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1RCHA keeps traffic flowing in mountains. Page 2



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Women in the military play vital roles. Page 8

Science behind the sound



1RCHA soldiers hone their M777 skills in the fall during an exercise out in the Base's training area.

Photo Jules Xavier

Thunder of artillery guns explained

Maj Craig Cutting
Stag Special

For anyone, including those residents of the communities surrounding 5th Canadian Division Support Base Gagetown (5CDSB) who are curious as to why they hear the awe-inspiring thunder of Howitzers differently on any given day, the intent of this article is to explain both the scientific and training requirements of the "how" and the "why" artillery guns are heard in good weather and in bad, during the day and night.

It is the ardent hope of the author that the reader will emerge with for an understanding of why the volume and propagation of sound from the artillery guns, even when firing from similar locations, can significantly fluctuate based on several factors that will be described herein.

Atmospheric effects on sound — First, to address the scientific aspects of "how" artillery guns are heard, it must be understood that atmospheric effects, comprised of four major factors: wind,

temperature, humidity and cloud cover, will have a large impact on sound.

These four major factors will now be discussed in order, with a practical example provided at the end.

The first factor is wind, which alters sound propagation by 'bending' the sound wave.

At lower elevations, wind travels more slowly due to terrain features such as hills, trees, etc.

At higher elevations, wind travels faster as it is unimpeded. Therefore, if you are downwind from a source, you will hear louder noise levels than someone standing upwind.

The next factor is temperature gradients in the atmosphere. On a hot day, the air is warmest near the ground and decreases in temperature at higher altitudes, which causes sound waves to refract upward, away from the ground.

On a cold day, this temperature gradient will reverse, having the opposite effect.

See **HONING** page 7

1RCHA assists with avalanche management in British Columbia

Capt Nicholas Kaempffer
Stag Special

Fire and Ice: Op PALACI is a task force of both Regular and Reserve Force artillery units that have applied Howitzer firepower to control deadly avalanches at Rogers Pass in British Columbia for the past half century.

Every winter, avalanches at Rogers Pass have the potential to pose a drastic threat to the safety and security of Canadians.

At least it did, until The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery (RCA), working with Parks Canada, put in place the world's largest mobile avalanche-control program more than 50 years ago.

Winter has more than met its match, since through Op PALACI, Gunners dominate this season with the application of high-explosive projectiles that cause safe, controlled avalanches to keep Canadians secure.

Rogers Pass, the most avalanche-prone roadway found in North America, is located within the federal land of Glacier National Park in BC.

It is not just any road and railway crossing — it is a critical traffic link used by more than 4,000 motor vehicles and 40 trains per day, facilitating billions of dollars of commerce and the movement of thousands of Canadians from the Pacific Coast to the rest of Canada.

At 1,330 metres above sea level in the Selkirk Mountains, and with an annual snowfall accumulation of 12 metres, Rogers Pass has more than 130 avalanche paths that cross the Trans-Canada Highway alone.

As the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) support to Parks Canada, Op PALACI is a task force comprised of members from both Regular and Reserve Force artillery units that apply considerable firepower to neutralize the snow demons at Rogers Pass.

During Annual Avalanche Control (AVCON) operations, this task force is directed by Joint Task Force Pacific (JTFP), which is supported by The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery School (RCAS).

ment of Canadian Artillery School (RCAS).

The RCAS, as the Artillery Centre of Excellence, is responsible for the conduct of the Artillery Fire Effect (AFE) Certification Program, which both certifies new Parks Canada Agency (PCA) staff, and performs re-

fresher training for currently certified PCA members.

With 1RCHA taking the lead in supplying both personnel and guns to support Parks Canada for 2017-18 AVCON operations, two Gunners from the RCAS were key components in ensuring the safety of all involved.

Capt John Knox, an Instructor-in-Gunnery and WO Eric Comeau, an assistant Instructor-in-Gunnery, were critical members in a joint team of Parks Canada and CAF members who worked in concert to ensure the success of this year's operations.

Both Capt Knox and WO Comeau leveraged their technical excellence to oversee and instruct the AFE certification program. Furthermore, they verified the methodology and data correction for the 271 registered targets that are engaged from 17 positions along the Trans-Canada highway.

Once they returned from BC, WO Comeau worked with Bdr Alexander DeLorenzis to confirm the firing data and crest-clearance for all of the 271 registered targets that fall within one-kilometre safe areas — a challenging job considering the difficult topography of the Selkirk Mountains.

Reflecting on his experience working with Parks Canada, 1RCHA and JTFP for this year's AVCON operations, WO Comeau said, "it was awesome to experience the camaraderie between both the CAF and Parks Canada. Moreover, it is a great feeling to know that you're applying the knowledge you learn as an assistant Instructor-in-Gunnery into a real-time, real-world application that keeps fellow Canadians safe."

With 1RCHA ready to support Parks Canada with firing data verified by the RCAS, Canadians can rest easy knowing that AVCON operations will ensure safe travels through Rogers Pass.

Avalanches may be a great force of nature, but they have more than met their match with Canadian Army Gunners.

Capt Nicholas Kaempffer, Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery School



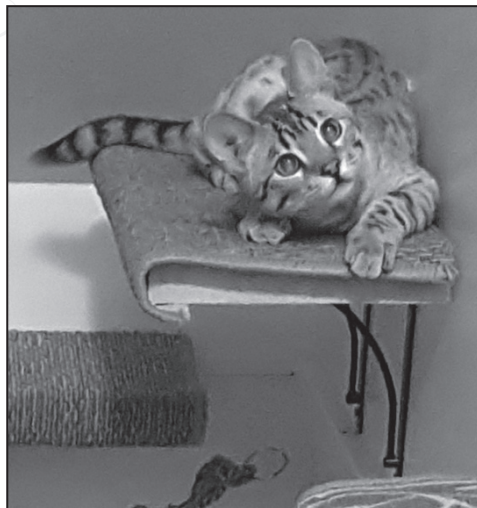
A C3 105mm Howitzer detachment is set up at Rogers Pass, BC during annual avalanche control operations.
Photo Parks Canada.

