THE COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS BRANCH



BRANCHE DES COMMUNICATIONS ET DE L'ÉLECTRONIQUE

95 CRAFTSMAN BOULEVARD BFC KINGSTON, ONTARIO, K7K 7B4

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4980-1 (Br Adjt)

October 2023

**Distribution** List

# COMMUNICATIONS & ELECTRONICS WEEK 2023

1. Officers and NCMs of the C&E Branch and its founding services: this letter and the affixed enclosures supply an overview of C&E Week 2023. This year's event will return to in-person activities while maintaining the virtual delivery theme used over the last several years. This year's focus shall continue to centre on lectures, PD sessions, and seminars via in-person and virtual platforms like MS Teams.

2. <u>Event Overview</u>. C&E Week will span **Monday**, 23 October to Sunday, 29 October 2023. The various events shall be hybrid, with in-person and remote attendance drawn from across the country. The synopsis for C&E Week 2023 as follows:

a. **C&E Family Update (23 October 2023):** An update of the Branch and its founding services (RCCS, RCAF, and CFIOG) to discuss trade health, major events, and bestow honours and awards. Comd 7CG, CJOC J6, and the SOF S6 will also discuss operational matters and provide updates on their areas of responsibility. In addition, brief updates on affiliated agencies such as the Foundation and Association will occur:

(1) Personnel may visit CMCEN and search for the News Post: *Branch Update* 2023;

(2) It will be broadcasted via MS Teams; no registration is needed; and

(3) The meeting will be conducted from 1300-1600, 23 October 2023.

b. **Major Bruce Carruthers Gravesite Ceremony (24 October 2023):** A small parade will be held at the Cataraqui Cemetery in West-end Kingston to honour the founder of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals (RCCS) and the perpetuated C&E Branch (24 October marks the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the RCCS). The Canadian Forces Joint Signals Regiment (CFJSR) is orchestrating the ceremony. Personnel interested in viewing the ceremony can visit the C&E Week 2023 post (https://cmcen-rcmce.ca/ce-week-2023/) on CMCEN (https://cmcen-rcmce.ca/). Contained within this post shall be a Livestream link via MS Teams. The ceremony shall take place Tuesday, 24 October 2023, 1100-1200 EDT;

c. **Environmental Conferences:** To be conducted virtually and in person with OPIs from the RCCS and RCAF confirming login procedures, invites, and timings. These conferences are linked to C&E Week but are <u>not</u> components of it. Different authorities will release details:

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- (1) Reserve G6 Conference (26-28 October 2023);
- (2) Army G6 Conference (26-28 October 2023), and
- (3) RCAF A6 CAPCON (17-19 October 2023).

d. **Subalterns' & Sergeants' Indoctrination Programme (23-25 October 2023):** Hosted virtually and in-person with select lecturers gathering in Kingston to deliver core lessons to new officers and NCOs in the C&E Branch. Students must receive endorsement from their CO / RSM (or equivalent) before registering:

(1) Authorized students are to register on CMCEN under the News Post: *Subalterns'* & *Sergeants' Indoctrination Programme 2023*; and registration closes Friday, 20 October 2023, at 1600 hours Eastern.

e. **Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE** (24-26 October 2023): An International High Frequency (HF) communication competition entailing participation from international partners:

(1) The Net Control Station is located at: Building: VC 55 | Room: 124 | Street Address - 12 Satellite Road; and

(2) Teams may visit CMCEN under the Post: *Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE 2023*, which shall direct members to the registration site and library of instructions or access the information directly at <u>https://nobleskywave.ca/</u>.

f. **Professional Development (PD) Seminar (25 October 2023):** A virtual and in-person conference in which C&E Branch members will share operational perspectives and technical lessons with the audience. CAF and C&E Branch members will present host panel Q&A sessions on: Digital Transformation, Recruiting and Retention, NORAD, and Op REASURANCE. The PD Seminar will also host students from the Sergeants' & Subalterns' Indoctrination Course and will serve as the culminating briefs for that audience:

(1) Personnel may register by visiting CMCEN under the News Post *Professional Development Seminar 2023*; and

(2) Registration closes Friday, 20 October 2023, at 1600 hours Eastern.

g. **C&E Association Annual General Meeting (AGM) (25 October 2023)**: The C&E Association will hold its AGM at 15:45 EDT at the Vimy Officer's Mess, CFB Kingston, Kingston, Ontario. The meeting will be held in a hybrid format with both in person and virtual attendance possible.

