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Volume 58 Issue 6



Serving Shilo, Sprucewoods & Douglas since 1947

March 21, 2019

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Reservist hones her army skills. Page 3



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'Victoria Cross' for animals awarded. Page 9



**Tackling on snow**

The annual PPCLI tradition of playing Broom-i-Loo offered ideal snowy conditions for this year's games compared to 2018. Tackling was made much easier when opponents looked for an opening to score, which was rare based on the rugby game that ensued after the opening whistle. No scores to report, but everyone enjoyed the hard-hitting action. *Photos Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag*

# Governments work together to protect CFB Shilo's nature



## Thanks granddad

During a military appreciation game held at the Air Canada Centre, 2PPCLI's Cpl Christian Baun received a special hockey jersey from his grandfather, iconic Toronto Maple Leafs defenceman and four-time Stanley Cup champion Bobby Baun. The proud grandson received the special Leafs jersey as part of a Toronto Maple Leafs Alumni program that recognizes CAF military members.

*Photo supplied*

 Find us on Facebook

The Shilo Stag is now on Facebook. Check out [www.facebook.com/ShiloSTAG](http://www.facebook.com/ShiloSTAG) for videos and more photos!

## Stag Special

Nature is an important part of Canadian identity, and we all need to do more to protect our natural areas for our children and grandchildren.

That's why the Government of Canada is doubling the amount of nature protected in Canada's lands and oceans.

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, the Minister of National Defence, Harjit S. Sajjan, and Manitoba's Sustainable Development Minister Rochelle Squires recently announced the designation of CFB Shilo as an area providing important benefits for nature and biodiversity conservation.

This is the first time a Canadian military base will formally be recognized as an other area-based effective conservation measure (OECM) in support of Canada's land conservation goals.

"We are very proud of our long-standing commitment to sustainable land management practices and biodiversity at CFB Shilo," said BComd LCol David MacIntyre. "It is gratifying to our team that this hard work will be recognized as part of our designation as an OECM."

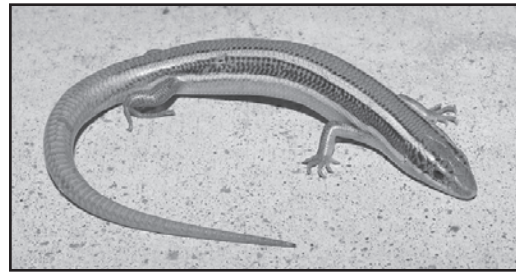
Sajjan added, "In line with our Defence Energy and Environment Strategy — we are working towards more sustainable defence operations. Today's announcement on conserving biodiversity at CFB Shilo is an important one, as it demonstrates the efforts of our Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and the Department of National Defence to contribute to a greener Canada."

CFB Shilo is located in the mixed-grass prairie ecosystem of south-central Manitoba and is home to 17 species at risk and other wildlife, including the skink.

The Department of National Defence (DND) and Environment and Climate Change Canada are working together to identify other lands which could potentially be conserved and contribute to Canada's nature protection goals.

"Canada is working hard to double the protection of our lands and oceans. The recognition of CFB Shilo helps us conserve a special part of Manitoba, and contributes to our nature protection goals," offered McKenna.

Approximately 20,000 hectares of CFB Shilo are natural



Western skink

areas that support diverse plant and wildlife communities while still fulfilling their primary military purpose.

"Manitoba acknowledges the importance of conserving natural habitat, and the recognition of CFB Shilo as an other effective area-based conservation measure (OECM) is a great step towards expanding the areas of our prov-

ince where natural habitats are recognized and specially designated," said Squires. "By partnering with the Department of National Defence, Manitoba continues to be a leader in landscape conservation initiatives.

### Quick facts

- Canada is now recognizing other area-based effective conservation measures (OECM) that make important contributions to biodiversity conservation. The Convention on Biological Diversity defines Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECM), as: "a geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in situ conservation of biodiversity, with associated ecosystem services."

- OECMs achieve the conservation of biological diversity, regardless of the primary objective of the area. Up to now, parks and protected areas have been the primary tools to protect and conserve biological diversity.

- The main difference between a protected area and an OECM is the primary purpose of the area. Protected areas should have conservation as their primary objective. On the other hand, an OECM often has similar conservation and biodiversity results, while meeting other primary objectives.

- Canada currently protects 10.5 per cent of its land and freshwater. By committing to maintain these natural areas according to established criteria, CFB Shilo can be reported to the federal protected and conserved areas database as an Other Effective area-based Conservation Measure (OECM).

- Canada Target 1 states that "by 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial areas and inland water, and 10 percent of coastal and marine areas, are conserved through networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures."

## Pet of the Week

### BANDIT

Tasha Favron's baby is Bandit, an American Eskimo/Border Collie. Her canine companion was a Christmas gift that she says saved her life. She says this dog had been abused and moved around, yet Bandit still loves doing and learning new tricks as well as people once he knows they are not going to hurt him. 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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# Cpl Jessica Bonner: *Army Reserve gives you skills to bring with you anywhere*

## 2Lt Maxime Cliché Stag Special

The theme for International Women's Day (IWD) 2019 was "Balance for Better" and Cpl Jessica Bonner demonstrates this in her dual career as an Army Reservist and as a civilian registered nursing student.

