



## DALTON ARMOURY OPENING



*Col Gary Stafford CD, 32 Canadian Brigade Group Commander, responds to the General Salute from the Troops and the Band and Bugles*

### **Rainy weather doesn't dampen spirits at Dalton Armoury opening**

Colonel Gary Stafford said it best. As the 3rd Battalion Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, its Regimental Band and Bugles, the RCL Colour Guard and the Scarborough Rifles Cadets stood on parade, a miserable, cold and drizzly rain swirling about them, the Commander of 32 Canadian Brigade Group, spread his arms, looked at the sky and said, "Perfect. It's infantry weather!"

The occasion was the official opening of the new Dalton Armoury in Scarborough in the eastern GTA on 22 April, during the Regimental Birthday weekend, and, despite the foul weather, it attracted over one hundred guests. These included up to two dozen veterans and about 30 members of the families of the late Col Charlie O. Dalton DSO and Col H. Elliot Dalton DSO, the brothers after whom the armoury is named. Following the dedication and a ribbon cutting ceremony, guests and troops enjoyed a reception inside the armoury, where static and active displays were set up for visitors.

When The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada stormed Juno Beach in Normandy on D-Day in 1944 the assault companies were led by "The Dalton Boys" -- 'A'

Company by Elliot and 'B' Company by his older brother, Charlie. In Ellie's landing craft the coxswain was killed before the landing but the boat steered straight, a dead man at the controls, "and we landed without getting our feet wet," he recalled. Others weren't so lucky and many died in the deep water, dragged down by their equipment and weapons, or shot dead as they reached the sandy beach. One of Ellie's platoon lost 28 of 35 members.

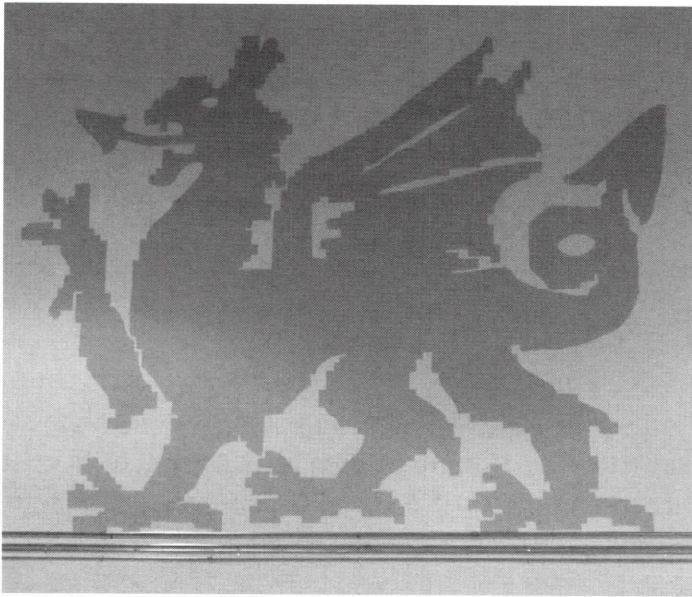
On Charlie's landing craft, as they approached the beach, he turned to his men, shouting "Follow me," and plunged into the surf, almost three metres in depth and struggled to reach the sea wall protecting the summer resort town of Bernieres-sur-Mer. Looking back, Charlie saw his men lying on the sand, "and I thought they had gone to ground for cover, then realized they'd been hit," he remembered.

Before it was over they had both been wounded -- Charlie on D-Day and Ellie a week later -- but they returned to fight and both received the Distinguished Service Order for their bravery and fortitude in the face of a fierce and implacable enemy.



# Bufs Company Makes a Return to The Queen's Own

Major Allan Champion, CD



As its first company commander, it is my pleasure to write about the reintroduction of Buffs Company to The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. Buffs Coy was the senior rifle company when I joined The Queen's Own in 1979. At that time 60th Company had just been formed as our parachute company from the former Special Unit of Central Militia Area. Later when the reserve establishment was realigned, Buffs was retired in favour of continuity of our parachute role. Victoria Company was briefly renamed Buffs a few years ago, but it was felt that our past alliance with the Victoria Rifles should also not be forgotten, so it is very fitting that Buffs be the name of the new rifle company authorized under the Land Forces Reserve Restructuring.

The Queen's Own was selected to recruit and train another company due to our continued high quality of training and retention. We've contributed troops to every possible national task, and this furthers our reputation for having contributed troops to every land war in which Canada has taken part.

Buffs first platoon was raised in Moss Park Armoury Toronto, of existing and new Scarborough soldiers. During the past year we scouted out locations and selected 37 Mid-Dominion Acres for the new Scarborough Armoury. On 22 April 06, just in time for the Regimental Birthday, the Battalion marched in with the Regimental Band and Bugles leading, marking a historic occasion not just for the QOR but also for Scarborough.

Buffs Company is named in remembrance of our

happy affiliation with The Buffs, raised as the Buff Howards in the 1750s. They were formerly The Royal East Kent Regt and before that the 3rd Regiment of Foot in the British Army.) This alliance quietly diminished after The Buffs were amalgamated with others in the Princess of Wales's Own Royal Regiment, but we continue to have communications with the Regiment and the Association today.

Buffs Coy is now parading a solid platoon and has another in the training in Victoria Company and the battle school. We are proud to have come to Scarborough and to be the only reserve unit there. We've not seen any reference to reserves in Scarborough's history, despite it being such a solid base for munitions manufacturing during World War II.

In the past six months while busing out to Moss Park, Buffs personnel have worked together to build an all ranks mess, surpass the goals set for Individual Battle Task Standards and show strong attendance at all unit training. We are very fortunate to have received Warrant Officer Paul Martin who transferred in from the Princess of Wales's Own Regiment and has taken the combined role of my CSM and Platoon Warrant. Sergeant Mike Currie also arrived back from The Brockville Rifles where he had been attached while attending teachers college. His full time availability for some of our formative months went a long way toward preparing our new armoury.

Second Lieutenant Chris Potter also arrived back from his first summer in officer training and is doing a great job as a platoon commander under the watchful eye of Captain Karl Haupt who returned from tour in Bosnia. Sgt Chris Van Hamme has been working full time as our clerk and Sgt Doug Halcro as our training support NCO, but we are losing each of these too soon, Sgt Van Hamme to a tour in Afghanistan and Sgt Halcro for increased responsibilities as the Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant at Moss Park. We are still in need of more leadership but we will grow that with the fine junior non-commissioned officers that have transferred in from 60th Company.