h. **C&E Branch Professional Development Session (27 October 2023)**: The C&E Branch will hold an additional PD session. This session will include subjects pertaining to Cyber, NORAD and Digital Transformation, augmenting the information provided on 25 October. Final Agenda and information on presenters will be provided on the C&E Week 2023 post (https://cmcen-rcmce.ca/ce-week-2023/).

i. **C&E Senate Extraordinary Meeting (27 October 2023)**: The C&E Senate is responsible for the long-term well-being of the C&E Family and the furtherance of the C&E

Family's mission and interests. The meeting will be chaired jointly by the Branch Leader and the Colonel Commandant and conducted in the Vimy Officers Mess from 1330-1530.

2. <u>Funding and Seating Allocations</u>. An event request has been staffed to formally endorse C&E Week 2023 and authorize personnel to travel from the NCR to partake in the Kingston-based events (e.g., Carruthers Gravesite Ceremony, Indoctrination Course lectures, and Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE 2023. These officials – including the Branch Leadership, Occupational Advisors, and senior-ranking Command Teams – shall be contacted directly with coordinating instructions.

3. <u>Registration</u>. Registrations will be available via <u>cmcen-rcmce.ca/ce-week-2023/</u>. Once registrations are collected, OPIs and team leads shall publish online invitations to join the MS Teams virtual events. Instructions and timings shall be included as required. MS Teams is limited to 250 personnel.

4. <u>Points of Contact</u>. Overall coordination is controlled by **Major Gavin Ellis** (Branch Adjutant), with all Tech Support overseen by **Captain Simon Grant** (Home Station Staff Officer, CFSCE):

Event	РОС
Major Carruthers Gravesite Ceremony	Master Warrant Officer Mike Hogan CFJSR – Sergeant Major 1 Squadron
Environmental Conference: Reserve G6	<b>Major Matthew Drover</b> Royal Canadian Corps of Signals Adjutant
Environmental Conference: Army G6	<b>Major Matthew Drover</b> Royal Canadian Corps of Signals Adjutant
Environmental Conference: A6 CAPCON	<b>Captain Patrick Smith</b> 1 Canadian Air Division A6 CS 2
Sergeants' & Subaltern's Indoc Course	Captain Michal Luczynski CFJSR – D/Operations Officer
Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE	Lieutenant Christian Shurepa 21 Electronic Warfare Regt, Assistant Adjutant
Professional Development Seminar	Major-General John Leech (Retired) C&E Association President
C&E Family Update and PD Session	Colonel John Roper Branch Advisor
C&E Senate Extraordinary Meeting	Brigadier-General Josée Robidoux (Retired) Colonel Commandant (channel RFI thru the Branch Adjutant)
C&E Association AGM	Major-General John Leech (Retired) President of the C&E Association
C&E Association Meet and Greet (NCR)	Major-General John Leech (Retired) President of the C&E Association
Veterans Day – 24 October	<b>Brigadier-General (Ret) Kevin O'Keefe</b> Previous Branch Colonel Commandant
C&E Branch Meet and Greet	<b>Lieutenant Myung Won Lee</b> 77 Line Regiment, 1 Line Sqn Operations Officer

C&E Mess Dinner	Major Jeff LeBlanc         President of the Mess Committee         Master Warrant Officer Brett Hughes         Vice President of the Mess Committee
Working Groups	<b>Major Jack Shen</b> CFJSR – OC 1 Sqn

5. CMCEN registration portals for each registration-based event shall close on **Friday, 20 October 2023** by **1600 hours EDT** unless otherwise stated. This will provide CFSCE tech support staff sufficient time to prepare each MS Teams event and load-test equipment. The CMCEN link to C&E Week 2023 is here: <a href="https://cmcen-rcmce.ca/ce-week-2023/">https://cmcen-rcmce.ca/ce-week-2023/</a>.

6. In closing, I look forward to seeing many of you during this important Branch Event. Please contact my Branch Adjutant – or the event OPIs listed above – should you have any matters to discuss. Please ensure the widest distribution of this message, and the enclosures, throughout your organizations.