IWD has been celebrated each year since 1909, with the goal to achieve equal rights for women around the world.

When you ask members of the Canadian Army (CA) why they joined, one of the most common answers is, "to see the world." This was the reason that pushed Cpl Bonner to become a Mobile Support Equipment Operator (MSE Op).

MSE Ops are the backbone of logistics in the CA. They operate and maintain a variety of vehicles needed to move troops, equipment and supplies.

Cpl Bonner has been a proud Army Reservist for four and a half years, serving as an MSE Op with 38 Canadian Brigade Group Service Battalion in Regina. On the civilian side, she has just completed her registered nursing program at the University of Regina and is in the process of getting her nursing license.

"I do not intend to transfer as a nursing officer. If I ever go officer, which I might consider after accomplishing a few things I'd like to do in this role first, I would still likely want to stay in logistics. My plan, as of right now, is to be a nurse only in my civilian career."

Cpl Bonner grew up in Calgary. When she was a teenager, she looked for a job where she could push herself and challenge her limits. Seeing the world was one of her priorities, but not many jobs offer that kind of opportunity. Knowing the military was one of the few that did, she went ahead and sought out a recruiter for more information about the military world.

"I wanted to push myself and liked the idea of the training and discipline the military offered. I thought it was a noble thing to do and would offer me lots of chances for personal growth. The training was designed with students in mind, and that was perfect for me at that time."

After submitting three different applications, she finally received the answer she was hoping for. "I was bound and determined to get in and try this since I had wanted to for so long," said Cpl Bonner, who officially joined in 2014 at age 22.

She first enrolled in the Service Battalion, with the idea of becoming a clerk because posting opportunities were available throughout the country. It was during her Basic Military Qualification (BMQ) course that she discovered that she wanted something different. "I was already working as a clerk for the Immigration and Refugee Board, before and during my BMQ. I was very intrigued by the idea of doing something completely different than my civilian studies and work because I was aware there were many possibilities. It is rare to be able to get trained and employed in very different roles."

She added, "I asked the platoon warrant officer of my unit about other 41 Services Battalion trades, and he made sure that I got to speak to different people within the battalion who described their jobs and training."

In the end, she chose to be



Cpl Jessica Bonner is a Reservist with members of Task Force 38 Quick Reaction Force.

an MSE Op because like most service battalion trades, it offered the ability to be posted with different units and it was in high demand. The qualification level training also worked perfectly with her schedule for that year, so she requested a trade transfer to MSE Op.

"I'm very happy to have become an MSE Op. I have gotten to go on exercises and operations with different units and see a lot of different trades at work. I've been able to not only use my trade but also participate in some training of the groups I'm transporting or working with. I've also had a lot of support within my unit, as I find my chain of command will fight for opportunities for us if we put in the time and effort to make use of our training."

Cpl Bonner has been able to go on Op NANOOK in Nunavut, Op GOLDEN COYOTE in South Dakota/Wyoming, and more recently Ex PALADIN RESPONSE in Chilliwack,

BC. MSE Ops are often referred to as "truckers," which is, as on the civilian side, a job mostly represented by men. For Cpl Bonner, this wasn't an issue at all.

"I'm not sure there has been much difference for myself being a woman in the military. Most women in my unit have been clerks, but I can't think of a time that it's ever caused problems or challenges," she said. "I think I've run into more challenges in other workplaces than I have in the military. I think the culture in the [Canadian] Armed Forces has come a long way and I've been fortunate to work with very good people."

As she reflects on her time in the CA and the reason that pushed her to join, she underlines what she wishes she would have known when she was a teenager.

"I highly recommend joining the [Canadian Armed Forces], whether you are uncertain about your future or a student/worker pursuing something else entirely. The training is unique, and there are so many things you can learn and experience.

"The military will push you to do a lot of things, some of them are challenging or difficult, but the teamwork makes it easier

and you will learn so much about yourself and what you can do. Most members I have worked with are doing something different out of uniform, and come together to make the most interesting teams. The training and experience will follow you no matter what else you do in life; it can be the chance to learn something completely different, enhance what you already do, and no matter what, it will give you personal and professional skills to bring with you anywhere."

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## BUDGET 2019: GETTING THE JOB DONE

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To learn ALL the details of this year's budget and what it means to you and your family, visit [manitoba.ca](http://manitoba.ca).



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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](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>

## Z Bty champions

While 1RCHA's B Bty won the regular season, it was Z Bty that took playoff bragging rights with a 10-7 two-game total goals triumph at Gunner Arena.

Photo Jules Xavier/Shilo Stag

## Fourth Op HONOUR progress report released

### Stag Special

The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) released its fourth progress report in late February on addressing sexual misconduct within our ranks.

The goal of these progress reports is to be transparent and to provide an honest and critical assessment of what we have achieved and where we need to go from here.

During the past three years, we have completed some essential foundational work in order to address sexual misconduct and effectively support those affected by it. We have also learned a great deal — through our own experience and analysis; the assessment of the Office of the Auditor General of Canada; and from feedback of external experts and stakeholders, including those who have been affected by sexual misconduct.

We know that we haven't always got it right. Some of the measures we implemented have resulted in unintended consequences, and some initiatives and changes have not resulted in the desired outcomes.

