

The Cable



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The Command Team Corner



LCol J.Y.A. Côté, CO



CWO Dennis Taylor, RSM

77 Line Regiment,

While the unit has remained very busy and handled the heavy continuous workload, 77 Line Regiment Command Team is extremely proud of the commitment, determination and professionalism that all members and employees have displayed at all levels.

It is important to remember our collective successes over the past few months, domestically and abroad. While maintaining a challenging operational rhythm of generating Line Crews for multiple rotations for Op IMPACT, Op REASSURANCE, our work did not go unnoticed. Task Force Latvia Line Technicians Section recognized to be “Best Team” and received the Task Force Latvia Commander Award. Many other Line Technicians also received Commander’s coin. Well done to all!

In addition, the unit successfully supported key initiatives highlighted by multiple augmentations for RDS installations, the conduct of the CASIM courses and a CFS Alert cable audit. Meanwhile, our 77 Line Regiment Inclusivity Advisory Committee was able to share their immense success with LGen Carrigan, the Chief Professional Conduct and Culture. Because of their tremendous work, 77 Line Regiment is leading the way for unit culture change and we stand ready to help others... as this is only the beginning. The perseverance and dedication to assist every member of this regiment is admirable.

With the reopening and the lessening of travel restrictions, the Regiment Command Team was able and honoured to visit all Squadrons across the country. 2 Line Squadron gave us the opportunity to realize how physically demanding it can be to execute Line Technician daily tasks.

While I can fully appreciate how hard it is to climb a pole line, it is nothing compared to the mental resilience required to figure out how to climb back down that same pole, while avoiding having another Line Technician practicing his pole rescue skills! At the end of all those visits, many Base Command Teams better understand our purpose and while there are still many bases to visits, we are definitely on the right path to reinforce our strong relationships everywhere.

As we enter the summer period, we need to all take well-deserved rest with our respective family and friends. Their importance is paramount and remains the unsung heroes behind all of our accomplishments. Without their understanding, sacrifice and cooperation, we would not be successful, both in our personal and professional lives. 77 Line Regiment is, and will remain, the “flagship” of all CAF Line Technicians, which includes our respective families and friends.



CWO Taylor receiving a lesson in how to climb from members of 2 Line Sqn LLWC Valcartier

Inclusiveness Advisory Committee

The regimental Inclusivity Advisory Committee, formed in November 2021, aligned with the CO’s intent to create a committee which would advise the chain of command in respect to inclusiveness initiatives and their implementation and associated challenges. It is formed entirely of volunteers and has been initially organized into four subcommittees; each one tasked to address a specific goal. The CO had presented seven initial goals to the Inclusiveness Committee which were felt would benefit the Regiment. A decision was made to initially focus on four of the seven goals.

The first subcommittee is working on the development of a 77 Line Regiment Inclusiveness Policy. The policy is intended to comprehensively define inclusivity and diversity within the context of the Regiment. Its aim is to clarify the definitions and strategic level direction and guidance being provided by the DND and the CAF into Regimental behavioral and tactical level expectations and requirements, at the subunit and individual level, in order to enhance and implement inclusivity. From the outset, the subcommittee has been heavily focused upon

research—reading and analysing a breadth of information from sources, including but not limited to: the CAF Ethos, CAO 11-82 Hateful Conduct, the DND and CF Code of Values and Ethics, and a variety of civilian organizations and provincial and federal documentation.

The Inclusiveness Policy subcommittee has focussed their efforts to create a policy which is easy to read and to understand by all of the members and various ranks of the Regiment. It is intended to be a “one-stop shop” for all frequent questions and interpretations of policy. As of today, the first draft has been written and minor editing is being completed. Once the final draft has been approved it will be sent for translation to ensure the content and information is available in both official languages.

The second subcommittee’s goal is to create a comprehensive map of all of the 77 Line Regiment’s detachment HQs, squadron HQs, and antennae sites correlated, as accurately as possible, with respect to the indigenous first nations land claims across Canada. The creation of a land acknowledgement map showing our

connection with Canadian First Nation Communities through acknowledgement of their land claims seemed a relatively simple task on the surface, but has proven to be difficult to adequately define the scope due to the multitude of conflicting and contested land claims in many areas. The conflicting information and sources make it a difficult task to determine which claims should be recognized in order to support the goal of contributing towards real, meaningful relationships with the First Nations, Inuit, and Metis people upon whose ancestral land we live and work.

The land acknowledgment subcommittee has liaised with a variety of indigenous persons and aboriginal advisory groups for guidance, such as the Defence Aboriginal Advisory Group (DAAG), Maj Gen St-Louis, the Office of the Commissioner of Indigenous Languages, and more. Their goal is to have the initial land map created by 30 Sep 22, the recognized National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.



77 Line Regt Inclusivity Advisory Committee is liaising with DAAG to create a comprehensive indigenous first nations land map that includes all 77 Line Regt HQ and Det locations

The third subcommittee's goal is to advise the chain of command of potential ways that 77 Line Regiment policies could be better aligned with Employment Equity and Diversity directives. Its aim is to establish and implement innovative and dynamic inclusivity and diversity oriented initiatives Regiment-wide, in order to bolster our resilience and strengthen our contributions to CAF cultural change initiatives. The subcommittee has identified three initial lines of effort: creating a foundation for an inclusive, diverse, and professional working environment within the Line Tech trade; developing strategies to reinforce, in all members of the Regiment, that everyone should be respected for their individual contributions and beliefs, and that stereotypes and biases should be avoided; and training and

education in ways to apply and reinforce diversity and inclusiveness in the daily operations of the Regiment.

The first line of effort has focussed on trying to create a sense of loyalty to the recent "Line Tech" designation as was embraced in the past by the legacy "Lineman 052" trade designation. Some of the ways to achieve this includes initiatives such as Regimental beautyfication, the updating of the Regimental online kit shop merchandise, and creating relationships and liaising with the Canadian Forces School of Communications and Electron-ics (CFSCE), brigades, and other units to develop a collaborative "cradle to grave" approach for rebranding the Line Tech trade.



Examples of the new 77 Line Regt kit shop merchandise

The second line of effort has adopted an educational focus and sought opportunities to educate members on the varied demographics represented within 77 Line Regiment and the Defence Team as a whole. A brief has been designed that targets mid- to high-level management. It examines historic discriminatory policies within the CAF and Defence Team, such as but not limited to examples like, the "fruit machine", the CRA 60 mandatory retirement policy, and the 'universality of service' definitions in respect to a peacetime force. Its goal is to challenge assumptions and generate discussions that could lead to positive change. Finally, the third line of effort seeks to dispel the rumours and fears that inclusiveness could be used as a venue for job action and affirmative action agendas. The end result is the creation of a briefing generic enough that it could be made available to other

units or organizations, such as the Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School (CFLRS) and CFSCE.

Last but not least, the fourth subcommittee is tasked to advise on adaptations and ways that 77 Line Regiment specifically can accomplish to provide a more inclusive workplace, instilling a renewed sense of ownership and pride within all members of 77 Line Regiment as being a part of the Canadian Armed Forces.

The subcommittee has determined that having a real sense of pride and of being a part of a team, both within small teams such as detachments or squadrons, and within the larger teams such as the CAF or Defence Team, may be the strongest factor in fostering an inclusive environment. Joining a team allows members to be a part of something greater than themselves, and being and feeling that they are a true part of that team is crucial to ensuring mission success and job satisfaction.

The subcommittee has to date made several suggestions and adaptations for consideration. These include: the creation of more opportunities for members to get to know each other in a more casual setting, such as through sports or adventure training, to decrease individual barriers and reduce potential stereotypes; a focus on education rather than punishment for members who may have made an honest mistake with no ill intent; and improving information access for all members of the Regiment, at all levels of command, through the creation of a Regimental website hosted on the Internet rather than a defence network. Furthermore, they have brought forth suggestions to facilitate the creation of bonds within the team through initiatives such as ‘shadowing Line Techs for a day’, and actively seeking input from all team members through the creation of a Regiment-wide survey. The Regiment is composed of a variety of military trades, civilian public servants, and contractors. The survey will enable all members to share their perspective and feel a part of the larger team.

The Inclusiveness Advisory Committee is a pilot project within the Regiment and one of the first of its kind within the CAF. Nobody, not even ourselves, knew what heights could be reached in such a short period of time. The

committee has briefed CAF and DND senior leadership at many levels, sharing the committee’s successes and challenges. The Inclusivity Advisory Committee continues to lean forward and overcome adversity. The commitment and work by the committee is filling an important gap within the CAF, and the 77 Line Regiment is finding its own way forward.

As the Inclusiveness Committee advances its goals, it must endeavor to maintain a sharing and collaborative relationship by sharing the products it creates with other units and organizations outside the Regiment. This will ensure solutions are not found or implemented in isolation, but instead shared with the wider CAF and DND community.



On 17 May 22, members of 77 Line Regt – 3 Line Sqn raised the PRIDE flag to show support to the LGBTQ2+ community

Operations

Op REASSURANCE 22-01

By MCpl Trylinski

Op REASSURANCE Latvia ROTO 17, 22-01, started off with a lot of chaos, right from the beginning of deployment. CFTPO dates kept changing, and the final date for the main body ended up being 11 Dec 21. Sgt Grenier was on the advance party, showing up 02 Dec 21. By 12 Dec 21 the line shop was complete, composed of: LCF Sgt Grenier, 2IC MCpl Trylinski, and crew members Cpl Dionne, Cpl Donovan, Cpl Laidley and Cpl Larose. Most of ROTO 16 was already gone, so it was a quick handover to the base. We relied on their very detailed handover notes to locate all cabling and closets as well as learn how to program a system new to all of us: the PBX, a new switch that you program all the base locals on. We celebrated Christmas and New Year's as a new family.