Op PALACI's use of Howitzers in controlling avalanches in BC by shooting them down each winter for the past 50 years is one of the few peacetime uses of the Canadian Army's big guns other than as a start gun for the Army Run, during Fortissimo and for training.

Pet of the Week

LOKI

Loki is a nine-month-old purebred Bengal owned by Venus and Dan McInnis. This young feline enjoys scaling and perching on curtains. Loki is also very affectionate and talkative. 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



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Tyler St. Vincent received his Military Police Fund for Blind Children cheque in Winnipeg from MCpl Glenda Gauthier of 1 MP Regt Shilo PI. Photo Dan Vodon

Buying a Braille embosser will help teen's YouTube art

Shilo Stag Special

A teenager will be able to continue creating on his *YouTube* channel thanks to the the Military Police Fund for Blind Children.

Last month, MCpl Glenda Gauthier of 1 MP Regt Shilo PI, visited the CNIB in Winnipeg, where she presented 18-year-old Tyler St. Vincent a cheque for \$9,613 to be used for the purchase of specialized equipment.

Recently graduated from high school, St. Vincent has no vision, except for light perception. While in school, he became proficient in using a variety of assistive equipment which was no longer available to him once he graduated.

How does St. Vincent plan on using the technology from money he received via the Military Police Fund for Blind Children?

"I have started a *YouTube* channel which regularly uses scripts for me to review music in a comedic way," he explained.

"In order to read the scripts in the videos, I would need a Braille copy of the script. That is why I would need a Braille embosser. I can also use it to read a presentation or speech for a job."

He added, "The JAWS screen reader allows me to be able to use my laptop. I use my laptop for accessing the Internet, downloading music, talking to over 50 friends who I am very close with — one of them is my best friend — using a lot of social media sites and forums, using my e-mail, posting on my *YouTube* channel, writing documents and tons more."

The ability to obtain technology to access a computer allows the visually impaired to have a better overall quality of life and independence.

According to MCpl Gauthier, St. Vincent is an incredible young man, who has an indelible sense of humour which has the ability to light up the room.

"Tyler now has the independence to continue to pursue his interests, make videos and eventually seek out employment or further his education."

Board work earns sergeant kudos

Bobby Billard MFRC Special

Shilo's MFRC board and staff would like to take this time to extend or congratulations to interim board chairman Sgt Corey Morton on receiving a 3 Div Commander's commendation.

Sgt Morton has shown unwavering dedication to Shilo's MFRC and the community. We are grateful to have such a dedicated individual leading the charge to ensure Shilo's MFRC has the tools required to run the exceptional services which the MFRC staff provide on a daily basis.

The board would like to thank all those who came out to participate in Shilo's MFRC speaker series this year. Mental health is a constant battle which many Canadians, and individuals in our community, struggle with. The more we talk about mental health, the more we make it easier to erase the stigma surrounding this issue. The Board of Directors (BoD) of Shilo's MFRC would like to remind all community members that our meetings are open to the public.

Meeting times will be posted on our website www.cafconnection.ca as well as the Shilo MFRC Facebook page. Meeting minutes are also posted on the website. So, if you cannot make it to a meeting then you are able to read the minutes to stay informed. In closing, we would like to acknowledge the continued efforts of Shilo's MFRC staff for providing top-notch programming for all ages which is second-to-none. For a complete list of programs contact Shilo's MFRC and staff can provide you with a copy of the newsletter.

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 Editorial advisor Lori Truscott ext 3813
 Proof reader Elaine Rempel ext 3736

Fax: 204-765-3814 Email: stag@mymts.net

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

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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.

• • •



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Chilliwack will play their hits, including My Girl, during this summer's concert in Minnedosa.

Photo supplied

Classic rock returns to summer music festival

Sarah Francis
 Shilo Stag

It's back to the classics for the 15th annual Rockin' the Fields of Minnedosa (RFM).

In honour of the 15th anniversary, organizers are taking a step back to the festival's roots of a classic rock line-up.

For those new to the Shilo area, RFM is a rock festival set near the Minnedosa campground during the August long weekend.

This year's line-up includes Winnipeg's Burton Cummings, Trooper, Three Days Grace, Kim Mitchell, Chilliwack, Snake Oil and more bands yet to be announced.

President Brian Wenham has been involved with the not-for-profit festival for 15 years and started out as a volunteer.

"I was helping out with stage crew. My friend's dad actually booked the bands and I went to high school with them," he recalled. "I kind of got hooked on it that way."

He has been on the RFM board for seven years.

"I've seen it grow basically from nothing to what it is today," he said.

The festival has a major economic benefit to the nearby community.

"It does benefit the community economically when you have 10,000 people coming to the city or to the town as well, plus all our service groups over the past 15 years we've donated over \$400,000 back to them to go towards their projects they've got within their community," he said.

"We've got the Lions, Rotary, Minnedosa Bombers, Little River Fish and Game. There is a bunch of groups that come out and basically volunteer their time and help make a go of it."

Last year saw 9,000 spectators take in the event — Wenham anticipates a spike in this year's attendance.

"There's a lot of hype, tickets are going quite well and quite fast already. We could sell all the way up to 30,000, but I don't think we're going to get to that. We don't really have a limit. We've got a site to accommodate up to 30,000."

He anticipates capping out at around 10,000 to

15,000 music fans in attendance.

