Canadian Armed Forces and create a workplace free from harassment," said Minister of National Defence Harjit Sajjan.

"We are committed to a zero-tolerance approach regarding sexual misconduct in the Canadian Armed Forces. The recommendations made by the Auditor General of Canada and other experts will continue to support the culture change in the Canadian Armed Forces."

Recently, the CAF released The Path to Dignity and Respect: The CAF Sexual Misconduct Response Strategy. This comprehensive strategy focuses on aligning organizational culture to prevent and address sexual misconduct, and improve support for affected persons.

It provides an in-depth analysis of CAF culture, and identifies what aspects the CAF must eliminate, change or strengthen to address sexual misconduct.

It also establishes a prevention-based implementation plan and a performance measurement framework to ensure continuous evaluation and improvement.

"The Path to Dignity and Respect is a comprehensive strategy, which intends to further advance our efforts to address sexual misconduct in the Canadian Armed Forces," offered CDS Gen Jonathan Vance.

"The strategy establishes direction for a fully coordinated and sustained approach to guide our efforts."

Added Vice CDS LGen Mike Rouleau, "This strategy puts into one document, our principles, goals and methods of how we will continue to work together to prevent sexual misconduct from occurring in our Canadian Armed Forces.

The Path to Dignity and Respect gives expression to what we aspire to be, and what Canadians expect of us, and it will provide invaluable guidance to ensure the thousands of decisions our leaders make every day align with our values. It is a major step forward."

The strategy expands Op HONOUR into a holistic and sustained institutional effort designed to align behaviours and attitudes of CAF personnel with the principles and values of the profession of arms in Canada.

As part of the strategy,

the CAF is refocusing the Op HONOUR mission.

Moving forward, while always working to eliminate harmful behaviours, the mission will focus on ensuring personnel never minimize, ignore or excuse sexual misconduct, which is key to building a safer work environment and trust among personnel and the chain of command.

The strategy builds on the CAF initiatives already underway through Op HONOUR and co-ordinates with existing complementary strategies and programs.

It is shaped by research and informed by evidence and subject matter experts, including the Sexual Misconduct Response Centre.

"We are encouraged by the comprehensiveness of this strategy, and the steps that the CAF is taking to address all aspects of sexual misconduct," said Sexual Misconduct Response Centre executive director Dr Denise Preston.

"Sexual misconduct is a pervasive and complex issue in the CAF and in society as a whole, and there are no simple solutions.

"This strategy incorporates important, evidence-informed approaches that will help the CAF better address the factors that contribute to sexual misconduct."

The strategy also reflects recommendations received from the Auditor General of Canada and parliamentary committees, as well as recommendations from the external review conducted in 2015 by former Supreme Court Justice Marie Deschamps, which the Defence Team committed to fully implementing in Canada's defence policy, Strong, Secure and Engaged.

The strategy is intended to be an evergreen document and the CAF welcomes all feedback. Comments and suggestions will be considered as part of a planned annual review and update process, which the CAF will use to incorporate feedback, as well as lessons learned, into the strategy on an ongoing basis.

Individuals who wish to contribute to the strategy, can submit their views and ideas via the Op HONOUR website.

Quick Facts

- In 2015, the Canadian Armed Forces launched Op HONOUR to address sexual misconduct within its ranks.

- Op HONOUR was initially shaped by recommendations from an external review conducted by former Supreme Court Justice Marie Deschamps, which underlined the need for a culture change strategy.

- The Path to Dignity and Respect establishes the long-term strategic direction for Op HONOUR, thereby replacing the CAF Action Plan on Inappropriate Sexual Behaviour released in April 2015.

- The strategy is a key deliverable for initiative No. 18 — full implementation of the 10 recommendations in the Deschamps Report — in Strong, Secure and Engaged (SSE): Canada's Defence Policy. It also contributes to SSE initiatives No. 19 and No. 21.

- The strategy is based on research from a diverse group of national and international experts in culture change and change management.

- It is also based on extensive social-science research conducted by research experts supporting the Op HONOUR research program.

- In addition, the CAF worked collaboratively with the Sexual Misconduct Response Centre to ensure the strategy considers key themes and issues identified by subject matter experts in supporting survivors, psychology, criminology, and other areas, as well as persons affected by sexual misconduct.

- The Sexual Misconduct Response Centre operates independently from the chain of command and is a key resource for anyone affected by sexual misconduct. The Centre provides 24/7 confidential counselling, response and support coordination, information and assistance to CAF members affected by sexual misconduct.

- The strategy includes a performance measurement framework, which the CAF will use to measure progress on a routine basis to ensure a continuous cycle of improvement as we move forward.