Line crew receiving Christmas socks from WO McQuay. Front Row: Cpl Dionne, Cpl Larose, Cpl Laidley. Middle Row: WO Taylor, Cpl Donovan. Back Row: MCpl Trylinski, Sgt Grenier

Over the duration of ROTO 17, 22-01, the line crew completed more than 100 work tickets all over the base for all nations. With the increased tensions in Europe, most NATO contingents increased their military personnel. The base went from 1000 members to over 3500 members. Due to this, the line crew conducted many new adds and moves throughout Camp Adazi in pre-existing buildings. They also performed several new copper and fibre installs in

new buildings throughout the base to accommodate all nations.



Cpl Larose & Cpl Laidley in Baltic Warrior

The assistance that Brigade line members Cpl Deschenes and Cpl Lapierre-Giroux provided us was very much appreciated. Their hard work and dedication helped make it possible to complete many tasks.

The hard work and long hours did not go unnoticed. Several members received awards, and the line crew earned the TFL Best Team Award, beating out all other units on Camp Adazi—including the Snipers, as mentioned twice by Col Cauden (more on page 32).

As the tour is coming to an end, we all look forward to reuniting with our families back in Canada and getting some well-deserved rest. From the TFL Best Team, stay safe, everyone.



Line crew after receiving their medals

Op IMPACT R7

By Sgt Demers

There was no shortage of projects during our stay in Kuwait. Our team, composed of MWO Villeneuve, Sgt Demers, MCpl McDonald and Corporals Tremblay and Maddigan, were assigned to several wiring installations with the addition of new buildings on Camp Canada. We also provided support on other bases that the mission supports. It should be noted that Op IMPACT's area of responsibility includes 6 countries: Kuwait, Iraq, Qatar, Jordan, Lebanon and Bahrain.

Dès notre arrivée, nous avons procédé avec l'installation de câble pour les nouvelles roulottes du commandant FOI (I) et commandant adjoint. On a ensuite poursuivi avec celles du lien national arrière (National Rear Link), du Padre ainsi que du nouveau gym. Entre-temps, le démantèlement complet de toute l'infrastructure de communication du Camp Érable en Erbil, Irak, fut effectué par notre équipe. Il ne faudrait pas aussi oublier les améliorations de structure de câbles sur les emplacements au Qatar et à UIII, Bagdad, aussi accomplies par nos membres.



Cpl Maddigan & Cpl Tremblay, splicing during a maintenance project at Camp Canada

En dehors des multiples projets prévus tout au long de cette mission, nous avons trouvé le temps de profiter de quelques activités sur le camp. Plusieurs événements sportifs ont eu lieu comme des tournois de volleyball, de hockey et de soccer; sans oublier la fameuse marche DANCON de 25 km dans le désert, organisé par les Danois, excellent moyen de garder le moral tout en restant concentré sur la mission.

Bravo Zulu à la section des lignes pour l'obtention du coin de la part du SOF pour avoir réparé et fourni des liens de fibres opérationnels.



Kuwait Line Installation Team, 2022

Ex TRADEWINDS 2022

By Capt Locke, 2IC 5 Line Sqn

Exercise TRADEWINDS is an annual exercise held in the Caribbean, hosted by a different nation each year. TRADEWINDS 2022 (TW22), held in Belize and Mexico 07-21 May 22, was a Caribbean-focused multidimensional exercise conducted in the ground, air, sea and cyber domains. TW22 provided the over 20 participating nations with opportunities to conduct joint, combined and interagency training focused on increasing regional cooperation in complex multinational security operations.

I was fortunate to receive an invite from the Canadian Army's 5th Division in Atlantic Canada to attend the exercise as a J6 (Communications) Mentor within the Caribbean Task Force (CTF) Headquarters. The role of the Mentor Team was to instruct the CTF HQ staff on the Operational Planning Process (OPP), then coach the staff through two complete planning cycles. The instructional portion was conducted over one week, with demonstrations provided for each step of OPP as well as for war games. The following two weeks were designed for the CTF HQ to maintain command and control of the Task Force, while planning and executing two future operations.



Capt Locke instructing CTF HQ staff on the OPP

Though the location was fantastic, this was a challenging exercise on various fronts. At the Canadian Army Staff College, Canadian Army Officers learn the OPP during a 3-month residency on campus at Fort Frontenac as part of the Army Operations Course (AOC). For TW22, our team was given one week to teach the process,

with the output of a complete set of orders to launch the ground, sea and air elements in the conduct of their operations (training tracks). With an experienced team, and having just completed AOC myself, we were able to effectively deliver the training, conduct the demonstrations and produce the initial set of orders. Fitting with the times, we then had a wave of COVID-19 strike through the exercise. Though there were no serious cases, both the Mentor Team and CTF HQ lost a number of staff due to isolation requirements. Luckily from the training perspective, we only lost the second planning cycle and were able to pick up planning for the third. Powering through the delays, the CTF HQ were able to fully adopt the OPP and plan through a set of challenging scenarios focused on criminal activity in the Caribbean, something very real to many of the participating nations.

This exercise was a fantastic opportunity, not only due to the amazing location, but also to develop myself as an officer in the Canadian Army by utilizing the skills I've learned on AOC. The CTF HQ and sub-unit Maritime, Land and Air HQs were comprised of staff from over 20 nations. I was able to both instruct and participate in the planning and execution of operations in a large and truly diverse Joint, Interagency, Multinational, Public (JIMP) environment. If given the opportunity to participate in this exercise, I recommend you take it, as there is no better way to improve interoperability with allied and partner nations while developing your own knowledge and skill.



Capt Locke on parade during TW22

TRADEWINDS 2023 is currently scheduled for spring 2023 in Guyana.

Regional

1 Line Squadron

NLWC by OCdt Nuncio-Painchaud

As the sole National Line Work Center (NLWC), 1 Line Squadron (1 Line) performs all major 3rd line maintenance and installations across Canada and OUTCAN operations. 1 Line's unparalleled devotion to these key projects provides essential support to Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) communications infrastructure and equipment. Over the course of the last year, 1 Line has sent various crews and personnel to service and support multiple locations. These crews travelled to Alert, Iqaluit, Aldergrove, Matsqui, Mill Cove, Goose Bay and Suffield, among others. The crews provided indispensable cable and antenna repairs, servicing and installs to support and maintain our operational communications needs.

The antenna projects that 1 Line undertakes are mainly on infrastructure employed by the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) and Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). Our antenna fields are designed to withstand the harsh Canadian climate, but nothing remains untouched; time and weather erode the quality of our antenna infrastructure and equipment. Through January, February and early March, two antenna crews deployed to British Columbia. One crew worked to repair some HF Omnidirectional LPH-89J antennas situated at the Matsqui transmitter site, which are needed to directly support the RCAF



Removing boom arms of LPH-89J in preparation for a rotator replacement

and maintain contact with aircraft. Due to the area's mountainous terrain, these antennas help broadcast/relay frequencies that would otherwise get lost.

Simultaneously, 1 Line's second antenna crew was working at the Aldergrove receiver site (Matsqui's sister site). They worked on replacing damaged baluns on a 780-3 antenna cluster that was operating at a mere 50% efficiency and restored it to 100% efficiency. This site serves as a receiver site for aircrafts in the area and, in conjunction with its sister site, serves as an essential relay to surmount local geographic obstacles. Work on these two sites earned both crews CO commendations and coins from the Base Information Services Commander Paul Frisby.



Lighting kit installation and balun replacement in Aldergrove

During the month of October, an antenna crew was sent to Iqaluit, NU, for emergency repairs on two essential communication towers that are strategically important to Canadian national security and used by the Canadian Forces Information Operations Group (CFIOG). These repairs were necessary as the towers operate to maintain communications with our RCAF and RCN assets, and help maintain our claim on northern sovereignty.

1 Line cable crews were also hard at work. Mainly, one crew went to CFS Alert in order to maintain and upgrade cable infrastructure in direct support to Sig Int operations. They also provided quality-of-life upgrades by adding cable

drops in living quarters for deployed CAF personnel. 1 Line regularly visits CFS Alert to provide maintenance on their equipment and perform needed repairs due to the harsh seasonal changes.

Another cable crew was sent to upgrade outdated cabling at CFB Suffield. The crew worked diligently to install over 12 km of fibre across the base and into over 20 buildings. The replacement of copper cabling with fibre eliminated all risks of sparking and security risks to the ammo depots and the base's infrastructure.



Suffield fibre splicing

1 Line, as a NLWC, consistently provides necessary repairs, installs and upgrades directly affecting CAF communications infrastructure and needs. Their services are essential to maintaining our antenna fleet operationally viable and conserving our communications infrastructure in the 21st century.

2^e Escadron des Lignes

CTLL Bagotville par Cplc Larocque

L'hiver 2022 a apporté son lot de défis avec les abondantes précipitations de neige. Notre Centre de Travail des Lignes Local (CTLL) ne fut pas épargné, puisque le terminal d'une fibre optique d'une importance opérationnelle majeure a été endommagé durant une opération de déneigement près du tarmac à la BFC Bagotville. Le cplc Larocque, le cpl Brabant et le cpl Cyr se sont rendus sur les lieux de l'événement et ont

constaté que le câble était irréparable et qu'il ne pouvait pas être remplacé sans excaver, puisqu'il était directement enfoui sous terre.

Dû à la proximité du tarmac et des avions passants, le câble temporaire de type TFOCA ne pouvait pas être simplement déposé sur le sol. L'équipe a utilisé le système de puits d'accès télécom pour éloigner le câble de la zone passante des aéronefs. Une fois l'obstacle des avions surpassé, le câble a pu facilement être mené jusqu'au bâtiment nécessitant la connexion en longeant la clôture. Après 8 longues heures à travailler sans relâche à une température environnante de -30 °C, l'équipe a finalement réussi à rétablir la connexion essentielle au bon fonctionnement des opérations prioritaires de la 3^e Escadre.