They have a number of camping sites for festival goers to use while taking in the three-day event.

People are what makes the event great, according to Wenham.

"All the music is great, but it's the people that come out and set up the site beforehand. Once all the snow melts basically we're out there, repairing anything that got damaged over the winter. This year, we're re-doing the stage."

He added, "It's all the people that come out from the community and the town, hanging out with them every other weekend. Then when the festival does come it's kind of one of those things that's three days and it's gone right. You prepare all year, for a whole entire year to make this festival go and it's three nights and it's done."

"It's like a big family reunion I think, which is probably the funnest (sic) part for me. I see a lot of faces there that I only see for those three days of the year."

Besides the music showcased on the stage, the event has a family-friendly festival setting.

"One of the things we're known for is everybody keeps their sites clean, everybody keeps to themselves, everybody is respectful of everyone else," said Wenham.

"You can't ask for anything else. The atmosphere of how the main concert bowl is set up is absolutely beautiful. You [are on] the top of this hill and you're looking over Minnedosa Lake and everything is green out there and clean. We've got some pretty respectful and considerate fans out there."

There will be more bands announced in the coming months, including second stage acts and supporting bands. Various bands will play during the day, but there are some non-concert activities to take part in.

"There [are] vendors. This year we're going to — we've got a volleyball tournament going on," he explained. "We've got poker tournaments. We've got scavenger hunts. There is always something going on."

They also give out prizes to game-winners. Last year's chipping contest winner won a barbecue.

Ticket information can be found by visiting www.rockinthefields.ca

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Annual winter fair salutes military families

Sarah Francis
Shilo Stag

The annual Royal Manitoba Winter Fair (RMWF) is both an educational and entertaining event for the whole family to enjoy.

From Fred Penner and SuperDogs to wildlife exhibits, horse and cattle shows, there is an array of activities for the family to take in during March Break.

The ideal day for military families to attend is March 26, according to Provincial Exhibition general manager Ron Kristjansson.

"Monday of course is our Heroes Day, where military personnel, police, fire, all the true heroes of our community are welcome to come to the fair on us and families at half price." He said the military has been involved with the Brandon-based fair for a long time.

"There's been many different variations of the displays the military brings. We've had Canadian Forces Day in some shape or form for a lot of years. This is the second or third year we've expanded on that to all the heroes. To recognize everyone that puts their life on the line for us."

During last year's opening ceremonies, there were more than 200 military personnel, including cadets, soldiers from Base as well as the Lord Strathcona's Horse and 26 Field Regiment involved. This year will also feature the Canadian Military Wives Choir Shilo singing the national anthem.

Agriculture and the military have been inter-connected for decades.

"My grandfather, he was born in 1908 in this area, and I know he sold horses to the military as a young man," recalled Kristjansson. "That was one of the things that got his family through the depression."

Kristjansson said the Provincial Exhibition has been involved in the fair for decades.

"I've been manager for about three-and-a-half years. Before that I was the director for four or five and before that I volunteered for about 25. I came to Brandon in the mid-80s and the fairs were something I was interested in."

Growing up in Winnipeg, he spent as much time as possible at his mother's family farm.

Attending the University of Manitoba, he pursued a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in animal science. He went on to work for Agriculture Canada in the beef cattle research program at the Brandon research centre.

Working with the Provincial Exhibition has been an amazing experience for Kristjansson.

"The fairs are so [much] a part of the culture of the area. We have three fairs and they're all so distinct. Our RMWF is coming up. It's the flagship fair. It's the biggest of our fairs."

They also have to Manitoba AG EX and Manitoba Summer Fair.

The RMWF is headed into its 111th year. "Our organization has been here as long as the city [since] 1882 when we both started," he said. "I'm a bit of a wild west buff. I read historical books and stuff and the shootout at the OK Corral with Wyatt Earp and company, that happened in 1882."

"So, we've been putting on fairs here since the shoot out at the OK Corral. Jesse James was murdered in 1882. So it puts some things in perspective when you think our organization has been doing this for that long."

His interest in the wild west was apparent when a *Stag* reporter met Kristjansson — he was dressed in western-inspired garb, Stetson hat included.

RMWF is one of two fairs in all of Canada to have the Royal designation from the Queen.

It was given the title in 1970. He said it's something fair organizers are quite proud of. He said the fair has many components to it for families to enjoy.

"The RMWF is entertainment for the whole family. It's history. It's fun. It's pageantry and celebration."

The RMWF starts at 8:30 a.m., with horse shows including drafter horses, jumping and hack-knee ponies, cattle shows and trade show exhibits located throughout the fair grounds.

There is an agricultural education area, where you can speak to farmers growing and raising your food and learn about agricultural practices in Manitoba.

"Our original start was as an agricultural society and that's what the first fairs were about. [It] was for farmers to show off their products and their livestock and compete to see who has the best," he recalled.

"That's still a big part of what we do and we've added a lot of various entertainment pieces to it, but that core value of being an agricultural society and educating the public becomes a bigger — a more important mandate for us as time goes on."

There will be a few areas for entertainment, including musical acts. There's also a bar with live music entertainment in the evening. A crowd favourite returns, too. SuperDogs take over the main arena from the horse and cattle show. There will also be a Birds of Prey presentation from the Canadian Raptor Conservancy.

"We haven't had them for several years and they do an educational piece as well as it's entertaining," said Kristjansson. "In the evening they do a performance in the main arena [where] the birds fly out and fly back to them. It's a neat thing."

The Keystone Centre is 12 acres — Kristjansson said they have it full from end-to-end with entertainment, vendors and food.



CFB Shilo takes part in the opening ceremonies held at Westoba Place.