The way ahead is clear and Buffs is in Scarborough to stay. We've begun that with our involvement in community parades, food drives and by attending fund raising dinners for the veterans in our new community. We hope to continue to show our appreciation now we have officially opened the new armoury and dedicated it to the Queen's Own veterans.



# The Dalton Armoury

Maj Allan Champion CD

The Dalton Armoury was opened in January 2006. It is a modern efficient armoury built to provide The Queen's Own Rifles with a location to raise and train a second rifle company. Buffs Company was authorized under the Land Forces Reserve Restructuring (LFRR) initiative. The QOR was selected to raise this company in Scarborough and has put a focus on recruiting Scarborough applicants for two years. It takes time to develop the leadership and soldiers of a new company and we currently have 61 people on strength with another 13 in basic training to join the company in September.

Personnel in Buffs Company have the same responsibilities and a similar training plan as 60th Company at Moss Park Armoury. Both provide qualified parachutists to meet the parachute tasks that the QOR is uniquely qualified to fulfil. The benefits of

training in Scarborough is that the company is community based and the QOR is the only military organization with a presence in Scarborough.

The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada is a historic Regiment. Since 1860 we have been active in Toronto and maintain the rifle regiment traditions that lead to the light infantry tactics of today. During these years many friendly relationships have developed with other great regiments.

Buffs company is named in honour of a historic affiliation with The Buffs of Great Britain, now part of Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment. 60th company is named in honour of a historic affiliation with 60th Rifles, now part of the Royal Green Jackets. Victoria Company, our combat service support, is named in honour of the Victoria Rifles formerly of Montreal.



*Capt Tia Winegard accompanies Col Gary Stafford as he inspects Vics Company.*



*Troops march to the new Dalton Armoury in the rain.*



# DALTON ARMOURY OPENING



*Lt Ben Lee gives a future recruit a lesson in how to field strip a light machine gun.*



*Director of Music Capt Rita Arendz and members of the Regimental Band and Bugles in new busbies and rain cloaks.*



*Deborah Delaney, the CO's wife, embraces Marie Dalton after receiving the gift of a bracelet which originally belonged to Lady Pellatt. The bracelet will be handed on to the wives of all future commanding officers.*



*Hon Col Paul Hughes presents Maj Allan Champion, OC Buffs Coy, with a painting of Charlie Dalton's D-Day heroics, to hang in the armoury.*



*QOR D-Day veteran Bill "Boots" Bettridge meets and charms the ladies from the Legion.*



# **"We proved that we are capable..."**

**LCol Martin J. Delaney CD, Commanding Officer**

I have the honour of reporting on the activities of the Regiment during the winter training period of 2005-2006. December, traditionally one of the most active months for the Regiment, started with our participation in a Direct Response Unit (DRU), exercise called Crimson Tide.

The DRU Ex is focused on supporting our "First Responders" (Police, EMS and the Fire Service). The Unit had the challenging role of supporting the exercise by providing the DRU Bn HQ, a Coy HQ, and a Quick Response Platoon. I commanded the DRU, which was a demanding endeavour but proved to be a great learning experience and a wonderful opportunity to command a battalion size organization. The Ex was a great success with more than 500 soldiers from across the Bde participating, as well as members of the Metro Police, EMS and Fire Service. While the focus of the exercise took place on the Toronto Docklands, Moss Park Armoury acted as my HQ with the QRF responding to task as the situation evolved. These types of exercises bring a great deal of media attention to the Reserve. We were tested and we proved that we are capable and up to the task.

December is an active social time as well for the Regiment with the Christmas and Holiday season with the Men's Christmas Dinner and the Officers' Luncheon. Both were well attended and established an excellent start to the festive season. The Officers' Mess had been closed for almost two years due to major renovations and refits to Moss Park Armoury. This year's Luncheon was hosted back in our Mess. It certainly was wonderful to be back in our refurbished and revitalized Officers' Mess. I would like to publicly thank the Honorary Colonel Col Hughes and the Regimental Trust for their support in the renovation of our Mess and the Sergeant's Mess.

Special recognition should go to the person who made the renovations happen for both the Officer's and Sergeant's Mess. Mrs. Deborah Delaney should be thanked for her vision and energy in the redesign plan and the massive coordination effort that she made with all the suppliers that were engaged.

The Children's Christmas party continues to grow in popularity and attendance each year. It provides an excellent opportunity for our members to enjoy the season with their children and spouses as well as our renowned Santa Claus WO Phil Ten Kortenaar who put on another wonderful display of his festive charm and Christmas spirit.

The winter months continued to be demanding

time with work-up training for the Iron Talon series of Exercises that build toward our summer camp, Vigilant Guardian 06 (VG06). This year and for the next three years the VG series of exercises will focus on Full Spectrum operations. We will train as we fight taking the lessons learnt for Afghanistan and develop our soldiers for "Force Generation" to the Task Force support to the Regular Force.



*LCol Martin Delaney and Marie Dalton, Widow of Col H. "Ellie" Dalton DSO cut the ribbon to officially declare Dalton Armoury open.*

The final major Regimental event was the opening of the Dalton Armoury in April on the Regimental Birthday Weekend -- a great success (despite the weather which was more like a day in the Falkland Islands than a spring afternoon in Scarborough.) This event took a great deal of planning and effort from a good many people. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Major Allan Champion OC Buffs for his outstanding effort in organizing the successful event and naming of the Dalton Armoury. He of course did not take on this Herculean task on his own; my Full Time staff must be congratulated for their great effort. Special thanks to Major Sandi Banerjee, Lt Shawn Stewart, Lt Ben Lee, MWO Mark Shannon, Sgt June Parris, MCpl Roger Shaver, Cpl Adam de Bartok and Rifleman Calvin Lui.



# Greetings on the 146th Birthday

Honorary Col Paul F. Hughes CD

This is my first birthday as your Honorary Colonel as both Dick Cowling and I assumed new positions on a parade at Moss Park Armoury on 5 Nov 05. Before going any further I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor, BGen Don Pryer, who worked long and hard on behalf of our Regiment. I have never seen a more dedicated and hard working Honorary.