Velox Versutus Vigilans

Brigadier-General David Yarker Communications and Electronics Branch Leader

Annexes:

Annex A – C&E Week 2023 Schedule

Annex B - Directions to Carruthers Gravesite Ceremony

Annex C - Subalterns' & Sergeants' Indoctrination Programme 2023 Overview

Annex D - Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE 2023 Overview

Annex E - C&E Association 2023 Annual General Meeting Agenda

Annex F – C&E Family Update 2023 Overview

Distribution List

Information

C&E Branch Colonel-Commandant C&E Branch Advisor C&E Branch Adjutant C&E Branch Chief EA to DGIMO

Director Signals Canadian Army G6 RCCS Corps Chief

Strategic A6 1 CAD A6 ATIS Technician Senior Trade Advisor

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Comd CFIOG Formation Chief CFIOG

CO CFS Leitrim Station Chief CFS Leitrim

CO CFEWC Unit Chief CFEWC

CO CFNOC Unit Chief CFNOC

Comd 7 Comm Group Formation Chief 7 Comm Group

CO 76 Comm Regt RSM 76 Comm Regt

CO 77 Line Regt RSM 77 Line Regt

CANSOF J6

CJOC J6

CFJOSG J6

CO CFJSR DCO CFJSR RSM CFJSR

Cmdt CFSCE D Cmdt CFSCE SCWO CFSCE

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# C&E WEEK 2023 SCHEDULE

	Mon, 23 October 2023	<b>Т</b> UE, <b>24 О</b> СТОВЕ <b>R 2023</b>	WED, 25 OCTOBER 2023	<b>Тни, 26 Остовек 2023</b>	Fri, 27 October 2023	SAT/SUN 28-29 OCT 23
	Primarily VIRTUAL Delivery	Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE	Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE	Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE	Branch Working Groups	Branch Working Groups Presentations (Saturday Only)
	Sergeants' & Subalterns' Indoctrination	Sergeants' & Subalterns' Indoctrination	C&E Association PD Seminar	Branch Working Groups	G6 Conference	ARes G6 Conference
Morning (0800- 1200)	Branch Briefings: • Keynote • C&E Leadership	Veterans Breakfast		G6 Conference	Branch PD Session	G6 Conference
		Carruthers Gravesite Ceremony				
	Sergeants' & Subalterns' Indoctrination	Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE	Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE	Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE	C&E Senate Meeting	ARes G6 Conference
Afternoon (1300- 1600)	Branch Briefings: • Foundation Rep • Association Rep • Trade Advisors	Sergeants' & Subalterns' Indoctrination	C&E Association PD Seminar	Branch Working Groups	Branch Working Groups Assessments	G6 Conference
	<ul> <li>Branch H&amp;A</li> <li>Bursaries</li> <li>Commandant</li> </ul>	Veterans Visit to C&E Museum	C&E Association AGM	G6 Conference	G6 Conference	
Evening	C&E Association Meet and Greet (NCR - 1500 start)	Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE	Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE		C&E Combined Mess Dinner	
(1600+)			C&E Branch Meet and Greet			