Photo Jules Xavier

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Capt Megan Couto shares experiences at CFB Borden

Jules Xavier

Shilo Stag

To break the ice when she spoke at International Women's Day today at CFB Borden, 2PPCLI's Capt Megan Couto brought up the coat hanger for the Officers' Mess PMC is located in the men's washroom, alongside that of the BComd, 1RCHA CO and 2PPCLI CO.

However, the current Officers' Mess PMC is Maj Lindsay Jackson, and there's no coat hanger in the women's washroom.

"It just shows that there are few women in the military, especially on this Base, where they would need to have those hangers in the ladies washroom at the mess," offered Capt Couto, currently the Adm Coy LAV captain with 2PPCLI. "I just look at my own experience when I came here I was a minority, the only female [in the infantry]. Now there are three of us with 2PPCLI. It was the same when I was attending RMC."

Looking to the future in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), Capt Couto can see a day where those coat hangers will be in both washrooms because a woman could be at the helm of the Base, or commanding infantry or artillery soldiers training at CFB Shilo.

Capt Couto was one of three guest speakers, which also included the newest *The National* anchor — she's one of four since Peter Mansbridge retired in 2017 — senior correspondent Adrienne Arseneault.

Deployed last summer as part of 2PPCLI's UK Public Duties Company as the 2IC, Capt Couto was invited to Ontario to be a guest speaker because organizers there thought her story warranted sharing as part of International Women's Day.

"I feel very honoured to be asked to speak at this year's International Women's Day event. I have never attended one of these events before and have been given fairly wide arcs for my presentation," she said. "Spectators can expect a candid account of my personal experiences and what it feels like to be 'first' at something. I'll also give my thoughts on leadership as a woman in a [mostly] male environment."

Among the spectators for her 20-minute presentation, that included her experience commanding the Queen's Guard in London, were family members from nearby Toronto.

She did a Q&A with the Base newspaper, *Borden Citizen*, prior to her arrival, and shared her answers to reporter Yanik Gagnon's questions with the *Stag*.

BC: What is it like to be a woman in the military?

MC: "Being a woman in the military has been a good experience for me. I joined at the age of 17, and being exposed to the military from such a young age has had a huge impact on the woman I am today. I have had the chance to meet so many unique and inspiring individuals throughout my career, both women and men. I would, however, say my experience has not been significantly different from any of my colleagues. We fill the same roles within the Battalion, and have all had opportunities to lead soldiers in a platoon context. I would say that the Canadian Armed Forces has given my peers and I the same professional opportunities and our evaluations are based on merit. Overall, I feel the military, as an institution, has treated me well."

She added, "I have become accustomed to being the only female in my peer group. Although I have noticed that recently there are more females than ever in my workplace, it is still vastly male environment. Despite this visible divide, I have had many wonderful experiences of the camaraderie typically expected from a group of people who work closely together, particularly during my infantry training."

"Those are the types of friendships that will never disappear, and I have great things to say about those folks. My experiences have taught me that each individual contributes to a team in a valuable way. No two approaches are the same, and that is something to be treasured."

BC: Why is it important for women to be in the military?

MC: "I think it is very important that if someone is passionate about serving Canada, and they would



2PPCLI's Capt Megan Couto on parade in London as Captain of the Guard (above) and saluting (inset) during a CoC parade.
Photo Cpl Jay Ekin 3CDSG/Jules Xavier

like to do so in a military context, they should be considered. A team is strong not because of their homogeneity, but because of their diversity.

"The CAF responds to a wide variety of operational requirements, and thus needs a flexible, diverse, and effective team with a wide array of perspectives, talents, and skills. In my mind, there is no reason a capable woman — or man — can't do my job. To exclude females from the military would be to deliberately limit and undermine our potential."

Besides her busy work schedule that sees Capt Couto up before dawn working out at the GSH gym prior to looking after the Patricia's LAV fleet, she's also active on the Base. She joined the Canadian Military Wives Choirs Shilo when it started last fall and lends her voice when the group performs.

"I like to knit, too," she offered. "I'm basically a 75-year-old soul in a 25-year-old's body."

The Maple Leaf also contacted Capt Couto for an International Women's Day piece to run on that publication's online site since the glossy newspaper is defunct.

She shared with the *Stag* the responses to the questions posed by the Ottawa-based military publication.

TML: What were the primary duties of your assignment/deployment as captain of the Queen's Guard at Buckingham Palace?

MC: "My role in the UK Public Duties Company was Company Second in Command (2IC). I was mainly responsible for the administrative requirements of the Coy while in the UK, as well as co-ordinating deployment and redeployment of personnel and ceremonial equipment. My secondary duties were as the Inspecting Officer on parade, and as understudy of all the officers who held other parade positions, including the Officer Commanding (OC), Maj Jason Hudson. I was given the opportunity to step into my OC's role for one of the five guard mounts the Coy participated in ... it was never my main role."

Last summer on June 26, Capt Couto commanded the Queen's Guard at Buckingham Palace and St. James' Palace, becoming the first female infantry officer to hold this role.

TML: When you accepted this post, did you know you were going to be the first woman in history to do

this?

MC: "As I mentioned, I did not know I was going to have the opportunity to command the Queen's Guard, as this was the job of my OC. He stepped aside June 26, 27 to allow me the opportunity to command the guard, and because the contingency was involved in the funeral of Lady Patricia, who unfortunately passed away while we were in the UK."

"There were two British drill sergeants from the Coldstream Guards who came to Shilo to help us prepare for our ceremonial duties before we left Shilo for the UK. While they were here, the sergeants had mentioned that they had never before seen a female Captain of the Guard. There had actually been a few, British and also Australian. I knew it was possible it would be a first, but never realized that it might become a reality, or how much media attention it would attract."