- The strategy aligns with other current and emergent CAF and DND strategies that are complementary to the efforts to address sexual misconduct, such as the CAF Diversity Strategy, Op GENERATION, the CAF Human Resources Strategy, and the Total Health and Wellness Strategy, among others.



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REQUIREMENTS: The successful candidate must be able to communicate clearly with others; this position will involve access to secured areas office areas. Any successful candidate will be required to qualify for Security Clearance.

QUALIFICATIONS: High school diploma would be preferred; floor care experience an asset (able to scrub, buff and polish floors); knowledge of stripping and waxing the floor is an asset; able to operate cleaning equipment and machine; able to communicate with supervisors, client and general public; able to work independently and as part of a team; positive attitude and strong work ethic; able to lift up to 25 pounds/11.3 kilograms; valid, clean Class 5 drivers license.

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dexterra

New agreement smooths path to BU degrees for military personnel

Kimberley Kielley
Shilo Stag

It just became more convenient for military members including those deployed overseas to take university courses after a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was recently signed between Brandon University and the Department of National Defence (DND).

Representatives from CFB Shilo, BComd Jeff Lyttle and BPSO Capt Bradley Knoll were on hand to witness the significant union as well as BU's VP Academic and Provost, Dr. Steve Robinson and Dr. Gary McNeely.

"It just formalizes the process," said Capt Knoll. "The MoU sets up the structure and formalizes the agreement. Exams for military members can be held offsite. Members will be allowed to drop courses without penalty."

"We have always had a great relationship with members of the military, and this new agreement helps deepen that further," said Robinson.

"We are very pleased to be able to work with our partners in the armed forces to create built-in-Brandon education solutions that address the unique challenges of military life, including frequent relocation and deployment."

McNeely acknowledged the agreement is an indication of BU taking the military contribution seriously.

"Their knowledge is worthy of serious consideration, their skills are real and vital, and appropriate to recognize — especially this close to Remembrance Day."

McNeely and Capt Knoll did most of the legwork to bring the agreement together.

McNeely is the co-ordinator of Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR), at Brandon University, where he regularly assesses technical knowledge and work experience for students who bring pre-existing knowledge to the university, without necessarily previous course credit.

He said people with jobs and training in the military often have high levels of knowledge in areas that qualify them for advanced placement in BU courses.

The new agreement builds on years of informal partnerships, streamlining into a single process what used to re-



Capt Bradley Knoll

quire time-consuming and cumbersome workarounds tackling individual student needs one at a time.

"We have been doing much of this already, since at least 1980," McNeely said.

"For the first time, this new agreement pulls all of our existing understandings into one place, making it simpler, more consistent, and a better experience for students and faculty."

Along with recognizing specific military training for transfer credit into BU, the new agreement also builds flexibility into course and exam procedures, including the ability for students to write exams while deployed in operations.

The agreement also lays the groundwork for even closer collaboration in the future, including the development of defence- or security-related programs.

Transferring university courses between provinces will be easier as well.

The agreement impacts Regular Force members and Reservists, regardless of funding.

"It removes the road blocks and speed bumps for members to apply to university," Capt Knoll said.

The MoU project has been on and off again for more than 10 years for various reasons through different BPSOs and university staff. The contents of the submitted MoU are largely Brandon University providing flexibility, special considerations, and benefits for military members.

"Our obligation is minimal and largely consists of supporting Brandon Universities' evaluation of our qualifications and transfer credits," said Capt Knoll.

In 2017, an MoU with Assiniboine Community College (ACC) in Brandon was successful, but near expiration in 2017.

"Meetings with ACC were also held and they were interested. It was decided to wait for Brandon Universities' MoU to return before submitting the new MoU to ACC," he explained.

York University is now in the process of working on of these types of MoUs in support of military members wanting to further their post-secondary education.

For more about information, contact BPSO Capt Knoll at ext 3087 or e-mail him at bradley.knoll@forces.gc.ca

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COVID-19 UPDATES for CFB SHILO

www.facebook.com/ShiloSTAG/

Halloween enthusiast garners first-place award

Kimberley Kielley
Shilo Stag

When Oct. 31 rolled around — it was the perfect night for haunting.

Remember that tree with all those creepy hanging dolls, spider people and a pumpkin monster? You would if you were out Trick-or-Treating with your little ones.

How could you not? That home won first-place for best Halloween decorations on the Base.

It's not surprising considering the amount of effort and creativity which went into decorating the front yard.

Michelle Keech-Brown of 36 Sapper Ave won the coveted first-place prize for best Halloween decorations this year.

The \$150 will go towards a speeding ticket, she said laughing.