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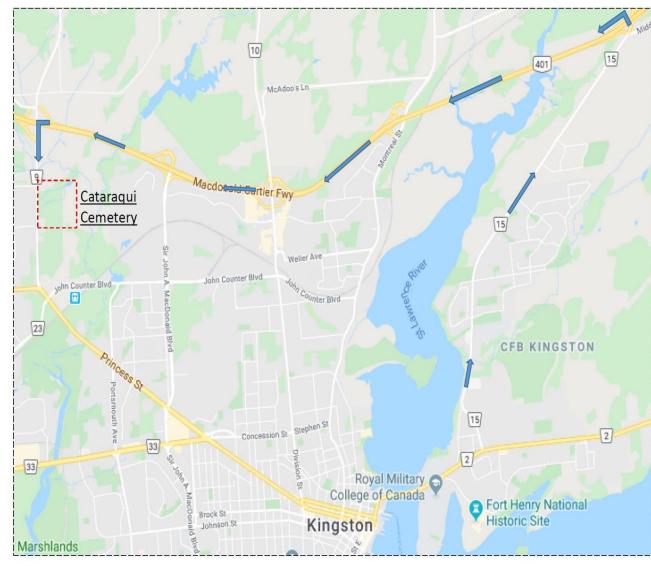
. 🔷 .	MAJOR CARRUTHERS GRAVESITE CEREMONY			
	• Venue:	Cataraqui Cemetery, 927 Purdy's Mill Road, Kingston, Ontario, K7M 3N1		
	o DTG:	Tuesday, 24 October 2023 from 1100-1200		
	o OPI:	MWO Mike Hogan, SSM 1 Sqn, CFJSR		
de	ARMY G6 AND ARES G6 CONFERENCES			
	• Venue:	CFB Kingston		
	o DTG:	26 October 2023 - 29 October 2023 from 0900 - 1600 hours (Reserve G6 on 28-29 Oct 23)		
N 1 X	o OPI:	Major Matthew Drover, RCCS Adjutant, CSN: 271-5183		
	RCAF A6 COMMUNITY ANNUAL PLANNING CONFERENCE (CAPCON) – (NOT LISTED IN C&E WEEK SCHEDULE)			
	• Venue:	17 Wing Winnipeg		
	• DTG:	Tuesday, 17 October 2023 – Thursday, 19 October 2023		
	• <b>OPI</b> :	Captain Patrick Smith, 1 Canadian Air Division A6, CSN 257-4553		
	Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE			
	• Venue:	CFSCE Building VC55		
	• DTG:	Tuesday, 24 October 2023 – Thursday, 26 October 2023 from 0900 – 1600+ hours		
	• <b>OPI</b> :	Lieutenant Chris Shurepa, 21 EW Regt, Assistant Adjt, Christian.shurepa@forces.gc.ca		
	SERGEANTS' & SUBALTERNS' INDOCTRINATION PROGRAMME			
	• Venue:	Vimy Officers Mess		
	• DTG:	Monday, 23 October 2023 – Wednesday, 25 October 2023 from 0800 – 1600 hours		
	• <b>OPI:</b>	Capt Michal Luczynski, CFJSR, D Regt Ops O, CSN: 271-5067		
	C&E Association PD and AGM			
	• Venue:	Vimy Officers Mess		
	• DTG:	Wednesday, 25 October 2023 from 0900 - 1700		
	o OPI:	Major-General(Ret) John Leech – C&E Association President		
	C&E ASSOCIATION MEET AND GREET (NCR)			
	• Venue:	CFS Leitrim All Ranks Mess		
	o DTG:	Monday, 23 October 2023 from 1500-1700		
	o OPI:	Major-General(Ret) John Leech – C&E Association President		
dia	<b>C&amp;E BRANCH MEET</b>			
	• Venue:	Vimy Officers Mess		
	• DTG:	Wednesday, 25 October 2023, 1830 for 1900		
	• <b>OPI</b> :	Vimy Officers' Mess PMC		
A A	<ul> <li>Dress:</li> </ul>	Mess-appropriate civilian attire (e.g.: business casual, no jeans)		
	C&E COMBINED MESS DINNER			
	• Venue:	Vimy Officers' Mess, CFB Kingston		
	• DTG:	Thursday, 27 October 2023, 1830 for 1900		
•	• <b>OPI</b> :	Maj Jeff LeBlanc – CFSCE / CSN 271-5266		

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	VETERANS DAY – 24 OCTOBER         o       Venue:       Vimy Officers' Mess, Vimy Gate, C&E Museum, CFB Kingston         o       DTG:       Tuesday, 24 October 2023         o       OPI:       Brigadier-General (Ret) Kevin O'Keefe
	C&E BRANCH FAMILY UPDATE AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS         o       Venue:       Vimy Officers Mess         o       DTG:       Monday, 23 October 2023 from 0900 – 1600 hours         o       OPI:       Major Gavin Ellis – C&E Branch Adjutant
(A)	C&E BRANCH WORKING GROUPS         •       Venue:       Vimy Officers Mess         •       DTG:       Thursday, 26 October 2023 - Saturday, 28 October 2023         •       OPI:       Major Jack Shen - CFJSR / 1 Squadron / Officer Commanding, CSN 271-5064

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### DIRECTIONS TO CARRUTHERS GRAVESITE CEREMONY



#### DIRECTIONS

Hwy 15 N to Highway 401 Exit West bound to Toronto.

Highway 401 Westbound To Hwy 9 (Sydenham Road – Exit 613)

Hwy 9 (Sydenham Road S) to Spruce Ave Cataraqui Cemetery

#### PARKING

There is a small parking area on the exterior of the cemetery on the east side of Sydenham Road just south of the Spruce Ave entrance.

Parking is permitted along side roadways inside the cemetery, however, stay left to leave the roadways clear to other traffic.

#### \*IMPORTANT\*

There are a number of monuments in close proximity to the sides of the road-ways. Care to be taken inside the cemetery while parking.