We have had a busy year. Mrs Hughes and I along with Colonel and Mrs Martin Delaney and the RSM, WO1 Scott Patterson, visited the UK and were graciously received by our Colonel-in-Chief, HRH Princess Alexandra. At which time we expressed our condolences for the loss of her husband, Sir Angus Ogilvy, commented on the strong performance of her Regiment and presented her with a bronze maquette of a QOR Skirmisher. Once again I would like to comment on the hard work and dedication of Colonel Don Ethell and his hard working committee in putting on QOR2005. Without their work it would never have been such a success.

I briefly attended summer training at Camp Petawawa and the Riflemen looked keen, fit, enthusiastic and surprisingly well equipped.

I look forward to a challenging 2006/7 with a strengthening of the ties of our many associations and the growing operational effectiveness of our unit in Toronto.

**In Pace Paratus**



BUCKINGHAM PALACE,  
LONDON SW1A 1AA

The 26th April is always a very significant day in the life of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada and this year it marks the 146th Birthday of this great Regiment.

On this important day I know that current and past serving Riflemen will be celebrating in many locations across Canada. I send to all of you my thanks for your service and my warm good wishes for what I hope will be a successful and thoroughly enjoyable reunion.

*Alexandra*



Honorary LCol Richard L. Cowling CD

This is my first Regimental Birthday as your Honorary Lieutenant Colonel and I hope to celebrate many more.

The year has seen a number of events of high interest and some very realistic, well-conducted training. I have not been able to attend as much training as I would like, but the little I have seen indicates a high degree of professionalism on the part of all ranks.

I was particularly pleased with the Parachute Refresher Training that I attended in March. It is highly significant that this training was very professionally conducted by only Queen's Own Rifles instructors and Jumpmasters. There was no need for supervision by Regular Force members as the calibre of our own personnel is very high indeed.

A significant event in 2005 was the hugely successful Regimental re-union held in Calgary last June. Our

Honorary Colonel has expressed well-deserved praise to Colonel Don Ethell, the main organiser of the event. However, little has been said about the immense contribution of time, effort and money given by Honorary Colonel Paul Hughes and his wife Beverley. We all owe both of them a deep debt of gratitude.

We look forward to our next Regimental Birthday, but even more so to our 150th Anniversary in 2010. We must start now to prepare for this great occasion and I call upon all of you to do your bit in making this a memorable event.

To those of you who are deploying overseas you know that you and your families have the full support of the Regiment as a whole. God bless you and keep you safe.

**In Pace Paratus**



# Canadians going to war in 2006

## CANADIAN TROOPS PUSH INTO TALIBAN HOTBED

Page One, Toronto Star, 10 March 2006

## CANUCK DIES IN AFGHAN BATTLE

Page One, Toronto Sun, 29 March, 2006

## DEATH IN THE DESERT

Page One, Toronto Star, 23 April 2006

In late April, 2006 there were 2,300 Canadian troops in Afghanistan, 2,200 in Kandahar and 100 in Kabul and Reserve Army soldiers from regiments across Canada were among these. It is far from being a "sunshine posting," as newspaper headlines and battlefield reports have been making plain. By the 22nd of April seven soldiers were dead -- one by enemy fire, four killed on patrol and two in an accident. Among them were three members of Reserve Army regiments. In the most recent event, Lt William Turner, Cpl Matthew Dinning, Cpl Randy Payne and Bdr Myles Mansell died when a rocket fired by



*Pte. Robert Costall*

Taliban militants demolished their lightly-armoured vehicle. Lt Turner was a Reserve Army officer in Land Force Western Area's Edmonton HQ and Bdr Mansell served with the 5th Field Artillery (Militia) in Victoria. Earlier Cpl. Paul Davis, of Bridgewater, NS, of the PPCLI was killed instantly and Pte. Miguel Chavez, another reservist from Victoria, were among seven who were injured when their LAVIII collided with a taxi, swerved into a ditch and flipped. One -- MCpl. Timothy Wilson, of Grand Prairie -- later died in a U.S. military hospital in Landstuhl, Germany. And on March 28, Pte. Robert Costall, 22, also of the PPCLI, was killed and three other Canadian soldiers wounded in a fierce fire-fight, 100 km north of Kandahar.

Previously, Capt. Trevor Greene, of Vancouver, an officer in the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, a Vancouver-based primary reserve infantry unit, was gravely injured by a man

wielding an axe. Capt Greene had laid aside his weapon and removed his helmet in a show of friendliness while meeting local Afghans near a Canadian outpost. His troops shot and killed the man, who was believed to be a Taliban insurgent. Greene, a former member of the RCN, is a journalist whose main duties with the Seaforths were domestic emergency and disaster response, and community and civilian agency

In March, the surprise arrival of Prime Minister Harper in the Kandahar war zone brought a message of support for the troops there as well as being "a firm signal to the international community that Canada wants to play a leading role in bringing peace to a volatile world." The PM said that "Canada is not an island. We live in a dangerous world and we have to show leadership in that world -- and that's what we're doing." To those in Canada who are campaigning to have the troops brought home, he said, firmly, "The debate over deployment is over. It's over for the government. I think it's over for most of the Canadian people. In terms of our commitments, in terms of the risks we're taking, the most important thing is what we're doing in Afghanistan."

Meanwhile, at CFB Petawawa, 1,200 soldiers, including several members of The Queen's Own among more than 200 reservists, underwent the first phase of the tough training needed for them to survive when, in August, they replace the Canadian troops now in Afghanistan. This battle group began intensive training last September and are learning skills which include dealing with explosive threats, detainee handling, the rules of engagement, using military equipment specific to the region, vehicle movement and scene management. Before leaving for their six month posting overseas, they were to travel to Wainwright, AB, to take part in full-scale military exercises on territory simulating the Afghanistan environment.

Our thoughts and good wishes will go with them as, following a pre-deployment leave, the men and women leave for foreign climes and the unknown dangers which exist in what is most assuredly a war zone as they undertake their mission to aid the people of Afghanistan and to fight in the war against terrorism.

## The Peacekeepers: "Mike" Pearson's Creation

In 1957, Canadian diplomat Lester B. Pearson, later to become this country's Prime Minister, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his role, through the United Nations, in defusing the Suez Crisis. The United Nations Peacekeeping Force was Pearson's creation and Canada has over fifty years of experience in this sometimes dangerous work. Canadian troops have participated in most of the more than 50 missions mandated by the UN security council -- more than any other country. This ability to count on Canada to help has established an international reputation. Members of The Queen's Own have participated, as members of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, as well as reservists from the 3rd Bn. In the past 15 or 20 years soldiers from the militia battalion have served in Bosnia, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslavia and Somalia, among others, and nine current members of The Regiment are undergoing intensive training to prepare them for posting to Afghanistan in August.