In addition, we have determined that in some areas where we thought we had done enough, we are going to have to go deeper and do better — specifically with respect to the 10 recommendations from the External Review Authority.

In this fourth progress report, you will see that we are going to course correct, taking into account this external information and advice, and we will push harder in those areas where we are not as far along as we should be.

Support for victims has been, and will continue to be, the CAF's main effort for Op HONOUR.

Going forward, we will also be shifting more of our attention to developing a fully coordinated and resourced long-term response focussed on enhancing victim support and achieving culture change.

The CAF is an institution rich in history and traditions, both of which have a substantial and positive impact on the culture.

Nonetheless, the CAF will re-orient and focus on the purposeful, deliberate redefinition of institutional values, attitudes, and beliefs to ensure that every member of the CAF shares a common understanding of our duties and responsibilities, including the obligation to look after each other.

Expanding the mandate of the Sexual Misconduct Response Centre (SMRC), which is independent from the military chain of command, is central to refocussing and enhancing our efforts.

The Centre will ensure coordination of all victim support efforts, and it will lead the development of an integrated, national victim support strategy to ensure victims have access to the most effective and appropriate support possible.

The Centre will also lead the CAF's overall approach on sexual misconduct, as recommended by former justice Marie Deschamps.

The Centre will drive institutional culture change by providing expert opinion, subject matter authority and lead in the development of policy, training, strategy and evaluation of programs related to sexual misconduct.

The CAF will support the expansion of SMRC's mandate, assign resources as needed, and implement as directed. The CAF's military leadership will always have the overall responsibility for the operational success of the CAF and for the welfare of all its members — as every professional fighting force must.

Sexual misconduct is a difficult and complex issue, and it demands an expert and informed approach.

Now that we have a solid foundation in place, it is time to take this next step towards building a workplace that offers respect and dignity for all.

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[www.brandonsalutes.ca](http://www.brandonsalutes.ca)

# VFP clients invited to April 10 information fair

## MFRC Stag Special

The Veteran Family Program (VFP) was launched in October 2015 as a four-year pilot project, providing support to medically-releasing Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members, medically-released veterans, and their families as they transition to post-service life.

After a successful beginning to the program, the VFP launched into a national substantive program April 1, 2018. This extended the programs and services to all 32 MFRC's across Canada.

Those eligible for the VFP have access to a variety of support services including transition programs, information and referral, and intervention support.

The VFP has partnered with several service providers to offer programs which focus on mental health, transition, and resiliency. These include Living Life to the Full (Canadian Mental Health Association), Mental Health First Aid Veteran Community (Mental Health Commission of Canada), Financial Matters for Transitioning Families (SISIP Financial), and the Care for the Caregiver Guide.

One-on-one information and referral sessions ensure clients have access to resources within the military and civilian community which will support them in fostering a successful transition to post-service life.

Not only does the VFP provide additional services to transitioning members and their families, it also delivers an extension of all MFRC services post-releases. MFRC

services include employment and education support, adult programming, childcare, children's programming, youth programming, relocation services, and counseling services.

VFP clients are encouraged to use the wealth of MFRC programs and services available, to support their transition.

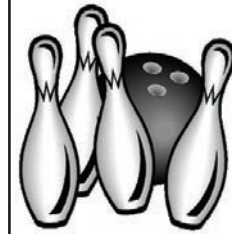
The VFP is celebrating its extension into a national program April 10 by hosting a veteran information fair. The goal of this event is to offer community members and service providers an opportunity to learn about the programs and services available to transitioning CAF members, veterans, and their families.

The event will include a brief announcement from Military Family Services (MFS) on the extension of the VFP. Following this, a brief presentation will be provided by key partners on the veteran service provider panel which includes MFS, SISIP, CAF vocational rehabilitation program, Veteran Affairs Canada (VAC), CAF transition group and Legion service officer.

The veteran information fair will run for the remainder of the event. Service providers in attendance include the CAF transition group, SISIP Financial, OSISS, Royal Canadian Legion, Service Canada, Prairie Mountain Health, Assiniboine Community College, Can Praxis, the Veteran Transition Network and many more.

An updated list of fair exhibitors will be posted on [www.cafconnection.ca](http://www.cafconnection.ca)

This April 10 event runs from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 3 in Brandon. Light refreshments will be provided.



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Ask about Glow bowling birthday parties!

For more info call the community recreation office at **204-765-3000** ext **3317** or **3588**

## Padres say 'thank-you' for pancake support

### Capt Daniel Walton Stag Special

Thank-you so much for your participation in the Shrove Tuesday pancake lunch held March 5. Those of you who were able to volunteer certainly made the event a success.

We were privileged to share in good conversation between the volunteers and those who came to share lunch together. What a

great way for our community to come together in a relaxing and inviting environment.

Nearly 60 people were served — this included people from pre-school age to those of us who are a little more than pre-school age.

Thank-you as well to those who sponsored the event — your donations were appreciated. Both Forbidden Flavours and CANEX were very supportive of the event and we value your partnership.