Avec la fonte des neiges et les excavations plus facilement exécutables, les travaux pour le remplacement du câble ont débuté. En étant supportés par le détachement des opérations immobilières (DOI), les membres du CTLL ont installé une fibre optique permanente en conformité avec les normes. Ils se sont également assuré que ce type de bris ne se reproduise plus en éliminant l'utilisation du terminal entre le puits d'accès et le bâtiment.



Excavations pour le remplacement du câble

CTLL Montréal par Cplc Mathurin

Récemment, je me suis présenté dans un local de la bâtisse L-193 (Quartier Général de la 2^e Division) sur la garnison de Longue-Pointe à Montréal pour effectuer une visite de reconnaissance des lieux suivant une demande d'installation de câbles de type cuivre. Naturellement, l'officier qui se trouvait sur place me posa quelques questions en rapport avec ma visite. Voyant «77^e Lignes» sur mon insigne de grade, il a voulu connaître le nom de mon métier. Il m'a confié que c'était la première fois qu'il voyait cet insigne. N'ayant pas eu la possibilité d'informer cette personne comme je l'aurais souhaité, je vais profiter de l'occasion pour faire une brève description du Centre de Travail Local des Lignes (CTLL) de Montréal.

Technicien de Lignes est le nom de mon métier. L'équipe est composée du sgt Marc-André Nault, du cplc Donald Mathurin et du cpl Maxime Dubois, tous membres du 77^e Régiment des Lignes, ainsi que de M. Robert Lepage et de M. Michael Gaumont, qui travaillent sous la gouvernance de Services Partagés Canada (SPC). Préalablement, le ministère de la Défense nationale (MDN) avait la responsabilité d'installer et d'effectuer la maintenance du réseau de câblage de télécommunications non seulement sur toutes les bases militaires du pays, mais aussi sur les camps canadiens se trouvant outremer. Or, depuis la création de SPC en 2011, cette responsabilité leur a été transférée. Conséquemment, les militaires ont graduellement commencé à perdre certaines habiletés et connaissances du métier. Donc pour contrer la problématique, une entente a été conclue entre le MDN et SPC afin de permettre aux Techs de Lignes militaires de recommencer à travailler sur les infrastructures de télécommunication afin de maintenir leurs savoir-faire aiguisés.

Quelles sont les fonctions d'un Tech de Lignes? L'extension de nos tâches varie d'une unité à une autre. Certaines places demandent aux membres du métier d'installer des puits d'accès, de construire des tours

de communication et de planter des poteaux pour ensuite grimper ces structures dans le but d'installer la quincaillerie, incluant le câblage qui permettra d'établir une communication entre deux points. Ici, dans la région de Montréal, avec l'infrastructure déjà en place, notre mandat est de veiller au bon fonctionnement du réseau de télécommunication en effectuant une maintenance annuelle. Donc, nous accédons à tous les puits d'accès, toutes les bâtisses et toutes les salles de télécommunication de la garnison de Longue-Pointe et des manèges militaires. Nous sommes entre autres responsables de Saint-Hubert, Nicolet, Drummondville, Saint-Hyacinthe et Rouyn-Noranda et nous produisons des certificats de localisation lors de travaux d'excavation. D'autant plus, nous sommes ceux que vous appelez lorsque vous emménagez dans un nouveau local pour l'installation de nouvelles prises de DWAN ou de téléphone.

En tant que militaire, notre but primaire est la génération de la force. Nous pouvons être appelés à déployer n'importe quand, donc la présence du personnel de SPC devient alors une nécessité car elle permet d'établir une continuité de service en tout temps. Certes, notre équipe est petite, mais elle est soudée et ensemble nous accomplissons de grandes choses.



*De gauche à droite: M. Michael Gaumont, M. Robert Lepage, cplc Donald Mathurin
En avant: cpl Maxime Dubois. Absent de la photo: sgt Marc-André Nault*

CTLL Ottawa par Cpl Pelletier

Les jours se suivent mais ne se ressemblent pas au Centre de Travail Local des Lignes (CTLL) Ottawa. Depuis le début de l'année 2022, les équipes travaillent sans relâche afin de répondre aux nombreuses requêtes des clients qui dépassent déjà les 200 demandes en 5 mois seulement. La majeure partie de notre service est consacré au « *Cable up / Cable down* » dans notre jargon de Technicien de Lignes. C'est-à-dire qu'Ottawa est le paradis du remodelage des cubicules. Chaque commandant entrant propose un nouveau plan de répartition des bureaux afin d'augmenter la performance ou de faciliter le travail de ses employés. Chaque fois qu'une demande de cette sorte nous parvient, nous devons nous assurer que nos câbles ne seront pas endommagés; nous devons donc les mettre dans l'entre-toit pendant le réaménagement et ensuite les remettre à leur place. Une autre partie importante de nos tâches consiste à l'installation de nouveaux câbles dans les salles de communication et chaque fois qu'une unité change de bâtiment ou de plancher. Nous sommes parfois avisés à la dernière minute d'un tel changement et nous devons donc travailler sous pression afin que la tâche soit livrée à temps.

L'une des responsabilités du CTLL Ottawa sur son territoire est l'entretien du secteur d'entraînement de Connaught Range. L'une de nos dernières réalisations importantes a été la maintenance annuelle des 5 km de « *Pole Line* » du secteur d'entraînement. Cette tâche est l'une des plus intéressantes et elle nous permet de sortir au grand air. La photo ci-dessous démontre nos Techniciens de Lignes en train de faire ladite inspection. Celle-ci n'a pas connu un hiver très doux; un boîtier d'épissure s'était ouvert et certaines ligatures des sections de la ligne de poteaux se sont brisées, ce qui a fait en sorte que notre équipe qui s'occupait de cette maintenance devait prendre action rapidement afin que les opérations du secteur d'entraînement demeurent toujours fonctionnelles.



Techniciens de Lignes inspectant la « Pole Line » à Connaught Range

Au cours du mois de mars 2022, trois membres de notre CTLL ont été envoyés sur un cours de perfectionnement à Candiac. La formation SPRAT (Society of Professional Rope Access Technicians) permet aux Techniciens de Lignes de connaître de nouvelles techniques de sauvetage en hauteur et de perfectionner les techniques qu'ils connaissent déjà. Advenant une situation d'urgence en hauteur à Ottawa, nos membres seraient prêts à répondre à l'appel. Cette formation permet aussi de développer de nouvelles techniques sur le soulèvement de charge importante par une seule personne. Ce cours est une grande exigence pour le corps humain sur toutes ses facettes.

En résumé, nous consacrons notre temps à supporter notre base qui est localisée dans plus de 200 bâtiments du gouvernement. La région d'Ottawa est particulière, de même que la façon dont l'ensemble du câblage a été faite. Certaines fibres optiques partent d'un sous-sol jusqu'au 17^e étage comme c'est le cas au NDHQ Pearkes ou encore elles relient des bâtiments entre eux. Il est toujours intéressant de voir comment chaque édifice est construit et nous réserve chaque fois des surprises insoupçonnées; ce qui nous donne un défi supplémentaire pour effectuer nos travaux.

CTLL Valcartier par Cpl Genest

Tout le monde le sait, les secteurs d'entraînement de la BFC Valcartier sont énormément utilisés par les unités. Plusieurs fois par année, celles-ci organisent des exercices de champs de tir, des cours de métier et des cours de conduite pour les différents véhicules utilisés par les FAC quotidiennement. Avec autant de mouvement, on peut s'attendre malheureusement à des incidents et des accidents qui peuvent être éloignés de toute civilisation et de tout réseau cellulaire. C'est pourquoi 22 téléphones d'urgence sont en contact permanent avec le CTSE (Champs de tirs et secteurs d'entraînement) et la centrale d'urgence. Ces téléphones ont été placés à des endroits stratégiques pour assurer une ligne directe en cas de besoin.



Réparation de téléphone d'urgence par cpl Desmeules et cpl Tanskanen

Depuis plusieurs mois, un grand nombre de ces téléphones d'urgence étaient non fonctionnels. Avec le temps, certains téléphones ont été arrachés ou désactivés et d'autres ont subi des dommages dus aux conditions météorologiques difficiles du Québec. Il était primordial de rendre le système à nouveau opérationnel. Après que le CTSE a commandé les nouveaux appareils, le CTLL Valcartier a pu procéder à la réparation de 13 lignes et téléphones

d'urgence, ce qui a permis de rendre les secteurs d'entraînement beaucoup plus sécuritaires.

Le 11 et 12 mai dernier, nous avons reçu le Commandant Lcol Côté et le Sergent-major, l'adjuc Taylor du 77^e Regt des Lignes. Nous avons profité d'une visite de la Citadelle de Québec afin de leur présenter, sur le terrain, les embûches et la complexité que notre travail peut représenter dans un lieu historique de plus de 200 ans. Le Cmdt a démontré une grande volonté à augmenter le support au CTLL Valcartier afin de faciliter la coopération entre les organisations pour que les travaux s'exécutent plus rapidement.



Démonstration du cpl Savard d'un sauvetage en hauteur

maj Mesbahi-Amrani escalade un poteau téléphone



3 Line Squadron

RLWC Edmonton by Cpl Rodriguez

From 19 Apr to 12 May 22, Regional Line Work Centre (RLWC) Edmonton deployed to CFS Masset to conduct 2nd line antenna maintenance on the FRD-10 antenna structure, locally known as the Masset Elephant Cage according to the local community and Google Maps. This monolithic antenna structure was established in the 1940s as a high frequency (HF) intercept station and a relay station for ship-to-shore communications. The structure consists of two rings of HF antennae effectively covering 2-30 MHz, each ring having its own reflector screen that shields cross-interference. With a nominal range between 150-5000 kilometres, the FRD-10 is used to receive and triangulate HF transmissions in real time to determine the bearing and location of signals. Currently, it is widely used for search and rescue applications and monitoring naval forces on the Pacific Coast.