They are: Cpl Chris Abate, Cpl Inkee Kim, Cpl Steve Thomas, Cpl Jason Walter, Private Michael McQuaid, MCpl Jamieson Murray, Sgt Chris Vanhamme, Cpl Nicco Harper, Lt Adrian Burton (Camp Mirage). Those who have already done the six month posting and have returned safely: Sgt Judy Willan, Cpl Ivanka Koulik, Cpl Adam de Bartok, Cpl Jason McGibbon, Lt Wesley Clark, MCpl Marc Charlebois, MCpl Brian Burns, Cpl Jason Bridge.



# Kandahar is “the experience of a lifetime”

*Corporal Adam de Bartok of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada recently returned home from a six-month deployment to Afghanistan.*

## **What was your job overseas?**

I was a C9 gunner with 2 Section, Defence & Security Platoon, composed of Reserve soldiers from all across 32 CBG. We served in Camp Mirage (South West Asia) for about six weeks on Op ATHENA Roto IV. Then we headed to Kabul where we served with Force Protection Company, 2 RCR, for a month on Op ATHENA Roto IV. The longest consecutive session, though, and by far the most memorable, began when we headed to Kandahar to become part of the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) on Op ARCHER Roto 0.

## **What was your experience like in Kandahar?**

It was, to put it mildly, the experience of a lifetime. Being in theatre during the transition from Op ATHENA to Op ARCHER created a unique opportunity for us to serve in a variety of locations. We finished our tour at Camp Nathan Smith inside Kandahar. My section was integrated into the Patrol Company of the Provincial Reconstruction Team. The PRT was mostly soldiers from Bravo (Mountain) Company of 3 PPCLI and is right in the middle of Kandahar. Being surrounded on all sides by the local population and separated from the main body of coalition troops located within the confines of the Kandahar Air Field was pretty spectacular. We had the opportunity to interact with the Afghan National Police, Afghan soldiers and local civilians on a daily basis as part of our routine duties. The up-close and personal exposure to the

rich local Pashtu culture is something I will not soon forget. In augmenting the Patrol Company, our time in Kandahar was divided between Force Protection duties, participating as riflemen on missions and training the local security forces. Life in Kandahar was sharply accented by the daily occurrence of gunfire and explosions all around the PRT. These were initially very nerve-wracking but in time became an accepted routine.

It is hard to imagine living in a combat zone without having experienced it, but the ability of the average person to adapt to adverse conditions cannot be overestimated. The Canadians operating in that region accept that each and every time they go outside the gates of the compound, the threat of attack from anti-coalition forces – whether in the form of improvised explosive devices, suicide bombers or ambush – is very real. Make no mistake, coalition troops are fighting a very active counter-insurgency in the Kandahar region.

(First published on the website of 32 Brigade)



*Cpl Adam de Bartok and Cpl Jason McGibbon on duty in Kabul.*

## **“Welcome to Kandahar”**

De Bartok, who is 27 and unmarried, a fully-qualified para, currently serves with the Queen's Own as Buffs Coy's training NCO. He's signed up for a second tour in the Afghanistan war zone, despite the fact, when asked by Toronto Sun columnist Mike Strobel if he was ever

afraid, he said, "Very much so. It's the real deal." In his column on the opening of the Dalton Armoury, Strobel wrote about de Bartok: "Take his first night in Kandahar. The Taliban blew up two British jets with rockets. There was a firefight on the base perimeter. Fuel tanks went kaboom. 'Welcome to Kandahar', de Bartok tells me."



# 40 years ago in The Powder Horn

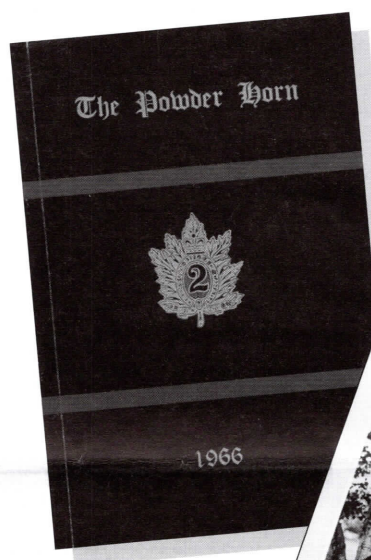
Capt Charles McGregor

Those members of The Queen's Own who are old enough to remember it will recall that in former days The Powder Horn was a fat book, six by nine inches in size with as many as 160 pages, including advertising, which helped pay for the publication, for everything from the Calgary Stampede to Labatt's 50 ale to Christie Point Apartments on "Scenic Portage Inlet" where a two-bedroom apartment went for \$112 a month!

Produced by personnel at the Home Station of The Regiment, at Currie Barracks, the Powder Horn contained news and photos of the activities of all three Regimental Battalions, plus four QOR-affiliated Cadet Corps. In 1966, The Colonel of The Regiment was Col J.G.K. Strathy, OBE, ED and the CO's and DCO's of the Battalions were: 1st - LCol C.L. Kirby and Maj L.E. Cornett; 2nd - LCol N.A. Robinson and Maj W.S. Wilson; 3rd - LCol C.L. Jones and Maj F.P.J. Mulrooney. Included in a list of almost 200 QOR personnel who were "Extra-Regimentally Employed", from Colonels to Sergeants, in postings as far away as Tanzania and as nearby as CFB Shilo, were several well-remembered names, including Col C.H. Lithgow (BAOR Europe); Col H.F.C. Elliot (Commander, CFB Borden); LCol C.P. McPherson (Commander CBUE); LCol R.J. Wilkinson (Staff College, Toronto); LCol S.F. Andrynuik (Tanzania); Maj. C.H. Belzile and Maj H.C. Pitts (4 CIBG Europe); Maj. D.M. Creighton (SOLAM Vancouver). Almost all later became QOR commanding officers -- McPherson and Lithgow, 1st Bn; Wilkinson, 2nd Bn; Creighton, Regimental Depot; Elliot, Andrynuik and Pitts, 3rd Bn. The exception was Belzile who later was promoted Lieutenant-General and during his career served as Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion, Royal 22e Regiment in Valcartier; Commander 4th Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group and Commander of Canadian Forces Europe in Germany as well as Commander Mobile Command in St. Hubert, Quebec.