## 2019 MEMBERSHIP RATES (taxes not included)



Membership Rates	2019 Rates	
	Reg	Assoc
Adult	\$646.67	\$760.95
Student	\$380.00	\$380.00
Junior	\$119.05	\$141.90
Family	\$1,237.14	\$1,427.62
Couple	\$1,141.90	\$1,332.38
Golf & Ride Membership	\$380.00	\$380.00

### CONTACT INFORMATION

General manager Scott Ramsay 204-765-3625  
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Bookings for all tournaments contact Karen Gero

## CANNABIS

# by the numbers

Cannabis consumption is prohibited by a CAF member during the following periods:

Period of Prohibition	Duty
<b>8HRS</b> Cannabis consumption during the 8 hours before any known or expected performance of ...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>any duty (defined as any duty, training, exercise, parade or service that is military in nature.)</li> </ul>
<b>24HRS</b> Cannabis consumption during the 24 hours before any known or expected performance of ...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>operation or handling of a loaded weapon, ammunition, explosive ordnance or explosive;</li> <li>operation or handling of a weapon system;</li> <li>a scheduled base emergency response duty, including firefighting or medical first response by military police, a firefighter or a medical technician assigned to medical first response duty;</li> <li>a scheduled operational exercise or collective training;</li> <li>operation of a wheeled or tracked vehicle, or mobile support equipment;</li> <li>servicing, loading, testing or involvement in maintaining a military aircraft or a component of a military aircraft;</li> <li>training as a candidate for the basic military qualification or basic military officer qualification and not restricted from leave;</li> <li>parachuting, rappelling or fast roping activities;</li> <li>maintenance or packing of parachuting, rappelling or fast roping equipment;</li> <li>operation of a laser of class 3B, 3R or 4, as classified under the American National Standards Institute Z136.1, Safe Use of Lasers; or</li> <li>operation of a fuel farm or handling of bulk petroleum.</li> </ul>
<b>28DAYS</b> Cannabis consumption during the 28 days before any known or expected performance of ...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>operating in a hyperbaric environment, i.e. diving, submarine service or use of a hyperbaric chamber;</li> <li>high altitude parachuting from a height of or above 13,000 feet (3,962 metres) above mean sea level;</li> <li>service as a member of a crew of a military aircraft as a pilot, air combat systems officer, flight engineer, airborne electronic sensor operator, observer, loadmaster, jumpmaster, search and rescue technician, air technician, air gunner, air marshal, tactical aircraft security officer, flight test engineer, flight attendant, flight steward, flight surgeon, flight nurse or aeromedical evacuation technician;</li> <li>controlling or directing an aerospace platform or asset; or</li> <li>operation of an unmanned aerial system.</li> </ul>

## Pet Vaccination Clinic

**Saturday, May 25**  
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Distemper Vaccine Combo - \$13  
Rabies Vaccine - \$13  
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# Canada remembers women in CAF

## Stag Special

Canadian women have played an important role in our country's military efforts over the years, overcoming many barriers to serve in uniform as nurses and in an expanding variety of other roles.

This service continues today, with women now serving in all Canadian Forces trades.

During the First World War, Canadian women's first military contributions were as nurses who tended to the sick and wounded in times of conflict. They were called "Nursing Sisters" because they were originally drawn from the ranks of religious orders.

Roughly 3,000 Canadian Nursing Sisters served with the Canadian Army Medical Corps during the Great War, often close to the front lines of Europe and within range of enemy attack.



**Capt Nicola Goddard**

With their blue dresses and white veils, they were nicknamed the "bluebirds" and were greatly respected because of their compassion and courage.

Canadian women were not permitted to serve in other military roles during the First World War.

Meanwhile, the Second World War would see Canadian women returning to serve again as nursing

sisters. This time, approximately 4,500 nurses were attached to all three branches of Canada's military, with more than two-thirds of them serving overseas.

Second World War nursing sisters wore a military uniform with a traditional white veil. These young women were commissioned officers and were respectfully addressed as



RCAF nursing sisters in the United Kingdom.

*Photo DND Archives*



"Sister" or "Ma'am."

In fact, Canada's military nurses were the first in any Allied country to have officer status. Canadian women would also serve in other military roles during the war, however, and some 50,000 eventually enlisted in the air force, army and navy.

After the Second World War, the Canadian military shut down the women's organizations. With the onset of the Cold War and the Korean War, however, the military soon faced a shortage of personnel and some 5,000 women were again actively recruited.

While only a handful of nursing sisters were sent to Korea, some servicewomen back in Canada filled the same kinds of roles they had during the Second World War.

Their numbers began to decline in the mid-1950s, however, as new technology reduced the requirement for personnel in many trades.

With the unification and modernization of the Canadian military in the late 1960s, the doors finally began to open for good for women to enlist and enter non-traditional roles.

Today, women deploy on combat missions, captain vessels and command flying squadrons—their career paths as open as those of men.

Canadian women who chose to serve in the cause of peace and freedom during the war years had to endure and overcome the inequalities of the Canadian society of the day.

For example, women's pay remained lower than that of men of similar rank during the Second World War and military women sometimes faced criticism from those who felt that a woman's place was in the home.

When women chose to enlist in the military, they also volunteered to potentially put themselves in dangerous situations where their lives were on the line.