CFS Masset FRD-10 Elephant Cage

After a 2-day drive westward, followed by an 8-hour ferry ride, the crew was finally approaching Haida Gwaii Island. This is where Mile Zero, the Trans-Canada Hwy 16's most western point, is marked. Upon arrival to the town of Masset, the crew was promptly greeted by Bonnie, the owner of our accommodations and the sweetest person on the island. A tray of freshly

baked cinnamon buns was left for everyone to enjoy after the long 3-day journey. Once settled in, the crew took a drive down to CFS Masset where they were met by Sgt Woznow, the Det Commander, for a tour of the site. The line crew was welcomed by the Det staff and given outstanding support for the duration of the project.

During week one, the priority of work was with the monopoles, large ladder-like structures standing about 60-70 ft tall. Cpl Bui and Cpl Shurtleff climbed first in order to give a demonstration to the newer members of the team. As per usual, with their experience, they



Cpl O'Halloran climbing the monopoles

both made it seem simple. However, replacing all the broken wire strands on the rickety, gravity-defying structures is not an easy task.

The remainder of the project was prioritized to changing out the reflector screen copper leads on the 110-ft poles. This involved walking the wooden crossbeam, which can be described as a real-life "Richie's Plank Experience." All Cpls in the crew had the chance to climb the structure. The maintenance conducted during this job provided a significant improvement to the performance of this antenna site. The crew will likely be back to Masset before winter, to continue tackling the significant amounts of maintenance that this FRD-10 structure still requires. RLWC Edmonton was able to have a great impact on CFS Masset's operational capacity, but more work needs to be done in order to further optimize the site's capabilities.

RLWC Edmonton loves to make the most of its time, both on and off the job. On a much-deserved day off, the team got a chance to explore the island, discovering great hiking trails, stunning landmarks and great fishing/crabbing spots. Unfortunately, being better Line Techs than fishermen, they didn't catch much! To finish off the project, the crew invited the local Mas-set Det members to a BBQ as a token of appreciation for their hospitality. Both crews shared a meal, some stories and some laughs. Cpl Hedstrom, being the thoughtful person he is, bought Bonnie a card for Mother's Day and had the crew all sign it as a thank-you for the hospitality and delicious morale-boosting treats!



View at 110 ft, walking across beam



Cpl Hedstrom climbing 110 ft structure

After several weeks of hard work, the time came for the line crew to embark on their 3-day journey back home to Edmonton. All around, it was a great and productive trip, providing both improvement to the operational effectiveness of CFS Masset's site and invaluable experience for RLWC Edmonton's newest members.



Cpl Rodriguez on 110 ft structure crossbeam

LLWC Edmonton by MCpl Shea

As the summer months are fast approaching, Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Edmonton is starting its outdoor maintenance and going right into the Annual Posting Season (APS).

Even with all the changes APS brings, the work demand remains consistent. The LLWC is keeping busy with multiple Assyst tickets, cable locates and maintenance throughout CFB Edmonton, as well as the AOR that covers Kamloops, Kelowna, Vernon, Trail, Prince George and surrounding armouries in Edmonton. Currently, Nonsuch Armouries is upgrading their facilities and LLWC Edmonton will be installing the telecommunication cable once construction is completed. We have installed a cell phone booster at the Base Hospital to expand the cell phone usage throughout their facilities, as well as completed the cable installation project upgrades to the new transition facility on base.

For any projects and conduit installations, we work very closely with RPOU Ops on base as well as with the various customers and entities. Assyst tickets that require conduit installations seem to be one of the larger obstacles to complete, but the base electricians have been working diligently with LLWC Edmonton to complete all requests.

There is never a shortage of work as the shop carries out our mandate to complete preventative upkeep on our maintenance hole systems, communication rooms in buildings throughout base and the AOR, and towers maintenance between the day-to-day demand of Assyst ticket installs and repairs.

LLWC Shilo by Sgt Purdy

31 May 16 was the glorious day on which 77 Line Regt was stood up. We were created to consolidate line capabilities and infrastructure from individual Signal units into one grand entity. The Squadrons are numbered to align with the Canadian Divisions. 3 Line Sqn has 10 detachments plus a 2nd Line Regional Crew to complete its tasks across more than half the country.

Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Shilo is responsible for the local base, the training area, 3 self-support towers and armouries in Brandon, Portage La Prairie and Yorkton. We have carefully selected and occupied one of the hardest buildings on base to find in order to pursue an uninterrupted work flow. Our main tasks are to perform cable locates, cable maintenance and basic adds/moves/changes that are required when offices need to have their feng shui adjusted.

If everything works smooth and fast, end users will never even know we exist. The day will continue until the work gets done. To accomplish this requires a fair amount of coordination between multiple units and government departments. This is where your friendly neighbourhood Line Construction Foreman (LCF) comes in. The LCF must engage with RPOU for all infrastructure repairs and installs; this includes metallic conduits inside buildings, underground cement encased conduits and joint use utility (telephone/power) poles. We also participate in the early planning stages of new buildings to ensure the required communication infrastructure is considered. In the case of tower structure, we are required by law to inform NAV CANADA if the safety lights fail and when they are repaired. Shared Services Canada (SSC) is the federal government department in charge of overseeing all IT requirements. We liaise with SSC personnel to ensure the proper type of cabling goes to the right buildings, we conduct reces and provide information to SSC designers on cabling projects, and we order most maintenance materials through SSC. Lastly, we assist local communications companies in establishing pathways to base buildings, ensuring their installation practices meet the standards required. To illustrate a relatively simple procedure that requires coordination with

multiple departments: a simple office move. An end user wants to move their desk to another office or part of a building, but no data or voice outlet exists in the proposed location. The user calls/emails the helpdesk and requests the move. Completely transparent to the end user is the behind-the-scenes process. The LCF will put in a request to RPOU to have conduit installed, then has the troops install and test the cables. SSC telephony will then come and move the phone, with 3 CDSG Sig Sqn moving the computer.

Coming soon! 77 Line will be taking over responsibility of Red Distribution Systems (RDS), Command and Control type equipment and systems which do not go through SSC. This includes “green” radios, towers and antennae, and secret and above systems. So if you require a “cool kid” network, SSC does not get involved.

Finally, we have a new building which is currently being designed and planned to be placed in the southern part of the training area. The Ground Based Observatory (GBO) has been in the works for quite a while, but should be good work when it gets started... a few utility poles here, some fibre there, and voilà: communications connectivity!



*LLWC Shilo, L-R: Pte Sommer, Sgt Purdy, Cpl McBride.
Back Centre: MCpl Brunet*

LLWC Cold Lake by Cpl Horncastle

2021 was a hectic year at Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Cold Lake, with the ongoing impact of COVID-19 extending into 2022 and still affecting 4 Wing Operations and Training.

A typical day in the life of a Line Tech in Cold Lake includes tasks such as completing telecommunication cable locates for any construction upgrades on the base and in the training areas, responding to work requests for repair or installation of telecom cabling, and maintaining the existing telecom infrastructure. Most of our time seems to be spent fixing broken data/voice outlets (DVOs), refreshing old locates and rearranging existing infrastructures to fit new office layouts, but occasionally we get to do some real work. For example, earlier in the year, we spliced copper cabling and terminated both copper and fibre optic cables into the new battery containment building behind Hangar 1. Prior to that, a lot of our time had been consumed helping 77 Line Regiment complete WCS surveys, to assist in the planning of future projects and upgrades.



Cpl Rousseau completing a cable locate

Another way we support other units on the Wing is through providing some of the newly posted-in Aerospace Telecommunication and Information Systems Technicians (ATIS techs) with some On-the-Job Training using our fibre optic equipment, which can also sometimes serve as a refresher for our own members who may have not have had as much experience as the others.

From time to time, our regional work crew will visit 4 Wing to conduct larger construction and maintenance projects, or complete surveys on the existing infrastructure. This is usually a great time for the members of Cold Lake to get some hands-on, trade-specific work we would normally not see every day. This could consist of antenna maintenance, including installation on some of the larger towers in the area, or pole line construction. We would also take this opportunity to get to know new line members as well as see old friends, as we don't get to see our other brothers and sisters in the trade very often!



Sgt Nistor installing a NEMA box for IFRCC antennas

LLWC Comox by MCpl Leblanc

When 77 Line Regiment was created on 31 May 16 under the command of 7 Comm Group, all Line Technicians working under 19 Wing Comox WTIS were assigned to 3 Line Sqn, Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Comox, and moved into Bldg B34. LLWC Comox has a lot of personnel changes over recent years, but it is generally composed of 3 to 4 members.

LLWC Comox, like any other LLWC around Canada, has a large area of responsibility (AOR) in and around the vicinity of the 4 Wing base. They also have the added responsibility of conducting work throughout Vancouver Island to include Seal Bay, Holberg, HMCS Quadra and the antenna site in Tofino.

LLWC Comox conducts multiple cable locates: underground surveys with the goal of locating buried communication cables prior to digging or construction projects. We completed a grand total of 146 cable locates in 2021 alone.

The second most common task for LLWC Comox is completing Assyst work tickets. These tickets are mostly related to cable issues; the clients may have network connectivity issues, phone issues, cable TV issues and/or tower & hardware issues. LLWC Comox completed 47 Assyst tickets in 2021.

LLWC Comox also conducts routine preventive maintenance on existing cable infrastructure. General maintenance is separated into three categories: Outside Plant Maintenance (OSP), Inside Plant Maintenance (ISP) and Tower & Antenna (Ae) Maintenance.