While overseas prior to and following her role as Captain of the Guard, Capt Couto participated in about 10 interviews with an array of media there, and back in Canada.

TML: If you did know — did this add pressure to you or were you more determined to be successful?

MC: "It didn't really phase me. I am hard-working and take pride in accomplishing any tasks I am given as best I can, and this parade was no different. Once the media interviews started and I realized how many people would be watching, it certainly made me

aware I was representing more than just myself — my boss, my soldiers, and the Regiment."

"Luckily, nothing depended on my own skills. We practiced for weeks before the parade and the soldiers were all confident in their ability to execute all the drill commands we would need to perform. They deserve as much if not more praise than I do."

TML: What were the reactions of British citizens and members of the British Army to a woman as a Queen's Guard captain?

MC: "I'm not too sure how they reacted. All the officers I met were very polite to me when we talked. I was often asked how long women have been permitted to be in our infantry, as I know the British Armed Forces are only integrating females this year. I have a suspicion the 2PPCLI soldiers in the UK with me were asked more overtly than I ever was."

TML: Where there any particular challenges you faced while in this role?

MC: "I didn't find anything very challenging about the role. Drill and ceremonial is an art form, and is extremely difficult to perfect. We all just tried our hardest to represent Canada well, especially being so close to the 150th anniversary."

TML: Was there a specific moment/instance/situation that sticks with you now that you are back in Canada — positive and/or negative?

MC: "I'll always remember the feeling of walking down The Mall, the highly iconic street between Buckingham Palace and Trafalgar Square during the Guard Mount on the 26th of July. The parade was nearly over, and all I could think was 'we pulled it off!' Even though I had been nervous, everyone remembered their paces and the parade had gone very well. I was immensely proud of all the soldiers on parade in that moment."

TML: Share your thoughts and advice to other female CAF members who may be considering accepting or putting their name forward for unique opportunities in their careers.

MC: "I would say to anyone that was considering putting their name forward for unique opportunities to go for it! Even if it's challenging, or if nobody like you has yet to do a similar task before, you are well trained and well equipped. Don't let self-doubt or what anyone else says get in your way. Just be your excellent self. No matter the outcome, you will come out the other side knowing you rose to the occasion, tried your best, and learned a few lessons along the way."

Honing artillery skills requires firing 155mm M777 Howitzer by day, night

From the front

Therefore, at night when it is cooler, a listener will experience raised noise levels compared to midday when it is much warmer.

The third factor is humidity, which also has an impact on sound wave propagation. As the humidity increases, so too does the percentage of water molecules in the air.

Because water molecules have less mass than nitrogen and oxygen, the air becomes less dense allowing sound to travel faster. Therefore, a relative humidity increase will result in a raised noise level at the listener's location.

The final factor is cloud cover, a constant feature in the Maritimes. On a clear day, sound waves will propagate into the atmosphere and eventually dissipate.

However, on a cloudy day, the sound waves will be redirected off of the clouds back to the ground and will therefore result in a raised noise level at the listener's location.

In the spring, an example of the aforementioned factors would be on a cool, cloudy, humid evening, the artillery guns firing will be heard from much farther away, especially if downwind, than upwind from artillery guns firing on a dry, hot, clear afternoon.

The "why" of the noise barrage is two-fold.

As for the "why" artillery guns are heard, The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery

School, located within 5CDSB, exists to provide the Canadian Army (CA) with combat-capable soldiers and officers ready to meet the operational and domestic requirements of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) in service to the Government of Canada.

To provide world-class training, the practical impact is that artillery guns fire by day and night, in all weather conditions, to prepare Canadian artillery soldiers to fight and win within a challenging modern battlefield.

Hopefully, this article provides some illumination as to the god-like thunder wielded by The Kings of Battle.

While this noise may be initially disconcerting to some, know that it is the sound of the CAF training to stand on guard for our great nation.

• • •

Editor's note: Maj Cutting joined the CAF in 2003, graduated from the Royal Military College of Canada (RMCC) in 2008 and was posted to 2RCHA at Garrison Petawawa. In 2010, he deployed to Afghanistan as the Troop Leader of B Troop, D Bty on Task Force 1-10. After deployment, he held several positions within 2RCHA, including Forward Observation Officer (FOO) and in 2012 joined the 11th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery in Guelph, Ont., as the Operations Officer. In 2014, he returned to RMCC to complete the Army Technical Staff Officer program and was then posted to RCAS in Gagetown, New Brunswick, where he is now Battery Commander (BC) of W Bty, RCAS.



2RCHA conducts a firing exercise with the 155mm M777 Howitzer in Fort Pickett, Virginia during Ex SOUTHBOUND TROOPER XII, held in 2012. Photo Cpl Martin Roy, Formation Imaging Services, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Getting a Tax Refund? We've Got Ideas!

Meet with a SISIP Financial Advisor for ideas and solutions on how to turn your tax refund into a brighter financial future.

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March 9
7:30 p.m.
vs Swift Current

March 13
7 p.m.
vs Saskatoon

March 17
7:30 p.m.
vs Moose Jaw

• • •

Playoffs
start with
end of
WHL
season




A member of 31 Canadian Brigade Group does a shoulder-check during the Canadian Army's fourth annual Canadian Patrol Concentration held last November at CFB Wainwright. Photo MCpl Malcolm Byers 3CDSG

Initiative aims to empower, educate through first-hand experiences

Pilot program well-suited for women considering a military career with CAF

The Maple Leaf Stag Special

The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Women in Force Program (WFP) was launched to help increase the number of women considering a career in the military.

The program will provide qualified, capable women applicants with the information they need to make an informed decision about enrolling with the CAF.

This initiative aims to empower and educate women through first-hand experiences, honest and realistic job previews, and a taste of military life.