Canada's nursing sisters in particular found themselves in peril, as they often served in field hospitals close to the fighting. More than 40 of these brave women died during the First World War, losing their lives in enemy bombardments of field hospitals, attacks on shipping and due to the



Cpl Venessa Larter during a May 2006 patrol in a village in Afghanistan.

*Photo DND/CAF*

sickness that often comes with the harsh conditions of war.

The Second World War would see many more women participate in the military with one nursing sister, Sub-Lieutenant Agnes Wilkie, dying when the ferry SS Caribou was torpedoed by a German U-boat while crossing from Cape Breton to Newfoundland. Seven RCAF-WD members also died in service during the war.

These dangers continue today as the evolving roles of women in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) move them into perilous new duties. For example, CFB Shilo's Capt Nicola Goddard, a forward artillery observer with 1RCHA, died in a fire in Afghanistan in 2006. She was the first Canadian woman to be killed while serving in a combat role.

During the First and Second World Wars, many women felt they had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to enlist and help their country in any way that was needed.

Their changing roles during these turbulent years helped lead to great changes in the way society looked at women. Their service and sacrifice during the First World War helped influence the decision to grant federal voting rights to many Canadian women in 1917.

The efforts of these pioneering women helped open the door for the women who serve in a broad array of roles in the CAF today.

*Courtesy of Veterans Affairs Canada*

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June 8 Community Centre Annex L25  
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# New 10-week program shows potential Army recruits what soldiering is all about

**Steven Fouchard**  
Stag Special

A new Canadian Army (CA) program that offers interested Canadians a hands-on, no-strings-attached introduction to Army life is being expanded following a successful trial run on the East coast.

The Army Civilian Engagement (ACE) program was implemented by 5th Canadian Division (5 Cdn Div) in Gagetown, New Brunswick and 36 Canadian Brigade Group (36 CGB) in Halifax, Nova Scotia. It offered a 10-week introduction to soldiering with an opportunity to join the Primary Reserve Force.

Col George Thomson, 36 CBG's commander, noted that ACE incorporates elements from three similar Aboriginal training programs but is, to the best of his knowledge, the first of its kind for the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), and is not limited to Aboriginal participants.

A major goal of the program is to increase the general public's knowledge of the CA and its varied employment and educational opportunities.

A common misconception is that everyone who joins the Army becomes an infantry soldier or another member of the combat arms, when in fact there are dozens of full and part-time career choices ranging from health care and culinary arts to engineering and telecommunications, to name just a few available options.

When Gagetown and Halifax trials ended all but five of the 33 individuals who participated completed the program.

Five graduates went on to complete the Primary Reserve enrolment process and began summer training. The remaining 23 are at various stages of enrolment.

That's a significant result, considering that on average, only one in three applicants to the Reserve actually join, according to Capt Karen McCluskey, a Recruiting Officer with

36 CBG.

"The pilot was very positive," said Col Thomson. The results, he added, will be studied to determine if ACE is a good fit for other regions of the country, like CFB Shilo.

That said, Capt McCluskey has already heard from recruiters in both the Winnipeg and Vancouver areas who have expressed interest. In the meantime, the program will continue in Halifax and has been expanded to Sydney, Nova Scotia.

Capt McCluskey said the first ACE group was a diverse one, with a mix of men and women ranging in age from 16 to 40-something.

"In fact, we had two parent-son combinations in the group," she noted.

One of those combinations was Glenn Burnett and his 16-year-old son Nathan. Dad served as a Reservist with 723 (Halifax) Communication Squadron (now 36 Signal Regiment) in the late 1980s. He said he began exploring the Reserves on his son's behalf and learned of the ACE program after dropping in to the 1st (Halifax-Dartmouth) Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery (RCA) in Halifax.

"They gave a good presentation and I thought it was a great idea," he said, "especially for younger people who really don't know what they want. It's definitely a great introduction to what's available."

As a result of their experiences in the program, Nathan opted to join 1st (Halifax-Dartmouth) Field Artillery Regiment, RCA. His father is also in the process of enrolling in the same regiment.

ACE sessions take place over two hours on weeknights and consist of information sessions on a wide variety of subjects, from maintaining physical fitness to army etiquette.

Participants also undergo testing at recruitment centres and experience Forces training on weekends.

Participants get the benefit of one-on-one interaction with and coaching from reserve personnel as well as exposure to displays of vehicles and equipment that animate the experience.

Capt McCluskey said that one-on-one time with individuals was key to the pilot's success.

"Some of those coming are 16- or 17-year-olds and some-

times their parents want to come along. They're interested to hear the answers and they have our attention during that time period."

And parents aren't the only community members who became involved, she adds.

"We've had quite a few teachers and other community leaders that have been engaged with us that are happy to see we're doing this to allow the students, and older people too, to come in and have a look at what we have to offer without signing up for a commitment right away. They can get a bit of a hands-on, eyes-on preview and get a feel for things."

ACE participants are under no obligation to undertake military service, but do sign a statement of understanding and personal declaration to affirm their commitment to the program, willingness to learn, behave ethically and adhere to the rules and regulations of the CAF.

Participants are also asked to share information on the program with others, which has been fruitful. Positive word of mouth began to build in the trial's earliest days, said Capt McCluskey.

While many initial participants were relatives of civilian and military personnel (who were first to learn of the program), word spread and others began to express an interest once it was up and running.