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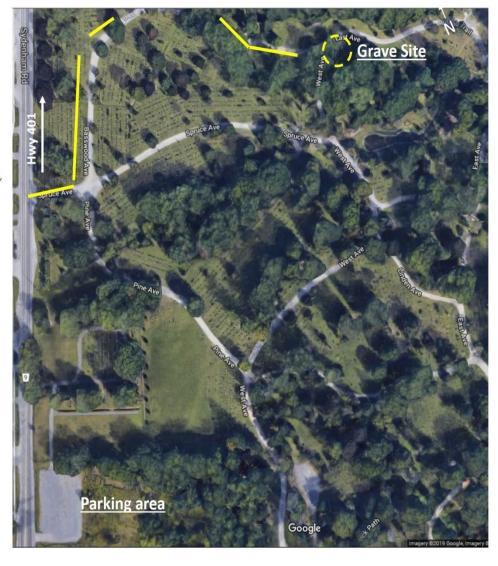


### **DIRECTIONS IN CEMETERY**

 $1^{\rm st}-$  Enter cemetery from Sydenham Road on to Spruce Ave. This is the northern most entrance.

2<sup>nd</sup> – Turn left onto Basswood Ave just inside the gate.

3<sup>rd</sup> – Follow Basswood Ave to the T- intersection of Basswood, West and East Avenues. The grave site is located south of East Ave.



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# SUBALTERNS' & SERGEANTS' INDOCTRINATION PROGRAMME 2023

1. The Subalterns' & Sergeants' Indoctrination Programme for 2023 will merge both audiences into a single lesson plan. The concept this year is twofold: first – to expose our NCOs and junior officers to a range of experiences from senior-ranking authorities who recently deployed and who occupy positions several tiers above the students. Second, the course shall immerse the students into Branch / Corps history, define the roles & responsibilities of our Branch Leadership, and impart lessons about protocol, heritage, and custom.

2. Command Teams will carefully select student nominees who hold a reputation as positive change agents and respected emerging leaders who can be trusted to publish lesson materials throughout their respective units in future PD sessions.

3. <u>Course Officer</u>. The course officer is Captain Michal Luczynski Deputy Ops O Canadian Forces Joint Signals Regiment. He will work with a Senior NCM who is yet to be nominated. Joining Instructions (JI) shall be released in due time. POC details are:

- a. Captain Michal Luczynski. CSN 271-3553; and
- b. Senior NCM TBD.

4. <u>Course Administration</u>. A detailed set of JI is forthcoming to expound on the course content and administrative details required for students and staff. Below is a basic overview of course management:

- a. <u>Venue</u>. Vimy Officers Mess and virtually via *MS Teams* (login information forthcoming by the Course Director);
- b. <u>DTG</u>. From 0900 hours to approximately 1615 hours starting on Monday, 23 October 2023, and concluding on Wednesday, 25 October 2023;
- c. <u>Registration</u>. Staff / Lecturers will be contacted directly by the Course Officer. Students shall register on CMCEN (<u>https://cmcen-rcmce.ca/ce-week-2023/</u>) and, as stated in the parent instructions, must receive endorsement from their CO / RSM (or equivalent). Authorized students must register on CMCEN under the Post: *Subalterns' & Sergeants' Indoctrination Programme 2023*. Registration closed on closes Friday, 20 October 2023 at 1600 hours EDT;
- d. <u>Rations & Quarters</u>. Units will be responsible for arranging R&Q for their members who will be attending in person; virtual attendance is supported for those not in the Kingston area. The course director shall provide details SEPCOR (Separate Correspondence); and

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5. <u>Instructors and Lessons</u>. The course breakdown – with lecturers – will be published soonest.

6. <u>Students Seating Allocations</u>. To enable a more collaborative environment, the course is limited to maximize the online attendance of 75 personnel although the Course Director will determine if additional seats can be made available. As stated, the student composition shall be made up of Lieutenants, Second-Lieutenants, Sergeants, and those Master Corporals set for promotion within the next 12 months.

7. Schedule: will be published soonest.

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# EXERCISE NOBLE SKYWAVE 2023 OVERVIEW

1. 21 Electronic Warfare Regiment (21 EW Regt), on behalf of the C&E Branch, will conduct Ex NOBLE SKYWAVE 2023 (Ex NS 23) during this year's C&E Week. The exercise will establish voice and data links between domestic and international teams via High Frequency (HF) Skywave propagation.