Also, here's an item from the 1966 edition of the Powder Horn which will be of interest to our readers. **AWARDS:** *Queen's Commendation For Brave Conduct to Maj Robert Bruce Firlotte CD. "At approximately 1230 hours on 31 May, 1966 at Kingston, Ontario, Major Firlotte, while waiting in a branch office of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce for an appointment with the manager heard one of the tellers scream and then noticed a man detach himself from a teller's window and hurriedly walk to the exit. In the confusion of the next few moments Major Firlotte heard the teller exclaim that a robbery had been attempted. Aware that the man had threatened to use acid but unaware that*

*he was armed only with a toy weapon, Major Firlotte immediately ran after the fleeing man, seized him and forced him to return to the bank where the police subsequently took him into custody. By his quick thinking and disregard for personal safety, Major Firlotte apprehended a felon who would otherwise have escaped."* (Editor's note: All in a day's work for a soldier who had jumped into Europe to fight as a member of the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion during WW Two.



HRH Princess Alexandra, Duchess of Kent became Colonel-in-Chief of The Queen's Own in 1959. She is seen here in the 1966 issue of Powder Horn with her husband, Sir Angus Ogilvy and their children James and Marina. Sadly, Sir Angus died in 2004.



## IN MEMORIAM

Dorion Bergeron  
Gordon G. Cole  
Sgt. Dave Fletcher  
Vincent LeBlanc  
Lt John Marsh  
Robert V. Orr  
Niels Forrester Petersen  
Bud Price  
Sgt Les Smith  
John A. (Jack) Marin



# Sergeant's Mess hosts launch of "Born Lucky" by RSM Fox MBE

Capt Craig Cameron

On December 12, 2005, Vanwell Publishers supported a book launch for *Born Lucky*, the wartime memoirs of RSM Harry Fox, organized by Padre Craig Cameron and held in the QOR Sergeants' Mess.

Despite the proximity to Christmas, the event was an unqualified success; more than seventy people were in attendance. In addition to members of the Queen's Own regimental family, fourteen representatives of The Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment were present. QOR Association Bob Dunk acted as MC for the evening.

Craig Cameron spoke about how an idea became a reality when Vanwell agreed to publish Harry's WW II experiences in their "Voices of War" series. LCol (Retd) Don Kernaghan, editor of *The Plough Jockey* (regimental publication of the Hasty P's) gave an entertaining address about ten things that "Rifleman"

Fox found different in his adopted regiment.

In 1943, by then RSM of the 1st Bn QOR, Harry was selected to gain combat experience and was posted to Italy where he rebadged as RSM with the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment, remaining with the Hasty P's until war's end.

The enthusiastic crowd rapidly consumed Mrs. Donna Cameron's baking as well as the delicious arrangements of fruit. The large cake with a copy of the cover of *Born Lucky*, was the *piece de resistance* as far as the hospitality side went.

President Ben Kooter of Vanwell remarked after the launch that it "was the most successful book launch I've attended for the company." Mr. Kooter was also impressed by the "family" feel of the launch. He and his son were greatly impressed by the fact that 160 books were sold in less than an hour.



Former RSM Brian Budden (left) and current RSM Scott Patterson (right) are the "bookends" for D-Day veteran/Bugle Sgt Ted O'Halloran, RSM Harry Fox MBE, D-Day veteran Ray Shaw, Bugle Sgt Gus Amodeo, with D-Day veteran Jack Hadley behind him.



## Order of Canada for the Regimental Adjutant



*Regimental Adjutant Colonel Don Ethell receives his Order of Canada from Governor General Michaëlle Jean.*

Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, presided at an Order of Canada investiture ceremony at Rideau Hall on Friday, February 17, 2006. The Governor General, who is Chancellor and Principal Companion of the Order, presented 33 recipients with their insignia of membership. One Companion, 10 Officers and 22 Members were invested. One of those who received the Order as an Officer was Col. Don Ethell OC, OMM, OSTJ, AOE, MSC, CD, of Calgary.

Col Ethell said that, "The selection as an Officer to the Order of Canada was a complete surprise, one which we're

Know anyone who is not receiving their copies of *The Powder Horn* and/or *The Rifleman*? They may not be on The Queen's Own Regimental Master Mailing List. Ask them to send name, address and telephone number by e-mail to Regimental Adjutant Don Ethell at [dsethell@allstream.net](mailto:dsethell@allstream.net). If no email, call Don at **404 243 0029**.

"Once in the Queen's Own, always in the Queen's Own."

still cherishing. The category is 'voluntarism', so I guess there is a life after the military!

"The activities in which I've been involved have truly been a labour of love. It is 'pay-back' time following a military career in which I had the honour of serving two fine Regiments, Queen's Own and the PPCLI along with the Alzheimer's Society, Peacekeeper' Association, Colonel Belcher Veterans Care Centre, ICROSS, and working with Veterans Affairs Canada as a volunteer member for the past six years writing and planning the revised Modern Day Veterans' Charter (ie Bill C45) - and my continuing involvement as the volunteer chair of the joint DND/VAC OSISS Advisory Committee.

"I shall proudly wear the Order of Canada with the thought of all veterans and their families in mind - along with those who are suffering and dying in Africa each week."

The Order of Canada recognizes people who have made a difference to our country. From local citizens to national and international personalities, all Canadians are eligible for the Order of Canada, our country's highest honour for lifetime achievement.

## "Rifleman of The Year"



*Queen's Own Rifles D-Day veteran Bill Ross, of Montreal -- named "Rifleman of the Year" 2005 -- with Powderhorn Editor Captain Charles McGregor, in Normandy.*

A total of 134 Canadian military personnel have lost their lives during foreign military operations since the end of the Korean War. Middle East (53); Cyprus (28); Balkans/Former Yugoslavia (23); Other missions (15); Afghanistan (15). *Globe and Mail*.

The total number of troops under Canada's command in Afghanistan is roughly 6,000. Of these 2,300 are Canadian, 2,000 British, 1,700 Dutch, plus small contingents of troops from Australia, Denmark, the U.S., Romania and Estonia. *Globe and Mail*.