"It proved to us that people were talking about it and in a positive light."

CWO Michael Egan, 36 CBG's Sergeant-Major, said the benefit of ACE for recruiters is that it gives participants the chance to see if the reserve is truly for them before formally enrolling. And when those who choose not to continue to enrollment move on, recruiters can focus more on the rest.

"That line of communication happens a lot earlier and if there are any problems, it doesn't take weeks to resolve. The timelines are shortened exponentially. It lets members of the community come in and experience first-hand what the men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces do. I really think this program has an awful lot to offer," he said.

"It's not just about Army, Navy or Air Force," added CWO Egan.

"There are life skills that are presented. When these young folks decide to take this path, there are certain by-products that they can take when they undergo this training they can use in their civilian lives that would really, I think, put them in front of some of their peers who don't have this exposure."

## Real Property Operations Unit (West) - Detachment Shilo

### 2019 Pesticide Program

Public Notice is hereby given that Real Property Operations Unit (West) Detachment Shilo intends to conduct the following pesticide programs during 2019 on an, as required basis, based on monitoring thresholds and IPM control measures:

#### Treatment of Weed Control.

Projected application dates = 15 May to 31 October 2019  
Herbicide = Roundup Transorb HC Liquid

#### Control of noxious weeds.

Projected application dates = 15 May to 31 October 2019  
Herbicide = 2-4-D Amine  
RPOU will NOT be applying 2-4-D Amine in the BASE/PMQ area to control dandelions

#### Control of vegetation in gravel utility compounds and along compound fences.

Projected application dates = 15 May to 31 October 2019  
Herbicide = Glyphosate

#### Control of mosquitoes (Possible if required). (as directed by B Surg)

Projected application dates = 15 May to 31 October 2019  
Insecticide = Malathion  
Larvicide = **B*Ti*** ~ *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*

#### Control of horse tail weed at M-203 Range Training area as required.

Projected application dates = 15 May to 31 October 2019  
Insecticide = Liberty 150 SN

#### - Control of Richardson's Ground Squirrels (Gophers).

Projected application dates = 15 May to 31 October 2019  
- Rodenticide = Chlorophacinone (Gopher Doom)

Signs will be posted prior the applications Further information may be obtained by calling WO Bobby Willis, Contracts Officer at RPOU, 765-3000 ext 3169..



Your 2019 Base calendar has arrived. If you'd like a free copy to hang in your office, or at home, drop by the Stag and see the editor.





Infantrymen of C Coy, Royal Rifles of Canada, and their mascot Gander en route to Hong Kong from Vancouver on Oct. 27, 1941. He died after removing a live grenade during fighting in Hong Kong with the Japanese army.

*Photo Library and Archives Canada*

# Victoria Cross for animals called Dickin Medal

**Jeff Pelletier**  
Stag Special

Throughout its history, the Canadian Army (CA) has relied on animals to take on various tasks, including communication, transportation and troop morale.

No matter what job they did, thousands of dogs, pigeons, horses and other animals have played vital roles in the success of the CA.

The CA recognizes the significant contributions of thousands of animals, including many who died while serving Canada.

There are a number of ways military animal heroes are honoured. The Animals in War Dedication is a monument located in the heart of downtown Ottawa in Confederation Park. Visitors to the National Capital Region can go there to learn about the history of animals in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF).

Another way these animals are celebrated around the world is through the Dickin Medal. Often referred to as the "Victoria Cross for animals," it is the highest honour that an animal can receive in military service.

The People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA) is a UK-based veterinary charity responsible for presenting the medal, which is named after the organization's founder, Maria Dickin.

Since it was first awarded in 1943, the Dickin Medal has been awarded to more than 70 animals, including dogs, horses, pigeons and a cat.

The medal, which continues to be awarded today, is international in scope. While several animals from Canada have received the medal, the majority of the recipients served with other nations, such as the United Kingdom, France and the United States.

The medal's ribbon is green, brown and blue, to represent naval, land and

air forces. The front of the bronze medallion has "For Gallantry" and "We Also Serve" inscribed on it.

On the back, it has the name of the animal recipient, its branch of service or unit, and the date and location of the act of bravery that earned them the award.

Four animals have earned a Dickin medal for their service to the CA.

### Beachcomber, the pigeon at Dieppe (1942)

On March 6, 1944, a Canadian pigeon, designated as Pigeon NPS.41.NS.4230, but named Beachcomber by the troops, was awarded the Dickin Medal for delivering an important message from Canadians at Dieppe in 1942.

Flying across the foggy English Channel through treacherous conditions all the way to Britain, Beachcomber delivered the news about the landing. He is one of several Second World War carrier pigeons to be recognized by the Dickin Medal, but the only one to do so while serving Canada.

### Sgt Gander, a Newfoundland dog, mascot of the Royal Rifles of Canada (1941)

Of all recipients, dogs have been awarded the most Dickin Medals. Man's best friends have often been unlikely heroes, doing everything from providing morale to troops to searching for mines in battlefields.

In 1941, a Newfoundland dog named Sgt Gander was serving as the mascot for the Royal Rifles of Canada. He was given to the regiment by a civilian family and was loved by his fellow troops.

As noted in the official citation when the medal was presented, twice he stopped the enemy's advance and protected wounded troops.