OSP Maintenance generally involves an inspection and maintenance of the underground cable pathway systems, composed of several interconnected maintenance holes (MH) and some above-ground pole line networks that interconnect all manner of communications to the various buildings on base. During these inspections, communication pathways are reviewed, existing pathways confirmed and any changes accurately reflected within the base telecommunication topographies.



Cpl Lavallee-Fequet inspecting a maintenance hole access point, at CFB Comox

ISP Maintenance generally involves an inspection of telecommunications closets: specialized rooms serving as the entry point for digital and telephone network connectivity to the building. These inspections are essential as they are a mechanism to identify or resolve potential and future cable-related connectivity concerns before they affect the end user/client.

Ae Maintenance is generally conducted every year. These events consist of routine tower facility, infrastructure and ground inspections by the LLWC Comox crew. CFB Comox has Ae towers located in the IFRCC area on the base and in some of the secondary areas of Vancouver

Island. During these inspections, the Ae tower is checked for issues, and light bulbs or other hardware are replaced as required to ensure operational capabilities are maintained.

77 Line Regiment works collaboratively with Shared Services Canada (SSC) for the completion of larger cable and antenna projects on base which enhance base



Cpl Lavallee-Fequet inspecting an Ae tower

communications or expand networks to new facilities on base. A Multi-Service request is completed by the client and forwarded to SSC. SSC then designs the project and will forward it to 77 Line Regiment Regional Line Work Centre (RLWC). RLWC is then tasked to complete the project with the support of the LLWC on site. It should be noted that, on occasion, 77 Line Regt can conduct the design and submit to SSC for approval.

The LLWC Comox crew assists in the training of Communications and Information Systems Flight (CIS Flt) personnel, supervising and mentoring them on line technical skills and knowledge. CIS Flt supervisors send their new members for 2-3 weeks of On-the-Job Training (OJT), with the LLWC Comox crew immersing new CIS Flt staff with line technical knowledge and skills essentials. LLWC Comox assisted in the training of three CIS Flt members in 2021.

Since its creation, 77 Line Regiment has been force generating Line Technicians for support to Canada's interests both domestic and deployed. The Regiment currently deploys members in support to Op REASSURANCE and Op IMPACT by staffing rotations from LLWC & RLWCs across the country.

In closing, LLWC Comox is looking forward to the next year with a full complement crew to engage and support CFB Comox and surrounding area.

LLWC Dundurn by MCpl Perras-Salois

Good day to The Cable! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Dundurn. In this short article, I will outline our responsibilities and common tasks for our AOR. LLWC Dundurn's area of responsibility consists of Detachment Dundurn and 6 Armouries located in 3 nearby cities: Saskatoon, Regina and Moose Jaw. We have also recently inherited CFB Moose Jaw. Now that our AOR has grown, so has our position count. We will now have 3 Line Technician positions: 1 x MCpl and 2 x Cpl/Pte.

LLWC Dundurn performs maintenance and repairs on internal and external communications infrastructure in our AOR under the Memo of Understanding with Shared Services Canada. This includes cable locates, Assyst work tickets, emergency repair and preventive maintenance to ensure the protection of the communications infrastructure in our AOR.

LLWC Dundurn has been operating with minimum manning since early 2020 due to deployment, COVID-19 and parental leave. We've been able to keep up with the Assyst tickets around our AOR and some emergency repairs; however, we can count on 3 Line Sqn to send personnel from another LLWC to support as required. In the fall of 2021, 3 Line Sqn sent members from LLWC Wainwright to assist us with 14 Assyst tickets in Regina and Moose Jaw. We were able to close all these Assyst tickets in that region, so we are thankful for their help.



Cpl Dumont and MCpl Perras-Salois pulling the new fibre optic cable to restore services to our Operations building

During the new installation of a cement pad, a local contractor cut a fibre optic cable that was providing services to our Operations build-

ing. We were able to perform an emergency splice and temporarily restored services to the building, until RP Ops was able to install a new cable pathway from the kitchen to the Ops building. Once this was complete, LLWC Dundurn pulled a new fibre optic cable between the buildings and permanently restored services to our building.

As some may be aware, most of our outside cable plan around the base is direct buried, including the fibre optic, without any tracing wires. This makes it nearly impossible to locate, so when RPOU Ops asks for a cable locate, we need to request a hydro-vac to find the location of the fibre optic. Once we confirm where the fibre is, we install a poly post to ensure the protection and location of the fibre optic is well known in the future. This is an ongoing long-term project.

This is just a brief snapshot of what's going on here in Dundurn. As the base is in constant flux with newly added buildings and projects, LLWC Dundurn continues to adapt and provide our expertise and services in order to support the Detachment and its successful operation.

LLWC Esquimalt by Cpl Sorensen

Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Esquimalt has one of the most densely packed AORs served by a single LLWC in western Canada. We are responsible for the entire southern half of Vancouver Island and the lower mainland of BC as far east as Chilliwack.

The LLWC is charged with ensuring the upkeep of approx. 700 comms closets that are located in over 400 buildings. Communications closet upkeep (commonly referred to as closet maintenance) consists of verifying that all cables are functioning, equipment is properly grounded and safe from electrical surges, and incoming and outgoing cable destinations are clearly identified, as well as locating redundant, damaged or unused cables. An additional aspect of closet maintenance is keeping internal and external cable pathways organized and tidy. Keeping these pathways well organized allows for expedient faultfinding and for future expansion of the network infrastructure to be a simpler process.

LLWC Esquimalt is also responsible for the installation of new DWAN and phone lines to enhance office space for end users. Before we can add the new cables, this often requires conduit to be installed. To accomplish this, we coordinate with RPOU Ops to ensure it is placed in the correct location and in a timely manner. If any networks go down, the LLWC will locate the origin of the fault and repair it. Methods of repair vary but usually require replacing a connection point or the cable itself. On occasion we find that a building requires additional DWAN or phone lines but there is no additional connectivity available. We would then require a project through Shared Services Canada (SSC) to run a new supplementary cable.

The LLWC is also tasked with maintaining the numerous towers and antennas around the AOR. This entails ensuring the towers are properly anchored, mounting hardware appropriately torqued and the emitters correctly fastened and aligned. A unique maintenance responsibility to LLWC Esquimalt is the maintenance of the ship-to-shore kiosk connection points for the Royal Canadian Navy. These kiosks provide telephone and network connections to vessels while docked in port. We conduct periodic tests on unused connection points to identify possible faults and remedy them before a ship utilizes them.



Cpl Sorenson replacing damaged cable tags during comms closet maintenance

The LLWC is extremely busy, and with the new APS approaching we expect to see a lot of manning changes with the posting of some of our members. We hope to see some new faces.

LLWC Suffield by MCpl Jesso

Not unlike most military units during APS, we will be going through a transition period at the Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) in CFB Suffield. With our numbers somewhat limited, we're still very capable, as the work requests won't slow on our account. Getting started on a job in CFB Suffield takes extra layers of coordination, which may not be apparent to any other LLWC in the Regt. For example, Shared Services Canada (SSC) had requested we troubleshoot fibre optic cable running to Bldg 60. We determined it should be re-terminated at each end to the newer standard for fibre patch connections. Before this can happen, multiple parties need to be engaged. Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC), RPOU technicians in both controls and intrusion alarms, and SSC have to find a window of opportunity to schedule an outage so all departments can be ready to re-patch and bring their systems online after our work is completed.

Another of our tasks is to help direct the inspections of the various communication towers on the base by bringing in our Regional Line Work Centre (RLWC) from Edmonton. The crew was able to confirm serviceability and address deficiencies of 15 towers in cooperation with technicians from G6, DRDC, British Army Training Unit Suffield (BATUS) and Cubic. Great strides were made in bringing these various elements together to complete this task, which will only make follow-up inspections from the RLWC that much smoother over the coming years.



Cpl Binette teaches Pte Ruttan how to replace old LED lights on top of a 64-ft self-support tower

Our National Line Work Centre (NLWC) based out of Kingston also made an appearance over the summer. RPOU Ops requested a new maintenance hole (MH) system be installed in order to run new fibre optic cable to all of the various buildings in the Ammo Compound for fire and intrusion alarm upgrades. RPOU Ops tendered the contract out for the installation of these MHs, which followed a plan set in place by SSC. Once the MHs were installed by a civilian contractor, we hosted the NLWC in providing support with stores and equipment we had in place, while also sourcing stores and vehicles from other LLWCs when required. With the help of staff from the Ammo Compound and CMTT, we were able to transport our fibre drums back and forth to the jobsite, enabling the NLWC to complete their fibre installation on schedule.



MCpl Jesso confirming cable prints inside of a MH

We are now in talks with SSC for another project in support of a new Ground Base Observation building in the training area. Testing lines and advising on the integrity of the existing pole line to that area has already begun. This project will likely see the involvement of our RLWC once again in the later stages of the project. We've also begun inspecting the new MH system out at the Ammo Compound to ensure no mistakes were made when drafting the network prints and no additional concerns have reared their head after this new infrastructure experienced its first cold winter temperatures and spring thaw conditions.

With help from RPOU Ops, we've cleared a backlog of work requests from users around the base requiring new line installations. Our main obstacles were the requirement of new

metallic conduit from the user's location to the communication room. With considerable effort from the base electricians, we're back on track to working on new requests as they arrive in our queue.



MCpl Parks resealing an aerial fibre slice within reach of pole that had come undone due to high winds

There will be no shortage of work for the LLWC through the year. Whenever we find ourselves between major jobs, we still have our mandate to carry out preventative maintenance on these comms rooms, MHs, towers and pole lines.