# Martin Boys – Truly Queen's Own



*In a group photo taken at one of their lunches are (l to r) George Beardshaw (WW 2); Don Martin (2Bn), Ron Jewell (2Bn), Don Higgins, (1Bn), Don McCurdy (2Bn) and Harold Toth (2Bn).*

Don Martin, of London, Ontario, who served with The Queen's Own in Korea with the 2nd Bn, joined with fellow members of The Regiment to celebrate the birthday 146th birthday at Victory Branch #317 RCL. Martin says that "We try to get together three times a year, or so, but always for the birthday." He's

hoping other former QOR members in the area will join with them in future. He is one of five brothers -- and their father -- who served with The Queen's Own. Don, who underwent quadruple bypass surgery in early March, was with the 2nd Bn in Korea, his oldest brother Bill jr., now passed away, served with the late CSM Charlie Martin MM, DCM in Northwest Europe and another brother, Jack, was in the QOR mortar platoon in the D-Day landing. Brother Gordon was in the the 1st Bn and Ernie was in the 3rd Bn (Militia) in Toronto. Their late father, Bill sr., served in WW One and was wounded near Ypres in 1916.



*The Martin brothers on Warrior's Day. (Left to right) Donnie, Ernie, Bill (deceased), Gordon, Jack.*



## Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association, Toronto Branch Report

**Bob Dunk**

A Wine and Cheese Party was co-hosted with the Sergeant's Mess on Saturday, December 17th. There was an excellent turnout from both Mess members and Association members and their families. Many thanks to the Senior NCO's and their wonderful selection of wines and cheeses. It was a great afternoon and we look forward to a similar event next year.

On Saturday, April 22, following our Annual General Meeting and the opening of the new Dalton Armoury, in celebration of the Regiment's 146th Birthday, we hosted a Mystery Dinner Theatre at the Legion. Busy day! Tickets were limited to 100 guests and went quickly. Attendees had their choice of a roast beef or chicken dinner and were entertained by a troupe of professional actors who enlisted the interactive help of the guests to solve the mystery. It was great fun! We must take this opportunity to thank two major corporate sponsors who stepped forward to support this event, namely Krown Rust Control and Toronto Hydro. Clay Downes and his committee did a first rate job of organizing this event. As many of you know, the Association was started in 1916 by Sir Henry Pellatt to relieve the suffering of QOR soldiers being held as POW's in Germany. This October is the 90th anniversary of the Association and in keeping with our original mission statement, all proceeds from this event will be used to support our sol-

diers serving overseas on UN and NATO postings.

Please be aware that on the weekend of June 3-4, 2006, there will be a re-dedication of the memorial cairn at Ridgeway by the Niagara Parks Commission. Details are sketchy at this point, but as the major Canadian participant in this battle, it would be appropriate that there be Association support for this event. More details to follow.

We hope we have put the insurance woes behind us and we plan on holding the Annual Association Shoot once again at CFB Borden in September 2006. It is one of the most popular events we hold each year, so watch the website and keep in touch with other members for more details.

Meanwhile, in addition to June 3-4 at Ridgeway and the shoot at CFB Borden, here are some other events to mark on your calendar. We are planning a golf get-together in the GTA sometime in the early summer, most likely to be held at Annandale Golf Club. Whether you are a golfer or just like to drive the cart and laugh at us that do golf, it should be a good day. Also, don't forget about Warrior's Day at the Exhibition in August. The date and timings have not been announced but we'll forward the details as soon as possible.

If you couldn't make the AGM, look for news on what took place in the next issue of Powder Horn.



# Vancouver Island Branch News

Bob Drinkwater

**Branch Executive:** Ira MacDonald resigned as President in January 25 and was replaced by Bill Brayshaw. Ed Titus accepted the position of Branch Vice-President. On behalf of the members, a huge vote of thanks to Ira for all of his hard work during his two terms as Branch President. Anyone wishing to contact the Vancouver Island Branch is asked to call Jim Carroll at (250) 727-2064 or to email him at: tigerlily.sask@shaw.ca.

**146th Regimental Birthdayc:** The Branch's 146th Regimental Birthday Dinner and Dance was held this year at the Prince Edward Branch (Langford) RCL #91 located at 761 Station Road, Langford. The location for the Dinner/Dance was moved from the Naden Wardroom due to a substantial increase in proposed meal costs, a refusal to provide accommodation for out of town Members and an unreasonable limit on the number of persons who could attend. This event continues to be well attended every year and we were pleased to have had the Regimental Adjutant, Don Ethell, and his wife Linda join over 200 Members and their guests at this year's celebration.

**Branch News:** The Vancouver Island Branch continues to be well supported by the members. Our monthly luncheon in Victoria sees an average of 50 members come out to see friends and catch up on the Branch activities and the regular monthly coffee break in Nanaimo averages an attendance of 25 members. Our membership stands at 277 for 2006.

We want to thank Teresa Whelan for donating a portrait of our Colonel-In-Chief, Princess Alexandra of Kent, that was a proud possession of her late husband Bob. We will be displaying this fine portrait at all of our Mess functions.

Tim Towers, who joined the Branch Executive last year to help Kevin Walsh with entertainment, has been busy selling tickets on a Sterling Silver Hat Badge minted in 1913 and mounted on a pin so that it can be worn as a brooch. And Sy Simmons and Art Saretsky have once again raised over \$600 for the Branch by selling tickets on a Shadow Box made by Art.

Once again the Branch has directly supported our fellow Veterans by sponsoring a hole at the Annual Broadmead Lodge Charity Golf Tournament. This \$250 donation goes to support Veterans living in Broadmead Lodge.

**Upcoming Events:** October, 21, 2006, Mixed Happy Hour, 13:00, Langford Legion; January 20, Annual General Meeting, 13:30, Langford Legion. The Executive has decided to jazz up this years' Happy Hour by organizing a few special door prizes which will be given away during the afternoon so come on out and enjoy some

time with your friends and maybe walk away with a terrific prize at the same time. Light refreshments and sandwiches will be served.

## QOR of C Museum Display

The display of our Regimental memorabilia at the Naden Base Museum continues to expand and improve thanks to the hard work and dedication of a small group headed by Jim Schulz. The Museum Committee would like to especially thank Donna Windenmaier, of Moose Jaw Saskatchewan, for donating a QOR Raincoat worn by her late husband Donald. The raincoat has been placed in the Barrack Room Display which now contains a complete kit.