On a third occasion when Canadians were under attack in Hong Kong, Sgt Gander picked up a grenade and ran with it, but, tragically, it detonated and he never made it back to his troops.

See **SGT GANDER** page 10



Gander's Dickin Medal.



**6-7 April 2019**

**11<sup>th</sup> CANADIAN MILITARY CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP**

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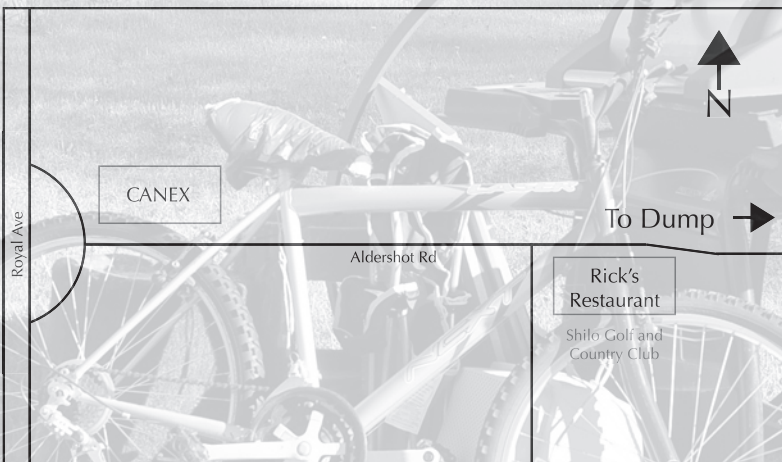
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*Shilo Country Club*

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Bulk items, yard waste, tires, and electronics may be disposed of Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Shilo dump located two kilometres east of Rick's Restaurant on Aldershot Road



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

May 21

Items should not be placed earlier than the evening prior to pick-up

# Sgt Gander sacrificed his life by removing live grenade

From page 9

Sgt Gander's sacrifice saved many Canadian lives in Hong Kong. He was awarded a posthumous Dickin Medal on Oct. 27, 2000, becoming the first recipient of the medal since 1949.

He has also been honoured in many other ways. The Gander Heritage Memorial Park in Gander, Newfoundland and Labrador, was named in his honour to remember his sacrifice along with the human members of the Royal Rifles of Canada.

His name appears with the names of 1,975 Fallen on the Hong Kong Veterans Memorial Wall in Ottawa. A statue of Gander appears as part of the Cobequid Veterans Memorial Park in Bass River, Nova Scotia.

## Sam, a German Shepherd, served with the Royal Canadian Regiment in Eastern Europe (1998)

A second dog won the Dickin Medal for service to Canada. Sam was a German Shepherd with the British Royal Army Veterinary Corps (RAVC) on assignment with the Royal Canadian Regiment (RCR).

During the breakup of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in 1991, the region was devastated by a series of conflicts. Canada and its United Nations and NATO allies went to the region to help create peace and stability.

While serving with the RCR in 1998, Sgt Iain Carnegie, Sam's RAVC handler, saw him perform two acts of bravery within only a few days of each other.

On April 18, a gunman opened fire in the town of Drvar in Bosnia and Herzegovina. After locating the suspect, Sam charged at him and helped bring him to the ground, allowing Sgt Carnegie to retrieve a loaded firearm.

On April 24, Sam and Sgt Carnegie were called in to help protect a group of civilians who had taken refuge in a warehouse.

Ethnic tensions were high in the region, so when rioters came toward the warehouse, the two had to create a barricade to protect the civilians. They stood their ground until reinforcements arrived, and none of the civilians were harmed.

Two years later, Sam died from natural causes at the age of 10. In 2002, Sgt Carnegie accepted a posthumous Dickin Medal on Sam's behalf.

In the book *The Animal Victoria Cross: The Dickin Medal* by Peter Hawthorne, Sgt Carnegie is quoted as follows: "Sam displayed outstanding courage and not once did he shy away from danger. I could never have carried out my duties without Sam at my side. He deserves the best."

In addition to Sgt Carnegie, a Canadian soldier,



Sam with his Canadian handler, Cpl Michael (Scott) Moody of the the Royal Canadian Regiment (RCR) in the former Yugoslavia in 1998. Sam was a German Shepherd with the British Royal Army Veterinary Corps on assignment with the RCR.

Photo from Maj Michael Moody

then-Corporal, now Maj Michael (Scott) Moody of the RCR's 4th Battalion, RCR served as Sam's handler for about two months during his deployment to Bosnia in 1997.

## Warrior, a thoroughbred horse 'the Germans couldn't kill' (1914-18)

The most recent animal to earn the Dickin Medal for serving in harm's way for Canada was a First World War-era thoroughbred horse named Warrior.

Born on the Isle of Wight in 1908, Warrior belonged to British MGen John Seely (a LCol at the time). Warrior's first appearance on the Western Front was in August 1914, a few weeks after the war started.

In December, MGen Seely was named Commander of the Canadian Cavalry Brigade (CCB). The following February, Warrior went back to Britain to take part in training with the CCB, before returning to the Western Front.

Warrior's military career was outstanding. He led the CCB in charges at several battles, including Ypres, the Somme and Passchendaele. In March 1918, he led the charge at the Battle of Moreuil Wood, a crucial action that helped make way for the final days of the war.