LLWC Wainwright by MCpl Kneabone

77 Line Regt Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Wainwright has been busy completing our annual maintenance of all comms closets and maintenance holes (MH) on base. When we aren't busy with maintenance, end users have been keeping us on our toes with Assyst tickets for new Data Voice Outlets (DVOs) or simply repairing DVOs and other minor issues throughout the cable plant. The work takes us all over base, from installing new drops for a laser engraver in the weapons tech shop in Bldg 619, to an entirely new office being built for Contemporary Operating Environment Force (COEFOR) to operate more efficiently for Ex MAPLE RESOLVE (MR), to assisting CFB Wainwright Bud Cotton Buffalo Paddock with installing new signage for the Ranch and loading 3 bisons into a truck heading to the local butcher shop where they were packaged for sale to members of CFB Wainwright for a whopping \$8/lb.



Cpl Sivret operating the UTV for pole replacements in the Wainwright training area

We have also taken the time to complete some much-needed upgrades across base: everything from new copper patch panels in multiple buildings, to replacing poles in the training area damaged by fire, or installing new poles for enhanced copper and fibre routes into

the training area. The work to replace the poles also provided a great opportunity to survey the state of our training area pole line and has allowed us to schedule Pole Line Maintenance into our summer where we will inspect the poles for new damage, verify grounding, and re-lash bays between poles as needed. Maintenance and Assyst tickets weren't the only concern this spring, as our 77 Line Regt sign blew off the side of our building during a windstorm. LLWC Wainwright took this as an opportunity to give ourselves an upgrade. We submitted the necessary dig permits to RPOU for the front of our building in order to plant two poles to hold our sign and give it the signature Line Tech flair we are known for.

Overall, LLWC Wainwright has maintained a consistent pace throughout the year thus far, and with current Pole Line Maintenance and anticipated repairs to the direct buried copper in the ammo storage



Pte Janke and Cpl O'Shea installing 77 Line Regt sign in front of Bldg 649

facilities, the pace is only expected to increase throughout the summer.

LLWC Winnipeg by Cpl Kuzyk

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Winnipeg and outline our responsibilities and common tasks for our AOR. This LLWC AOR consists of 17 Wing Winnipeg and 3 Armouries located in the city: Minto, McGregor and HMS Chippewa. Our current manning includes 3-4 Line Technician positions.

LLWC Winnipeg performs maintenance and repairs on internal and external communication infrastructure in our AOR, under a Memo of Understanding with Shared Services Canada. This includes cable locates, Assyst work tickets, emergency repairs and preventive maintenance (such as maintenance holes [MH]) to ensure the protection of the communication infrastructure in our AOR.



Cpl Kuzyk repairing a 600 pr cable in a maintenance hole as part of cable maintenance

Another season of building communications (comms) closets maintenance is ending as the snow finally melts away. LLWC Winnipeg has completed multiple closet maintenance tasks to maintain the existing communications infrastructure. Due to the immense amount of work here, some comms closets had not been maintained or cleaned for years and it took some time to bring them up to standard. These details are always included within our quarterly reports.

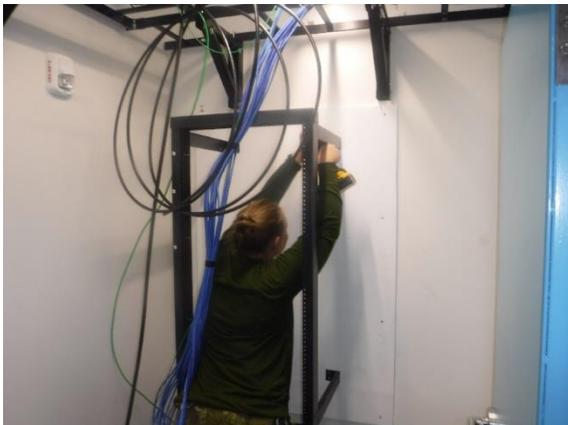
LLWC Winnipeg completed multiple Assyst tickets across the Wing, from repairing DVOs to completing Requests for Changes (RFCs) as required under SSC. This requires discussions with multiple agencies to conduct locates for projects/repairs, as cable infrastructure can easily be forgotten. The LLWC is involved

with many projects and meetings to provide insight on the backbone infrastructure available. One of the projects conducted is the fibre installation in order to support the GCnet upgrade, spearheaded by Sgt Davenport and Cpl Lee-Jordan, which resulted in a smooth transition of this ongoing project.

Another responsibility for the LLWC is having members from Communications and Information Systems Flight (CIS Flt) complete a rotation for their On-the-Job Training (OJT) package, under the guidance of Cpl Lee-Jordan and Cpl Kuzyk. The OJTs are trained on basic line tasks such as tracing cables, trouble-shooting, pulling fibre, terminating, and understanding cable records. This package is easily inserted into our daily plan and provides these technicians with a better appreciation of their line counterparts.

LLWC Yellowknife by Cpl Emond-Godin

LLWC Yellowknife has once again finished off the year on a good note with a very productive 1st line maintenance project at the Joe Tobie building and a successful cable installation project in Whitehorse, completed by Cpl Duclos. We then began organizing another trip to Whitehorse in order to finish the link between the brand-new multipurpose building and the main building.



Cpl Duclos installing the wall-mounted rack in Whitehorse

In the darkness of our northern winter, the LLWC successfully completed the aforementioned link in Whitehorse. During this closet upgrade the Det installed a 6 strand multimode (MM) fibre, a 25 pair riser cable and a wall-mounted rack to align with trade standards and

allow for expansion. The install was then tested and delivered on time for ATCO to connect the fire alarm. We even had time to enjoy some snowboarding at Mount Sima!

With the warmer weather approaching and the snow starting to melt, Cpl Emond-Godin began preparing for a project in Inuvik. The goal of the project was to clear foliage around the Beyond Line Of Sight (BLOS) transmitting (Tx) and receiving (Rx) sites, and to conduct 1st line maintenance on 2 x Andrew 2001 and 4 x TA-102 antennas (Ae). Concurrently, Cpl Duclos started maintenance on the Evans building (JTFN HQ) that consisted of updating prints, labelling and testing of the building's infrastructure. After Cpl Emond-Godin's completion of Inuvik's project planning, the Det made the trip to the remote location with assistance from other Sqn colleagues, Cpl Sivret from Wainwright and Pte Ordish from Edmonton.



Antenna site in Inuvik being cleared of bushes by Pte Ordish

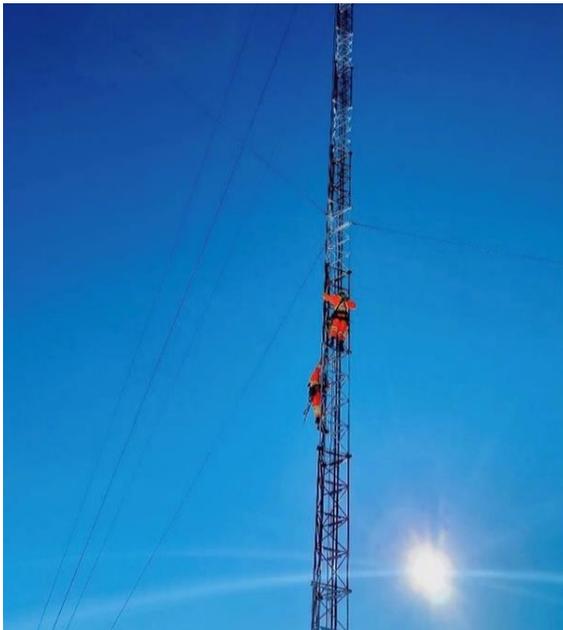
This project was our augmenters' first project with 77 Line Regiment. They were quickly thrust into a typical project day, including long hours, working in the elements, and clearing small trees and bushes from the Ae sites. What more could a motivated Line Tech possibly ask for?!

From LLWC Yellowknife, we wish all the best to everyone. Enjoy your summer!

4 Line Squadron

RLWC Petawawa by Cpl Matthews & Cpl Pickering

4 Line Sqn Regional Line Work Centre (RLWC) is consistently kept busy with projects, emergency repairs and routine maintenance; 2022 so far has been no exception. To be a part of a RLWC as a Line Technician comes with a unique set of challenges, but also rewards. Our main scope of work is to travel to locations where we are most needed to complete projects within our AOR. This could range from performing routine maintenance on existing infrastructure to re-installing an antenna on a tower for an emergency repair. If there's work that needs to be accomplished, you can rest assured a RLWC crew is on its way. Working and living on the road is something you learn to adapt to. The time away from home and loved ones can be challenging, but knowing the service you are providing is making an impact domestically and abroad is always worth it. When the crews are not working on a project, they are back in Petawawa preparing for the next one. Proper scheduled maintenance of our tools, equipment and vehicles is always a key aspect in ensuring our crews are deployable and ready to go back out the door.



Cpls Hutchen and Matthews ascend the 240-ft structure at Carrying Place

Returning from the Christmas break in January 2022, we were greeted with an emergency tower job. The task at hand was to replace an antenna that had fallen off a tower due to high winds near 8 Wing Trenton at Carrying Place. The two crews quickly assembled in preparation for the job. Once we arrived on site, we assessed the damage and developed a game plan on how we would proceed. The first step was to perform the necessary maintenance on the 240-foot guyed structure in order to make sure it met required specifications and was safe to climb. Determining the proper rigging of our ropes and equipment was next in the order of operation. The goal was for two climbers to make their way to the top of the structure, while the ground crew raised the new antenna to the top. Through lots of communication via radios and hand signalling, the ground crew was able to work cohesively with the climbers aloft. The new antenna was successfully installed, and comms was restored.

Not long after our return to HQ, one of our crews was deployed to London, ON, to complete WCS survey inspections at the 4th Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment Army Reserve. Though the nature of this work was not as physically demanding as our last endeavour, it was tedious nonetheless, from identifying and counting unused pairs on BIX fields to documenting serial numbers of equipment on network racks. Through attention to detail, lots of pictures and deliberate note-taking, we were able to capture the information requested so that future action could be taken to make the necessary upgrades/improvements.