The Naden Museum is open weekdays from 10:00 to 16:00 and will be open on Saturday, April 22nd following the Regimental Birthday celebration, from 10:00 to 13:00 so that our out-of-town visitors can tour the displays. All members and guests are invited as well. Please contact Jim Schulz at (250) 478-9633 if you wish to make a donation of memorabilia to the Museum.

**Work Point Mess in the News:** During the latter part of Feb and early March, the "deconstruction" of the Work Point Officers' Mess made the papers locally for a few days as the "destroy / remove" deadline approached. This news was greeted with more than a little dismay by Groups who had worked to save the heritage building and put it to use for the benefit of the Community.

Efforts to save the Mess, led by local Arts and Heritage Groups, have caused concern and raised support from local Regimental Associations, Legions, United Services Institutes and local, municipal and Federal politicians. Support for the restoration and preservation is growing and is strong.

The Mess initiative fits very nicely with another effort to keep a focus on "Remember Canada's Military" (working title). With the "Year of the Veteran" now over, some are concerned that focus gained in the last year, on the continuous and continuing Service to Canada, will be allowed to recede until another decade or two is past, if ever. It would be a shame if the recent support gained for the Military were to evaporate. A Group is coming together to further the ideas of keeping attention on the Military and that could well come into play locally, with the Mess at Work Point being a centrepiece of the effort, in the short term.

Our 150th Anniversary will be celebrated in 2010; how we're not yet certain. The PPCLI 100th Anniversary is coming up in 2014 and plans for that are now forming. Both Associations could have considerable interest if events move forward to promote the preservation of the Work Point Mess, as now appears to be the case. STAY TUNED!



# Newfoundland and Labrador Assoc. are already planning their next reunion

John Shapter

In the past year, since we had our first reunion, a number of changes have taken place which I'd like to let you know about. Quite a few of our members were missing from the annual meeting which took place at the Junior Ranks Mess here in St. John's. I can understand why with the cost of traveling to the Island and the distance some of our members have to travel. I thought that at this time I would let you in on some of the plans that are in the works to encourage more members to join us and also have another get together as we Newfs call it. It is important that we share with those who are not members our experience of renewed acquaintances, new friendships and connectivity that these gatherings bring.

Tom Midgley, in his letter to us stated. "Over the past 40 some years, memories of my life and friends I had made in the 1st Battalion, in Calgary have often surfaced. Always wondering where these men were and what they had done with their lives haunted me. The internet had allowed me to find some but many still remained a mystery."

Tom, who "came from away," arrived early at our first reunion on September 11, 2004, "As people started to arrive I was amazed how many I could still recognize without having to look at their name tag and I was impressed to learn they had lived fruitful and interesting lives, choosing many different vocations, after leaving the service." (Find the full story here <http://www.qor.com/association/nfldmaritimes.html>) Doesn't it make YOU want to join us and share in the experiences?

We had our election and on the advice of Tom Martin it was recommended that we elect a Vice President for the Association that would take over from

the President elect the next year which was voted on and passed. Here they are: President Elect, John Metcalfe Vice President John Shapter; Secretary Treasurer Leo Stamp. Ben Turpin will carry on until the new executive takes over. Chairperson of Membership/Kit Shop. Ed Jackman.

The most important decision I think was our next reunion. It was decided to have the next one in one of the other Maritime Provinces and a committee was formed to organize this event. The two members who took on this difficult chore were Tom Martin and Ivan MacPhee. I understand that a few more members may have come on board to assist them. They have some difficult choices to make and I am sure they are capable. They have to decide where and when. It will be a large endeavor indeed but I am sure they are quiet competent at handling any problem which may arise.

I hope to see more Maritime members there. I recommend that all members get out their old friends who were members of The Queen's Own Rifles and get them to the reunion. As was stated earlier, quite a few of our members were missing from the annual meeting. This was very evident by the number of questions about so-and-so?, have you seen him since??, do you know where he lives?, What is he doing now? Do you know this guy's name in this picture?.

The main question is - - wouldn't it be nice to see and have a chat with him again? Dig out those old pictures, think of the names and places and share them with others. Find those who don't know that we exist or have a QOR branch and invite them to join. Let's make us grow. This is to let you know what is planned for the future. Let's make the next reunion bigger and better.





# THE RIFLES "Swift and Bold"

The Army Board has directed battalions to group into larger regiments to meet the operational and organisational demands of the future. In light of this, Her Majesty The Queen has graciously approved the formation of a new regiment. In this recard, "The Rifles" will form in February 2007 from The Devonshire and Dorset Light Infantry, The Light Infantry, The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Light Infantry and The Royal Green Jackets. "The Rifles" will offer a unique and glorious history, a strong sense of belonging and the widest possible choice of career opportunities, locations and roles in the modern Infantry. The new Regiment will share three defining characteristics:

Be recognisable and distinct from the rest of the Infantry in philosophy, approach, appearance and custom.

Be an integrated and national Regiment that embraces Regular and Territorial soldiers, Cadets and Associations, and the communities from which they are drawn.

Be operationally distinctive and innovative in delivering success on the battlefield.

## The Rifles Charter

The Devonshire and Dorset Light Infantry, The Light Infantry, The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Light Infantry and The Royal Green Jackets recognise the profound impact of the Army Board's decision. They elect to join together to form a wholly new regiment called The Rifles comprising seven Battalions, five Regular and two Territorial, as well as other Territorial, Cadet and Association elements.

The four Founding Regiments will combine to form The Rifles from The Light Division. The Rifles will take their inspiration from the Founding Regiments' Light Division ancestry, including their Line Regiment History. The Rifles will hold to the qualities advanced by General Sir John Moore and displayed by the finest of infantry regiments. They will demonstrate the values of independent thought and action, leadership, self-discipline, fortitude and steadfastness.

The Rifles will strive for excellence and be known for their fighting spirit and strong sense of decency. They will be forward looking, at the forefront of military thought and determined to set the highest professional standards. The Regiment will give a place to all and anyone prepared to soldier loyally and effectively. The Rifles will cherish and foster their links to the counties, cities and towns from which they come; and which underpin their strong sense of national identity.

The new Regiment will be organised, operated and commanded so as to bring unity, professionalism and a sense of pride to all those who step forward with The Rifles.