Even after MGen Seely suffered injuries from a gas attack, Warrior stayed with the CCB under its new commander, BGen R.W. Paterson.

Warrior became known as "the horse the Germans couldn't kill."

Warrior survived the First World War. In December 1918, he was shipped back to the Isle of Wight where he was born. MGen Seely published a book about him in 1934, and rode him in 1938 to commemorate the date that their combined age was 100.

In April of 1941, Warrior died at the age of 32. The centennial of the beginning of the First World War led to several commemorations in his honour, including the unveiling of a bronze statue of MGen Seely riding Warrior at Carisbrooke Castle on the Isle of Wight.

Another honour which Warrior received was the first-ever honorary Dickin Medal. Although the medal was given on behalf of all animals who served in the First World War, Warrior's specific recognition is significant because he represents the resilience and strength of all animals in the war effort.

In the century since the end of the First World War, the use of animals in the CA has evolved.

Some units still keep horses for ceremonial purposes, such as the Lord Strathcona's Horse and the Royal Canadian Dragoons.

Canadian Rangers and other units sometimes use horses to access remote locations, but the horses are privately-owned and supplied when needed.

Dogs are not officially trained for military service by the Army, although they are sometimes obtained from outside agencies for sniffing out explosives or for search-and-rescue tasks.

Animals still contribute to many aspects of overall CA operations and culture. Dogs and other animals remain beloved as regimental mascots and are much valued to improve troop morale.

## Canadian women have long answered the call to service in the military:

1885	Women serve in military hospitals in a civilian capacity
1901	Army Nursing Service established as part of the regular Canadian military
1914-18	Approximately 3,000 women served as nurses in the Canadian Expeditionary Force
1939-45	Approximately 55,000 women served in the Canadian military
1950-55	After post-war reduction in personnel, the Korean War boosted enlistment to more than 5,000 women
1988	Women begin serving shoulder to shoulder with men in combat roles
PRESENT	13 women serve at the General rank and 57 women at the Chief Warrant Officer rank in the Canadian Armed Forces. Women now make up 15.7% of the Canadian Armed Forces, and it is increasing towards the 2026 goal of 25%

International Women's Day

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March 8 2019

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## Champs!

The CSM of 23 CF H Svc C Winnipeg challenged the CSM of 11 CF H Svc C Shilo to a medical unit bonspiel. Both units put together two teams and met in Portage La Prairie for the inaugural competition. The Shilo clinic won the 2019 bonspiel and brought the trophy home. Showing it off here are CO 11 CF H Svc C Shilo Maj Wilson along with Capt Shin, Lt McLean, Cpl Light, Capt Plante, Maj Hogan, Sgt Lawrence and Capt Duguay. WO Forester is holding the spoils of curling battles..

Photo submitted

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This house is on a large, spacious lot on a quiet street. A detached single car oversized garage is found at rear of house, with back lane access. The lot size is 75x120 feet. Total square footage of this 1 1/2 storey home is 1,702. Affordable property taxes. Town water and sewer. Twenty minute drive from CFB Shilo. The house features an east facing deck off the front door and a concrete-covered patio at the side entrance. Metal roof. Vinyl sided. There's no basement as house sits on an insulated crawl space. Baseboard heat. Four bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, main floor laundry room, laminate flooring in kitchen, carpeted throughout. All appliances included: two full-size refrigerators, 30-inch stove, built in dishwasher, microwave, washer and dryer, portable air conditioner, small chest freezer. Other furniture remains making this an easy transition to move right in. Wawanesa is a pretty town with lots to offer: K-12 school, daycare, medical clinic, recreation centre with hockey and curling ice, waterpark, ball diamonds, campgrounds. A variety of businesses include: grocery/liquor vendor, gas station, car/truck wash, bank, post office, restaurants, garage/auto mechanic, Sipiweske Museum, Guild Insurance, Wawanesa Mutual. This is a private sale. Contact Wayne Gullett at 204-724-4671 to arrange a viewing.



This house is on a large, spacious lot on a quiet street. A detached single car oversized garage is found at rear of house, with back lane access. The lot size is 75x120 feet. Total square footage of this 1 1/2 storey home is 1,702. Affordable property taxes. Town water and sewer. Twenty minute drive from CFB Shilo. The house features an east facing deck off the front door and a concrete-covered patio at the side entrance. Metal roof. Vinyl sided. There's no basement as house sits on an insulated crawl space. Baseboard heat. Four bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, main floor laundry room, laminate flooring in kitchen, carpeted throughout. All appliances included: two full-size refrigerators, 30-inch stove, built in dishwasher, microwave, washer and dryer, portable air conditioner, small chest freezer. Other furniture remains making this an easy transition to move right in. Wawanesa is a pretty town with lots to offer: K-12 school, daycare, medical clinic, recreation centre with hockey and curling ice, waterpark, ball diamonds, campgrounds. A variety of businesses include: grocery/liquor vendor, gas station, car/truck wash, bank, post office, restaurants, garage/auto mechanic, Sipiweske Museum, Guild Insurance, Wawanesa Mutual. This is a private sale. Contact Wayne Gullett at 204-724-4671 to arrange a viewing.



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