In addition to the locations mentioned above, we have also had crews doing work within Hamilton, Borden, Meaford and Toronto. 8 Wing Trenton has been one of our primary locations for projects and maintenance. Helping the LLWC there with the upkeep of their underground and indoor infrastructure has been one of our most recent focuses. With posting season in our midst, we will say goodbye to a few members and welcome some new ones. As Line Technicians in the CAF, we must always strive to develop and refresh our skills so that we are ready for whatever challenge awaits us next. This has been and will continue to be our aim at 4 Line RLWC,

to be dedicated to delivering expert line capability on every Base and Wing location within our district. We are looking forward to what the rest of the year has to offer, and we will continue to put one spur above the other as we press on ahead. "TO THE DEATH!"



Cpls Teahen and Matthews install new horizontal distribution cables in Bldg 29, 8 Wing Trenton

LLWC Borden by Cpl Tan

If you're reading this from a busy base, then you'll notice a lot of parallels between your work environment and ours here in Borden. The steady workflow has been humbling in the best way for the less experienced crew members, and another day in the office for those more knowledgeable.

In our previously triple-digit work ticket queue, there were a variety of problems to be solved in a myriad of ways as well as surprise emergency repairs every now and again. Our knowledge base and problem-solving approach have grown healthily in the last year.

While the structural design work and the never-ending admin pile are being chipped away at by the higher levels here, the bulk of the MACs (moves, adds and changes), locates, siting's, repairs and maintenance are being tackled by us Cpls and our junior leadership. More specifically, our workload has involved many DWAN and phone line installations for new classrooms, staff offices and civilian members from RP Ops, MP, Med Tech, EME, Clerks and Air Force trades schools. Replacing broken DWAN connectors and smashed DVO faceplates is a staple of our

work here as well. Sometimes a more uncommon task will come our way, such as installing an alarm system for the MP station, range safety phone weather damage repairs and trips down to Denison Armoury for all kinds of fixes and installations. Obstacles aside, we sometimes walk away with a few free coffees and appreciative civilian and school staff.

Aside from the more common jobs, we had a few repairs and installations that stuck out. A couple of aerial splices in Meaford; one for a communications line that was hit by a stray round coming out of a range in the training area, which I'm not sure was an unlucky shot or an intentional one, and a splice in the middle of winter for an intrusion alarm in a fuelling point. The latter was the more humbling task, as our fingers froze after not even 10 minutes of splicing. No matter how much our egos pushed us to tough it out, our fingers simply stopped working. It was interesting to not only partake in, but also witness the short work rotations of our climbing up the telephone pole to the splice and back down again so quickly, over and over, until the splicing was complete.

During a colder month when road traction was not so great and a new driver was behind the wheel, a G-Wagon was accidentally and wrongly maneuvered into a telephone pole just outside a range. This was not a typical telephone pole, as the Air Force's weather monitoring system's lines ran onto this specific pole. The Air Force could not fly any of their crafts until this system was back online. An emergency repair was immediately undertaken and the Air Force was flying again in short order.

A break from the regular routine came in the form of an invitation from 4 Line Squadron in Petawawa for a week of refresher training and an overall morale boost. As consuming as our work here in Borden can be, it was good to see a familiar face, or five, again as well as to meet new ones. The other key takeaway from this trip was the valuable trade and soldiering knowledge passed on to us from the consummate professionals and line wizards from 4 Line Squadron's multiple Local Line Work Centres and Regional Line Work Centres—something we Cpls from Borden are all very grateful for.

LLWC Kingston by Sgt Hardy

The start of quarter one carried over from the last fiscal year with a fast-paced tempo of never-ending Assyst tickets and locates for Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Kingston. In the blink of an eye, we went from dealing with knee-deep snow to the early arrival of the Ontario midges that swarm every square inch of Kingston.

However, neither the snow nor the midges stopped LLWC Kingston from addressing critical and priority cable locates, working effectively in conjunction with RP Ops, contractors and Defence Construction Canada (DCC) to efficiently complete cable locates in a timely manner, and assisting DCC with a mysterious water main break within Fort Frontenac lines. LLWC has a huge asset in the form of RJ LaChance, a Shared Services Canada member who has been working within CFB Kingston for 23+ years. RJ is exceptionally trained and possesses in-depth knowledge in locating and identifying the routes throughout every square inch of LLWC Kingston's AOR. This knowledge enabled our members to concentrate on a specific maintenance hole (MH) and was successfully isolate the issue within a smaller footprint. This enabled DCC and other contractors on site to inform Utilities Kingston to execute a plan, and the repair was completed.

Just as many people are returning to work, so too are the Air Traffic Control Officer (ATCO) trailers being set up as their new temporary office spaces—trailers that all require DWAN and phone installations. LLWC Kingston anticipated a surge of such requests and last-minute fastballs as they normally do just prior to long weekends. Just as the LLWC members finished off personal tools checks and vehicle maintenance prior to shutting the doors and enjoying the well-deserved upcoming Thanksgiving weekend, history once again repeated itself. Across the Line Construction Foreman's (LCF) screen and with a simultaneous phone call came an urgent priority request. Without hesitation, two members deployed to complete the priority communication/security phone for the Royal Military College's front gate Commissionaire checkpoint. They had their work complete in time to depart the base before the gates had time to clog up with traffic.

CFB Kingston, like all other bases across Canada, has old buildings that continue to be demolished and new buildings are always under construction. However, as the existing underground communication infrastructure is old and a lot of cables remain, this has to be married to the new buildings and their communication installations requirements. On the sunniest and warmest mornings of the spring season, LLWC Kingston shifted gears and focus as they assisted the SSC design cell in completing primary site surveys in order to support upcoming projects. SSC agents gathered additional info on the MH route and the feasibility of expansion in order to complete the service requests and meet the clients' future needs.



LLWC Kingston members pictured from left to right: MCpl Goes, Cpl Dubien, Santa Claus, Cpl Palmer, Sgt Hardy. Not pictured: SSC member RJ LaChance

In early April, Kingston was privileged to receive six inches of the heavy white stuff that blanketed the ground. But with the return of the sun and warm winds from the South, the evidence slowly disappeared as the week went on. LLWC Kingston began the tedious task of confirming MH locations across CFB Kingston, utilizing its updated reference library of all MH locations. Ninety-five percent of the MHs were inaccessible, and almost impossible to locate as they were covered with inches of sand, gravel, debris and deadfall from the past winter season. However, the task was beneficial as the LLWC was surprised with a priority and time-sensitive

cable locate task in order to support various 2022 Archaeology Dig sites and tree-planting initiatives. The locates were divided into seven quadrants stretching across and covering all corners of CFB Kingston. Members of LLWC reacted with confidence and positive attitudes that the timelines were achievable, and with swift planning and execution the task at hand was completed and the LLWC once again lived up to its expectations.

With the COVID posture transitioning, the LLWC Assyst ticket inbox remains active with repairs to existing Inside Plant Maintenance (ISP) infrastructure and new installations required by almost every unit on base. LLWC Kingston completed a recce with Service Management Centre staff, while juggling priority Assyst ticket requests, crew schedules, and access around staff and students arriving for upcoming training. This recce indicated the upcoming tasks were not as simple as stated in the details of their tickets. LLWC Kingston members utilized extraordinary fault-finding skills when dealing with labelling deficiencies in order to reroute repairs and test forty multimedia outlets within the newly designed conference room. With that phase behind us and labelling corrected, LLWC rebounded quickly to install twenty new CAT6 installations, completing the request on time.

With the LLWC having balanced the surge of Assyst ticket requests and cable locates, we transitioned into 1st line antenna maintenance of the 150-ft guyed tower and the 100-ft and 60-ft All Weld Self-Supporting structures. Having completed 1st line inspections and repairs and compiled a detailed final report, the Regional Line Work Crews coming in will find a smooth transition for completing 2nd line antenna maintenance.

LLWC Kingston continues to rise to every occasion, remaining focussed and supportive in completing requests with upgrades and maintaining the existing ISP/OSP and new installations into the future.

LLWC Meaford by MCpl Robinson

Hello from Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Meaford. I am MCpl Robinson. I have been extremely busy since being reallocated to 4th Canadian Division Training Centre (4th CDTC) in

November from CFB Borden. The base has been long overdue for maintenance and records, not only due to the pandemic but from years prior. Having a LCF position in Meaford has proven to be beneficial not only to 77 Line Regt, by streamlining cable locates and projects pertaining to cable installation, but also to 4th CDTC also. It has been welcomed by many entities on base including RP Ops, Canadian Base Operators and TIS who have had their workload lightened and appreciate having a technical expert on the ground to facilitate adds/moves/changes and project ideas as well as project implementation. On 17 May I was promoted to MCpl by Maj Potvin, who made the long drive from CFB Petawawa with MWO Stiles. I look forward to my continued work at 4th CDTC as I was officially posted here as of 24 May, and am excited to represent the hard work 77 Line Regiment does across the country at this training centre. Thank you to the Regional Line Work Crew Det Petawawa, and CFB Borden, for your continued support with personnel, equipment and resources.



MCpl Robinson, LCF of LLWC Meaford, and family at promotion presentation with Maj Potvin

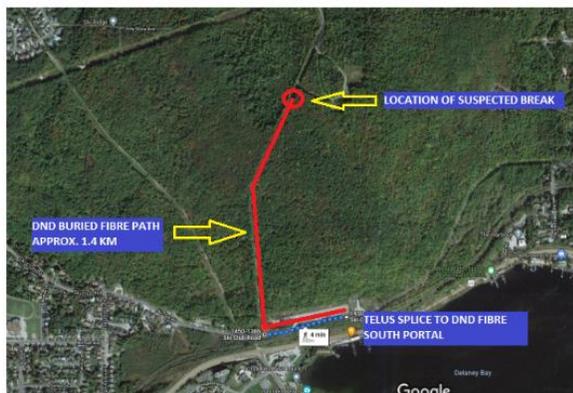
LLWC North Bay by Cpl Pattinson

On 22 Sept at 0800h, the main blue fibre path for 22 Wing went down. Coincidentally, on the same day there was a train derailment in Sudbury which took out the red path as well. As you can imagine, our Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) was bombarded with calls as panic ensued. After a couple of days the red path was repaired in Sudbury, and Communications and

Information Systems Flight (CIS Flt) was able to reroute the blue feed through the red path as a temporary fix. Our LLWC began the very difficult and challenging task of finding out where the break on the blue path might be...