## In The Habit Of Giving

With each edition of our Powder Horn we send a 'reminder' to all the family that it is important to 'get in the habit of giving'. No donation is too small. The Trust Fund relies on the annual contributions of the family to do its good work. Without this annual financial support or 'annual giving' the Regiment would be unable to fulfill certain annual needs related to 'Object' of the Trust (and where funding from DND is not available):

- 1 Maintenance of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Museum(s);
- 2 Maintenance of the Regimental Headquarters;
- 3 The expense of writing and publishing a Regimental History, the Powder Horn and other such communications or documents as may be deemed appropriate;
- 4 The maintenance and enlargement of the Books of Remembrance and the Cross of Sacrifice both presently located at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Toronto (the latter dedicated as a war memorial for the Regiment);
- 5 Such Expenses as may be incurred from time to time for the maintenance of the Regimental Band and the Pioneers and Skirmishers and their respective uniforms;
- 6 Such expenses as may be incurred for celebrating the Regimental birthday or other celebrations, as may be deemed appropriate from time to time;
- 7 The sending of 'soldiers' comforts to Regimental units or members of the Regiment who are extra-Regimentally employed on duty; and
- 8 Such other expenses as may be incurred from time to time for the efficiency, welfare and well being of the Regiment and its members.

This past year the Trust Fund approved expenditures related to all or most of the headings listed above and has projects in the works. The Trust Fund must spend what it takes in....or at least 80% as required by the charities directorate. In fact, we spend more than the 80% depending on circumstances. So each year, then, is a "fresh start". The Trustees of your Trust Fund kick off each year with a special donation ~ a dollar for every year the Regiment has been in existence. We encourage everyone to contribute or "get in the habit of giving" and, again, no amount is too small (although we only provide a tax receipt for amounts in excess of \$10).

Please take a moment to complete the form enclosed and send it, along with your cheque or money order. It will be most welcome indeed. And, to all those who contributed to the Trust Fund this past year a sincere "Thank You".

### In Pace Paratus

**Capt. Adam Hermant, OSt.J, CD,**

**President, The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Trust Fund.**



# Reorganization of Regimental Headquarters

## General

Under the direction of the Honoraries and the Commanding Officer and in order to better support Regimental activities, enhance the reputation of the QOR, and to reduce the administrative burden on volunteer members of the Regiment it is recommended that a clear division of authorities and responsibilities be made between the Regiment (responsible for Training and Operations) and the RHQ (generally responsible for the items listed below).

## Composition of RHQ

Formation of RHQ composed as follows:

Honorary Colonel; Honorary Lieutenant Colonel; Regimental Secretary; Regimental Major; Regimental Adjutant; Regimental Comms Co-Ordinator; President of the QOR Trust Fund

President of QOR National Association

Contact Points & General Areas of Responsibility for RHQ  
Colonel-in-Chief; The Senate; The QOR Trust Fund; The QOR National Association

Other QOR Institutions (e.g., museum, RC Legion, etc.);  
Affiliated Units; The Powder Horn

The Rifleman; The E Bugle; The QOR national mailing list;  
Publicity for Regimental Affairs (Church Parades, etc.);  
Memorials and plaques; Co-ordination with Foreign  
Members of the Regimental Family; Regimental History;  
Regimental Catechism update when required; QOR  
2010; Kit Shop

Co-ordination with JBC

## Regimental Secretary

The Regimental Secretary is the OC for QOR RHQ. And as such the R Major, the R Adjt and the R Comms Co-Ord report to him.

In addition, he has the following personal responsibilities:  
Secretary and Treasurer of the Senate  
Primary Regimental Protocol Officer; Primary POC with C-in-C and affiliated units; Principal Staff Officer for the Hon Appointments; QOR web site

## Regimental Adjutant

A contract position reporting to R Secty as illustrated in the attached organization chart. Particular tasks are: QOR 2010 co-ordinator; Maintain the computerized Regimental mailing list; Books of Remembrance; Maintain the RHQ archives.

Special Projects - Book of Remembrance update as required; Plaques and memorials maintenance; Support in the production of the Regimental History 1960-2010; 2014 co-ordinator (100th of WWI)

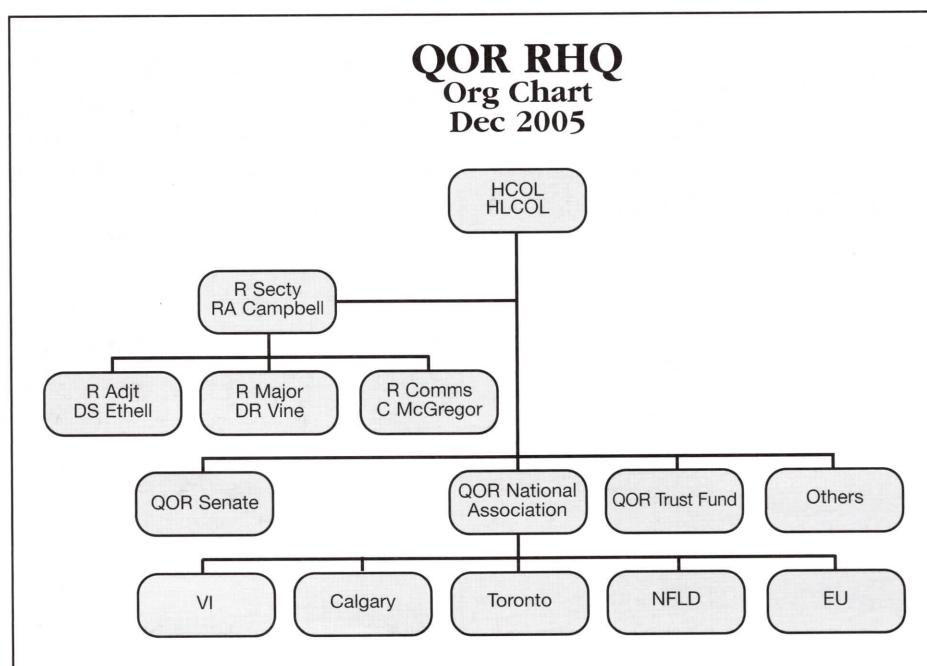
## Regimental Communications Co-Ordinator

A contract position, reporting to the Regimental Secretary and responsible to him for the following:

Edit and produce the Rifleman; Edit and produce the Powder Horn; Edit and produce the E Bugle  
PR and Publicity releases; Rifleman's Welcome Package

## Regimental Major

Manage the Kit Shop; POC with the museum, institutes, RC Legion; Identify and control all QOR NPF items.



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