The four pilot serials, which are part of the program, are being held during this summer and fall, and will provide program designers and recruitment strategists with carefully evaluated outcomes to determine if this approach is of benefit to the CAF and attractive to Canadian women.

The program has both three-day and 10-day sessions.

Seven months after the launch, the popularity of the new program, which was intended to give women an opportunity to learn about military life before they decide to join, is promising as more than 300 women applied for 120 places.

While the number of women recruits significantly increased from 13 to 17 per cent during the last two years, the challenge to increase the numbers remains formidable.

"The overall percentage of women has increased by 0.3 per cent, which is the first positive growth in over a decade," said Col André Demers, Commander of Canadian Forces Recruiting Group.

WFP might be the beginning of a very popular and successful recruitment strategy where participants can talk with current CAF members while experiencing different facets of military life, including fitness

training, hands-on demonstrations of occupations and tactical skills.

The first 10-day sessions were held in August at CFB Borden and Garrison St-Jean.

A three-day session will be held Oct. 20 at CFB Borden, and Oct. 28 at Garrison Saint-Jean.

"Dedicated staff will mentor and guide participants throughout the program during which they will be immersed in a military environment including living on a Base," said Col Liam McGarry, Commander of Military Personnel Generation Training Group.

It is hoped the WFP will be instrumental in ensuring the CAF achieves its goal of increasing the enrolment of women by one per cent annually in order to better reflect Canadian society.

"The program is part of CAF initiatives to find new ways to reach and inform Canadians from diverse backgrounds. A stronger representation of women within our ranks is crucial to the CAF's operational effectiveness," said LGen Charles Lamarre, Commander of Military Personnel Command.

BGen Virginia Tattersall, Deputy Commander of Military Personnel Generation added, "The program will provide a unique experience to Canadian women by providing them the truth about military life, its opportunities and challenges. It will allow women thinking about becoming part of the CAF team to have an opportunity to receive first-hand information before making a decision to enroll and serve their country."

"The focus of the program is to raise awareness about life in the CAF, and to enable participants to make an informed decision about a career in the military," added LCol Suzanne Raby, Deputy Commander of Canadian Forces Recruiting Group.

"Participants will come out of this program much better informed about what a career in the CAF is like."



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Understanding cultural nuances saves lives

Edouard Dufour Stag Special

LCdr Chantal Desormeaux, Gender Advisor (GENAD), was deployed to California for the joint exercise Large Scale 17.

Her role was to determine the consequences that various action plans have on distinctive groups during military operations.

The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) sometimes operate in cultural communities that have complex customs and realities. The role of GENADs is to take note of the effects that military interventions can have on the lives of members of the various groups that make up these communities.



LCdr Chantal
Desormeaux

During the planning and conduct of military operations, GENADs are responsible for taking into account not only the differences between the sexes, but also specific features such as age, education, language, geographic location, culture and income.

LCdr Desormeaux gave the example of an intercepted vehicle holding several women tied up and in bad shape in the back.

"The advisors will be able to co-ordinate handing the women over to a team of nurses and to give them first aid and psychological assistance," she illustrated.

"Everything is not black or white. The Army is allowed to notice that its actions have moral consequences on the ground," she added.

The international community seems to be taking a growing interest in the role of GENADs.

When LCdr Desormeaux was trained for the position in Sweden, candidate students from approximately 20 countries were there. In Canada, 10 or so military members currently hold this qualification, issued by a NATO-certified training centre. For years now, 5 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group (5CMBG) has been taking the differences between distinctive groups into account.

However, this is the first time that a trade associated with the issue has officially entered its ranks during an international exercise.

LCdr Desormeaux especially noted the "involvement and support" of Col Stephane Boivin, 5CMBG Commander, in promoting the GENAD mission of equality.

Edouard Dufour ADSUM



17 Wing triumphed at Gunner Arena when the Winnipeg squad battled their British counterparts from CFB Suffield during the annual REME tournament.



Skating to nationals



There will be two Base hockey officials wearing their stripes at CFB Borden for the CAF oldtimers' hockey tournament running from March 17 to 22. 2PPCLI's WO John Brogaard (left) and 1RCHA's Cpl Jon Wilson will referee during the six-day hockey championship.

Photos Jules Xavier



GSH Bowling Alley

Open bowling for all ages
Saturday 2 to 4 p.m.
Sunday 2 to 4 p.m.

Adult: **\$2.50** per game
Youth: **\$2.25** per game
Child: **\$2** per game
Shoe rental: **75 cents**

Prices subject to tax

Ask about Glow bowling
birthday parties!

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

Shilo Theatre

(Located in General Strange Hall)

March 9 Jumanji - Welcome to the Jungle Rated PG
March 16 Downsizing Rated 14A
March 23 Pitch Perfect 3 Rated PG

Children aged 10 and younger require adult supervision at all times.
All movies start at 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.
FREE GSH popcorn — h2o from CANEX

For more info, contact the community
recreation office at 204-765-3000 ext 3317/3588

Where's Willie?

Somewhere on the pages of this *Shilo Stag* is a picture of Willie, the Wheat Kings mascot.

Tell us on what page, in what particular advertisement Willie was found and correctly answer the following skill-testing question for your chance to win two tickets to an upcoming Wheat Kings home game in Brandon.



Entry Form

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Page #, ad: _____

Answer skill-testing question:
What CBC senior reporter will be speaking alongside 2PPCLI's
Capt Megan Couto March 8 at CFB Borden?

Cut out your entry form and fax it to 204-765-3814, or scan it and e-mail to stag@mymts.net or drop it off at the Stag's office at CANEX. Draw will be made on the Monday prior to game day.

Say cheese!