2. This exercise will again take the form of a competition, with participating teams earning points for successful contact with each other. The scoring system will resemble previous years, with teams scoring points based on the number and distance of successful connections. During the competition, teams shall be responsible for their respective broadcast detachments, stations, sites, and personnel. Prospective teams must register using the registration portal at https://nobleskywave.ca/ before the deadline of 18 000Z October 2023.

3. Participation. All Regular, Reserve, or Auxiliary Force units are invited to participate with HF radio communications from Canada, Peru, FVEY and NATO partners, and other friendly nations. Members of the Canadian Forces Affiliate Radio System (CFARS) and the US Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) are also invited to participate.

4. The event OIC will distribute official documents for the exercise via email as they become available. They will also be made available on the Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE website, found at https://nobleskywave.ca/. CEOIs shall be distributed to registered teams and made available on the Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE website and web app.

5. Contact Information is as follows:

- a. Officer In Charge (OIC) / Exercise Coordinator: Lieutenant Chris Shurepa, 21 EW Regt, +1 613-541-5010 extension 2681, <u>christian.shurepa@forces.gc.ca</u>; and
- b. Chief Communications Operator (CCO): Warrant Officer Francois Gariepy, CFJSR, +1 613-541-5010 extension 2735, <u>francois.gariepy@forces.gc.ca</u>

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# C&E ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

1. <u>Location</u>: Meeting to be held virtually via MS Teams based on Kingston, ON. MS Teams login info for the meeting will be published via CMCEN and other means before the AGM.

- 2. <u>Date</u>: 25 Oct 2023.
- 3. <u>Time</u>: 15:45 hrs Eastern Daylight Savings Time.

### 4. <u>Agenda Details:</u>

- a. Call To Order;
- b. Opening Remarks;

#### c. Reports:

- i. Association activities Chair;
- ii. Financial Treasurer; and
- iii. Appointment of Auditor.

## d. New Business;

- i. Approval of Board Nominations as necessary.
- e. Any Other Business; and
- f. Adjournment.

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# C&E FAMILY UPDATE 2023 OVERVIEW

1. The C&E Branch Keynote Address, Branch Leadership Panel and Branch Family Update session will kickoff of C&E Week 2023. This event aims to address the wider C&E community on issues, challenges, and opportunities facing our Branch and our founding services. Additionally, it provides a fitting venue to recognize our members through honours, awards, and educational bursaries.

2. <u>Venue</u>. Vimy Officers Mess and via MS Teams on **Monday**, 23 October 2023, from 0900-1630 hours EDT.

Τορις	Speaker   Presenter	Time Segment
Opening Remarks, Introductions, and Highlights	Colonel John Roper	0900-0904
Keynote address	TBD	0905-1000
Health Break		1000-1020
Branch Leadership Address	Brigadier-General Josée Robidoux (Ret'd) Brigadier-General David Yarker Chief Warrant Officer Alex Arndt	1020-1030
Branch Leadership Panel	Brigadier-General Josée Robidoux (Ret'd) Brigadier-General David Yarker Chief Warrant Officer Alex Arndt	1030-1130
Lunch		1130-1300
C&E Branch Family Update Introductions	Colonel John Roper	1300-1305
RCCS State-of-the-Trade	Colonel Walter Jull	1305-1320
RCAF C&E State-of-the-Trade	Colonel Guy Parisien	1320-1340
CFIOG SIGINT & Cyber State-of-the-Trade	Colonel Corey Crosby	1340-1400
CJOC J6 Update	Colonel Scott Gillingham	1400-1420
CANSOF J6 Update	TBD	1420-1440
Comd 7 Communication Group Update	Colonel Francois Robichaud	1440-1500
Health Break		1500-1515
Awards/Commendation Subaltern and Member of the Year Awards	Brigadier-General Josée Robidoux (Ret'd) Brigadier-General David Yarker Chief Warrant Officer Alex Arndt	1515-1530
C&E Association Update	Major-General John Leech (Ret'd)	1530-1545
C&E Foundation Update	Scott McLean	1545-1600
Home Station Commandant's Address	Lieutenant-Colonel Geneviève Audet	1600-1620
Closing Remarks	Colonel Roper	1620-1625

3. <u>Agenda Items</u>. The C&E Family Update will consist of the following briefings:

4. Please visit CMCEN (Canadian Military Communications & Electronics Network) to find the MS Teams link. Registration is not required. The link goes live on the morning of 23 October. Look under the C&E Week 2023 sub-site or search the news & events feed for the *C&E FAMILY UPDATE 2023* post on https://cmcen-rcmce.ca/ce-week-2023/.