Keech-Brown LOVES Halloween!! She started working on her spider people in September, she offered with enthusiasm.

Kids in the neighbourhood helped her put the creative display together, "so they wouldn't be scared when they came to my house," she told the Stag.

The tree on her front lawn added another dimension to her decorating delight.

She could hang items — mainly dolls from it. And so could the kids in the neighbourhood.

"Every year kids donate dolls to add to the collection," she said smiling.

And then there was the lady posted off Base who was giving away a doll collection.



Keech-Brown cornered those dolls, too, to add to her macabre library.

The house she lives in with her family and her military spouse, Sgt Aaron Brown, has been her haunt for the last two years.

It's crooked. Drawers slide out from a dresser in her son's bedroom. It's perfect for the Queen of Halloween.

The strings still hang from the trees where the dolls floated in disembodied joy. She's keeping those strings for her Christmas decorations.

The skeleton by her fireplace will stay for the year as she changes his costume to match

the occasion — Santa, Cupid, a leprechaun. Unfortunately, the swarm of bats erupting from the same fireplace will have to come down despite looking awesome in her living room.

While her kids are as into Halloween as she is, her husband plays video games while they create ghoulish masterpieces from scratch on the living room floor.

It's cheap and creative, she added.

The added bonus of this spooky day is her husband's birthday falls on it. "He's a big kid," she said.

Taking second-place for best Halloween decoration was Cpl Kyle Cormier at 43 Kingston Ave; third-place went to Cpl Daniel Cameron at 123 Kingston Ave.



Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag & Maj Lindsay Jackson

Michelle Keech-Brown and a fellow Halloween aficionado sit on the decorated porch (above) awaiting the arrival of kids out collecting treats. Her decorations were judged the best, including spiders and hanging dolls.

Stag's 'tireless efforts' to inform readers earns kudos from MGen Trevor Cadieu

Jules Xavier
Shilo Stag

It was unexpected package from Ottawa which arrived in the in-box dropped off by Base Mail at the Stag's editorial office located inside the CANEX mall.

Opening the bubble-wrapped envelope, I was surprised by a heavy coin and typed letter from Director of Staff (DOS) MGen Trevor Cadieu with Ottawa-based Strategic Joint Staff (SJS).

"Jules, please find enclosed one of my coins as a small token of my gratitude," he wrote in blue ink on the SJS letterhead out of National Defence Headquarters.

Prior to his promotion and posting to Ottawa, then BGen Cadieu was 3 Div Comd. So, he was familiar with your award-winning *Shilo Stag* as he would peruse the 12-page tabloid community newspaper when it arrived on his desk at Garrison Edmonton via Base Mail. He would glean news from 3 Div's training Base on the Manitoba prairies via the pages printed every second Thursday. With his move to Ottawa, the Stag continued to share the newspaper with him, as well as various Army Chain of Command working out of NDHQ on Moodie Drive. We do the same for the Chain of Command at Garrison Edmonton.

"I recently received several copies of the *Shilo Stag* and I am very grateful for the reminder of the great Army of the West team," MGen Cadieu said in his letter. "Please share with your team that I have always admired their professionalism and I rou-



Stag editor Jules Xavier shows off the DOS SJS coin from MGen Trevor Cadieu.

Photo Kimberley Kielley/Shilo Stag

tinely turn to your publication for information."

He added, "It is also heartening to see that CDS' directives on COVID, hateful conduct, as well as updates on CAF activities supporting Canadians being published. I am certain your readers look forward to these weekly updates."

This acknowledgement from the Army's Chain of Command is appreciated, as the Stag continues to produce a timely community newspaper which someone reading a copy in another province will have a distinct idea of what's happening at CFB Shilo.

"Your tireless efforts are more important than you could possibly know," he said. "Thank-you again for your professionalism, passion and for keeping us so well informed."

"Congratulations to the entire team for their dedication and professionalism," offered 3 Div Comd BGen William Fletcher on hearing news about MGen Cadieu's coin presentation. "It is nice to see Ottawa recognize the great work happening out West."

3CDSG Comd Col Pat Lemyre added, "Good news for the Shilo team ... the Stag [Base newspaper] has received some BZ from MGen Cadieu. That is well deserved and I too enjoy receiving the Stag regularly. It compliments the BComd's [LCol Jeff Lyttle] monthly SITREPs very well.

"In all seriousness, the Stag team is doing fantastic work, and reading their paper, we can tell [staff] are well connected with the CAF/Army's pulse and understand the kind of information that has appeal for their community."

On the back of the SJS coin No. 643 in the word "EXCELLENCE" engraved atop a scene showing an Army soldier, RCAF aircraft and Navy ship.

NOTICE TO READERS

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