Mathieu Perreault (85) of the Winnipeg Jets poses with a member of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) following NHL action against the Arizona Coyotes on Canadian Armed Forces Appreciation Night at the Bell MTS Place in early February. Airmen and soldiers from 17 Wing and CFB Shilo took part in the game prior to the opening faceoff, and post-game where selfies were snapped and autographs collected.

Photo Darcy Finley/NHLI via Getty Images

Kudos from MFRC BoD to Sgt Corey Morton

Bobby Billard
MFRC Special

Shilo's MFRC board and staff would like to take this time to extend or congratulations to interim board chairman Sgt Corey Morton on receiving a 3 Div Commander's commendation.

Sgt Morton has shown unwavering dedication to Shilo's MFRC and the community. We are grateful to have such a dedicated individual leading the charge to ensure Shilo's MFRC has the tools required to run the exceptional services which the MFRC staff provide on a daily basis.

The board would like to thank all those who came out to participate in Shilo MFRC speaker series this year. Mental health is a constant battle which many Canadians, and individuals in our community, struggle with. The

more we talk about mental health, the more we make it easier to erase the stigma surrounding this issue.

The Board of Directors (BoD) of Shilo's MFRC would like to remind all community members that our meetings are open to the public.

Meeting times will be posted on our website www.cafconnection.ca as well as the Shilo MFRC Facebook page.

Meeting minutes are also posted on the website. So, if you cannot make it to a meeting then you are able to read the minutes to stay informed.

In closing, we would like to acknowledge the continued efforts of Shilo's MFRC staff for providing top-notch programming for all ages which is second-to-none.

For a complete list of programs contact Shilo's MFRC and staff can provide you with a copy of the newsletter.

Bobby Billard Shilo's MFRC BoD



Home Station Regiment Senate wants you!

Shilo Stag

The newly-established Home Station Regiment Senate (HSRS) exists to advance the welfare of members who are currently in service at the Home Station Regiment, as well as retired and former serving members of the Home Station Regiment.

Senate membership is open to the following:

- Past Commanding Officers (serving and retired), Seconds in Command (2ICs) (serving and retired) and Regimental Sergeants Major (RSMs) (serving and retired) of 1RCHA and 3RCHA;
- Past Home Station Commanders (serving and retired) and Base Sergeants-Major (BRSMs) (serving and retired);
- Past Battery Commanders (serving and retired), Battery Sergeants-Major (serving and retired) of 1RCHA and 3RCHA;
- Past Detachment Commanders (serving and retired), Detachment Sergeants-Major (serving and retired) of 3rd Canadian Division Training Centre – Det Shilo;
- Past Regimental Majors RCA (serving and retired) and Regimental Headquarters Sergeants-Major RCA (serving and retired).

If you'd like to be involved, contact the HSRS's president Col (Ret'd) Peter Williams via e-mail at cdnig19@hotmail.com. The next HSRS meeting is June 21 at 10 a.m. Central time.



National Defence
Défense nationale

WARNING SHILO RANGES

Day and night firing will be carried out at the Shilo Ranges until further notice.

The range consists of DND controlled property lying approximately 32 kms SE from Brandon and N of the Assiniboine River in Townships 7, 8 and 9; Range 14 WPM, Townships 8, 9 and 10; Ranges 15 and 16 WPM and Townships 9 and 10; Range 17 WPM in the Province of Manitoba. If required, a detailed description of the Shilo property may be obtained from the Base Construction Engineering Office at Canadian Forces Base Shilo.

All boundaries, entry ways, roads and tracks into the Range are clearly marked and posted with signs indicating that there is to be NO TRESPASSING. Hunting is no longer permitted on the Shilo Ranges.

STRAY AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVE OBJECTS

Bombs, grenades, shells, similar explosive objects, and their casings are a hazard to life and limb. Do not pick up or retain such objects as souvenirs. If you have found or have in your possession any object which you believe to be an explosive, notify your local police and arrangements will be made to dispose of it.

No unauthorized person may enter this area and trespassing on the area is strictly prohibited.

BY ORDER
Deputy Minister
Department of National Defense

OTTAWA, CANADA
17630-77

Canada



National Defence
Défense nationale

AVERTISSEMENT POLYONES DE TIR DE SHILO

Des tirs de jour et de nuit seront effectués aux polyones de tir de Shilo jusqu'à nouvel ordre.

Les polyones de tir sont des terrains sous le contrôle du MDN situés à environ 32 km au sud-est de Brandon et au nord de la rivière Assiniboine dans les cantons 7, 8 et 9; polygone 14 OMP, cantons 8, 9 et 10; polygone 15 et 16 OMP et cantons 9 et 10; polygone 17 OMP, dans la Province du Manitoba. Au besoin, une description détaillée de la propriété de Shilo peut être obtenue du Bureau du génie construction de le Base des Forces canadiennes Shilo.

Toutes les limites, voies d'accès, routes et sentiers menant aux polyones sont clairement marqués et ornés d'écriteaux d'ACCÈS INTERDIT. La chasse est dorénavant interdite aux polyones de tir de Shilo.

MUNITIONS ET EXPLOSIFS PERDUS

Les bombes, grenades, obus et autres engins explosifs similaires et leurs enveloppes peuvent causer des blessures ou entraîner la mort. Ne ramassez pas ces objets et ne les gardez pas comme souvenirs. Si vous avez trouvé ou si vous avez en votre possession un objet que vous croyez être un explosif, signalez-le à la police locale, qui prendra les mesures nécessaires pour l'éliminer.

Aucune personne non autorisée ne peut entrer dans ce secteur où tout accès est strictement interdit.

Par ordre du
Sous-ministre
Ministère de la Défense nationale

Ottawa, Canada
17630-77

Get involved with your Home Station Regiment



The newly-established Home Station Regiment Senate exists to advance the welfare of members who are currently in service at the Home Station Regiment, as well as retired and former serving members of the Home Station Regiment. If you'd like to get involved, contact the president, Col (Ret'd) Peter Williams, at cdnig19@hotmail.com

LENT / EASTER SCHEDULE

SHROVE TUESDAY / PANCAKE LUNCH TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH 1130-1300
Come celebrate the beginning of Lent at The Faith Centre, Bldg T-119

OUR LADY OF SHILO CHAPEL

February 14th – Ash Wednesday
1830hrs (6:30pm) Mass

Stations of the Cross
Fridays at 1830hrs (6:30pm)
February 16th until March 23rd

March 25th – Passion (Palm) Sunday
1030hrs Mass

March 26th – Reconciliation Service
1830hrs (6:30 pm)

March 29th – Holy Thursday
1830hrs (6:30pm)

March 30th – Good Friday
1500hrs (3:00pm)

March 31st – Holy Saturday
1900hrs (7pm) Easter Vigil

April 1st – Easter Sunday
1030 Mass

ST. BARBARA'S CHAPEL

March 25th – Palm Sunday
1030hrs Service

April 1st – Easter
1030hrs Service



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The *Shilo Stag* is looking for another sales consultant for its team. Help us sell the Brandon business market on advertising in the *Stag*. They have a captive audience — especially with people here who are new to the community after being posted here from elsewhere in Canada. Where do you shop for new glasses; groom your dog; take the wife out for an anniversary dinner; buy a new car or have winter tires put on the van with the advent of winter; shop for back to school clothes and supplies? Working on commission, you can set your own hours. The more you hustle and sign advertisers up to promote their business in the *Stag*, the more you earn. Drop by the *Stag's* office in CANEX and see Jules or Sarah about the job. Or call 204-765-3000 ext 3013/3093. Be part of the award-winning *Shilo Stag* team.



Scoring celebration

For fans of the WHL's Brandon Wheat Kings, there are only three home games remaining in the 2017-18 season. The team currently holds down a wildcard spot for the post-season. Upcoming home games included a visit from the Swift Current Broncos, March 9 at 7:30 p.m. The Saskatoon Blades visit Westoba Place March 13 for a Toonie Tuesday contest at 7 p.m. Final game of the regular season is slated for March 17 when the Wheat Kings play host to the first-place powerhouse Moose Jaw Warriors March 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Photo Jules Xavier

CLASSIFIED ADS

Email: stag@mymts.net • Phone 204-765-3000, ext 3013 • Fax 204-765-3814

**\$10 for first 20 words,
10¢ for each additional word
Deadline for next issue:**

March 15 at noon

*Free ads (non-profit only)
restricted to members of the
CAF, employees of CFB Shilo and the
residents of the surrounding area.*

Services



St. Barbara's Protestant Chapel

Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with
Sunday school & nursery
Padre Johnston - ext 3381
Padre Dennis - ext 3088
Padre Neil - ext 6836

Our Lady of Shilo Roman Catholic Chapel

Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
Confessions by appointment
Padre Ihuoma - ext 3089
Padre Shanahan - ext 3698

Services

Greg Steele Canadian Fire-arms safety course instructor/examiner offering Red Cross first aid training. Manitoba hunter safety instructor. CFSC, CRFFC safety courses offered at least monthly and on demand. Firearm/hunter safety courses planned seasonally. Restricted and non-restricted. Dial 204-729-5024. E-mail gstele4570@gmail.com

We buy and sell good used furniture/appliances. We also deal in coins and coin/stamp supplies. People's Market Place, 32-13th St., Brandon, 204-727-4708.

Services

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Employment

Looking for a job on the Base? Submit resumes to NPF HR office via e-mail quoting competition # to npfhrshilo@cfmws.com OR for more detailed information on the jobs offered at CFB Shilo visit: www.cfmws.com

Employment

CANEX needs you: Clerk/cashier part-time position with 13 to 32 hr /week required. Must be available days/evenings, and weekends. Starting salary is \$11.90 per hour. After two-month probation salary increases to \$12.15. Under the direction of the department supervisor, a clerk/cashier scans customer purchases, processes transactions, and accepts payment. He/she prices, stocks shelves, counters and display areas with merchandise and keeps stock in order. He/she performs cleaning duties as required. Apply in person at CANEX admin office, or NPF Human Resources office at base HQ.

CANEX POST OFFICE PICK-UP CHANGE
As of March 1 parcels and mail will be collected from your
Base post office at 2:15 p.m. Monday to Friday

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et des Forces canadiennes



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RENCONTREZ L'OMBUDSMAN

MARCH • MARS

Town Hall with Junior Non-Commissioned Members
General Strange Hall Theatre
1-2:30pm

20

Rencontre avec les sous-officiers subalternes Théâtre Général Strange Hall 13 h – 14 h 30

Meeting with spouses and families at the Military Family Resource Centre (MFRC) 5-7pm

Rencontre avec les conjoints/conjointes et les familles au Centre de ressources pour les familles des militaires (CRFM) 17 h – 19 h

Town Hall with Senior Non-Commissioned Members
General Strange Hall Theatre
9-10:30am

21

Rencontre avec les sous-officiers supérieurs Théâtre Général Strange Hall 9 h – 10 h 30

Town Hall with Officers
General Strange Hall Theatre 1-2:30pm

Rencontre avec les officiers Théâtre Général Strange Hall 13 h – 14 h 30

22

Town Hall with Civilian Employees
General Strange Hall Theatre 9-10:30am

Rencontre avec les employés civils Théâtre Général Strange Hall 9 h – 10 h 30

① www.ombudsman.forces.gc.ca / 1-888-828-3626