Several weeks go by...

After a long few weeks of driving to various locations, inspecting multiple poles, a mountain climb, three trips to the underground, and meetings with various base personnel and Telus and their techs, we finally located the correct splice enclosure at the south portal. After testing the cable, we discovered that the break was showing a distance of 1.4 km. Because the fibre was armoured, our crew members put a locate on the fibre and found that instead of going through the underground compound it was actually went up the mountain, west of the tunnel. Using Google Maps, LLWC North Bay accurately located the suspected break on the mountain.



Once the break location was determined, our crew set out on foot to find the location of the suspected break—only to discover DND buried cable markers and a newly installed hydro pole with a guy wire anchor directly in the path of the buried cable. Using all the information gathered, MCpl MacIntyre submitted a report through the CoC to get the ball rolling.

Several months go by...

LET THE DIG BEGIN!

After a long wait to get approvals for an excavator to dig, 22 Wing finally gave us the go-ahead one week before Christmas leave. First we had to thaw out the ground before the digging could commence. Once the ground was thawed out, we started the dig with the excavator. During the dig we were very anxious as this was just an

educated guess on where the break could be, but luckily we found the fibre and it was indeed severed.



Digging for the suspected break

By this point, we only had two days left before leave. Cpl Pattinson and Cpl Collins began working on one pedestal, while MCpl MacIntyre began work on the other pedestal. Our crew worked long hours those two days, but on the last day we completed both splices in the pedestals and were happy with the work.



One of the pedestal splices

The final step was for us to have Telus verify the connection was up and running from their end. We waited anxiously until MCpl MacIntyre received a call from Telus and gave us the good news that the blue feed was back up. Our crew happily went on Christmas leave, all knowing that 22 Wing would have both their feeds up and running through the long break.

LLWC Petawawa by Cpl Ratz

We've conducted many cable locates this spring for proposed dig sites and new base infrastructure including new sidewalks, pathways and lamp posts. In the month of April alone, we had done nearly as many locates as there were days of the month. Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Petawawa remained vigilant in ensuring dig sites were quickly and accurately located and marked for buried cable to keep the proposed infrastructure progress moving forward at all times. On top of regular ongoing Assyst and trouble tickets, we've had a slight uptick due to several concurrent outages and software issues affecting SMC Petawawa clientele. Closet inspections and regular maintenance are ongoing and will continue into the near future. One of my first repairs here with the LLWC was splicing a 50 pair cable in the training area that a bear had taken a bite out of.

In the near future, projects include repairing several damaged splices and a damaged telephone pole in the training area, as well as new inside cable plant infrastructure in the Canadian Special Operations Regiment (CSOR) lines, to name some of the more pressing ones. Ongoing projects include removing comms cables and existing hardware from several trailers slated for removal from Garrison Petawawa, new network infrastructure installations, and remaining vigilant of general maintenance and repairs that come up from day to day in order to service clients with haste and professionalism.

There will be a drive as well to conduct routine service and inspections of maintenance holes to ensure upkeep of buried cable, and corresponding records.

Overall, the team here is in good spirits despite being short of personnel on the ground and is looking forward to a busy and productive summer.

LLWC Trenton by Cpl Sends

2021-2022 has been a busy year for this Local Line Work Centre (LLWC).

Our area of responsibility is supporting 8 Wing, CFB Trenton, and the Hastings and Prince Edward Counties. It sprawls from English Settle-

ment Road to Mountain View, Carrying Place and Point Petre, as well as Alert and CFB Trenton.

This year has proven to be a fantastic opportunity for growth. Each member has been very involved in supporting our local area and beyond. LLWC Trenton continues to manage the never-ending demands and needs of the largest Air Force base in Canada. We have been kept busy with antennas, inside cable maintenance, outside cable maintenance, many cable locates and some pole line maintenance. Trenton personnel have supported Op REASSURANCE, CFS Alert, and both local antenna sites on top of supporting 8 Wing and wing operations.

Just before Christmas, very high winds knocked out the main antenna supporting Wing Ops, ground control and MPs. LLWC Trenton working together with 8 Wing Aerospace Tele-



communication Systems Technicians came up with a primary solution, an alternate solution and a contingency plan. By recognizing our skills, resources and limitations, we were able to turn this emergency outage of service into an opportunity to team build.

We have also enhanced the capabilities of the Search and Rescue alternate located in Belleville. We did this through installing and terminating antenna coax cable. Most recently, we rewired the North Side Wing Orderly room, updating the OR and allowing the customer to have a most ergonomic setup.

Hangar 1 made up the majority of our Assyst tickets. The building fire suppressant system was tripped, and fire-retardant substance gummed up everything.

We at 77 Line Regiment, 4 Line Squadron LLWC Trenton shall continue to seek opportunities for telecommunication solutions in our AOR and beyond.

One of the antennas that supports 8 Wing Trenton

5 Line Squadron

RLWC Halifax by Cpl Cook & Cpl Cena

This year, 5 Line Squadron Regional Line Work Centre (RLWC) Halifax has been busy with both antenna (Ae) and cable projects, keeping the Atlantic region communications infrastructure and antenna systems maintained and in operational status. Our job as the RLWC is to conduct 2nd line maintenance on our Ae sites: to inspect, repair and report on the communications infrastructure and antenna systems.

During the first quarter, 5 Line RLWC tower crew were sent out to Alma, PEI, to conduct 2nd line inspection and maintenance on the Canadian Air Defense Radio Systems (CADRS) Ae site that belongs to 22 Wing North Bay. The crew consisted of Sgt Martineau, Cpl Cena, Cpl Cook, Cpl Poole, Cpl Arsenault and Pte Davenport. We inspected all ground rods and ground wires to ensure electrical/RF grounds meet specification; inspected the supporting structure of the antenna system by checking the plumbness, torquing the structure's bolts and checking conditions of anchor points; re-tensioned guy wires; and tested the transmission line to verify the quality of the antenna system. Alma, PEI, is one of many Ae sites we work on in the Atlantic Region; we also have Great Village, Masstown, Mill Cove and Newport in our AOR. Our goal as a tower crew is to deploy, maintain the established specifications of antennas, and maximize the operational effectiveness of our antennas, antenna support structures and antenna sites.



Cpl Poole, Cpl Arsenault and Pte Davenport conduct 2nd line maintenance in Alma, PEI

The cable crew has been busy as well. During the first quarter, 5 Line RLWC cable crew were tasked with 2nd line cable maintenance in the steam tunnels of CFB Gagetown. They repaired damaged copper splices and removed redundant

cables. If splice enclosures aren't properly maintained, wear and tear over time can cause leakages, damaging the splice inside and hindering the communication lines to the building that they feed. Therefore, the bulk of the work was replacing the splice enclosures, redoing corroded amps, as well as flash testing any splice we came across to ensure its integrity and prevent any possibility of leaks. With the crew's exceptional cable skills, they were able to take on additional cable splices that needed repair and major work done. All this work strengthened CFB Gagetown's affected infrastructures to regain the ability to communicate both internally and with outside agencies.



Pte Alaia working in the steam tunnels of Gagetown

Every year, 5 Line RLWC is ready to deploy for emergency repairs and to support the CAF's operational communications needs.

LLWC Gagetown by Cpl Knaggs

With the better weather finally showing up and past restrictions starting to lift, Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Gagetown has not slowed down a bit with all the work that is being done, and plans of future projects are coming to fruition. From typical work on base to the challenges of the field and even the almost-forgotten AOR, all work has been touched upon and achieved great results.

Gagetown crew have been busy with helping to get the Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services installed, and the ticket counter is now at a very manageable number for the LLWC. One of the bigger challenges we faced in the past weeks was getting the northern swing (armouries) done. With COVID restrictions finally easing we were able to visit Moncton, Sussex and St. John,

finishing all outstanding work from months up to a year before. Moncton had us pull new DWAN drops for a new classroom being built, and Sussex had some minor DVO and label damages that needed desperately to be repaired as they had CAT 6 running from other rooms. St. John was just a recce for another classroom that will need to be fitted for DWAN services as well.

LLWC Gagetown has been working relentlessly on the emergency phones to keep them operational for any exercises that will be done in the future. From doing simple fibre fixes to changing out splice enclosures, the field has been brought up to a much higher standard over the past couple of years.

On 9 May at the Gagetown Line Shop, the crew scrambled to finish last-minute preparations for the annual week of vehicle training for all of 5 Line Squadron. The troops would have the opportunity to get the necessary qualifications for the skid steer, the Utility Track Vehicle (UTV) and the line truck platform, so anyone can use the controls whether or not they can drive.



UTV – Utility Track Vehicle

This week was not only about line tradesman skills, but also getting any other personal qualifications done, such as the military swim test, fitness test and other courses. Even with the week ahead being extremely busy, morale was high as we all got to see each other again and regale everyone with tales of our own personal shops and lives.

5 Line Squadron was broken into three groups as we had three vehicles to get our hands on. Each day a group would be given many hours to drive around and use the featured tools attached to each vehicle. On Tuesday afternoon we were tasked to perform our swim test for adventure training in the future. Many of us gathered in the

pool area, speculating how well we would do and making stereotypical jokes about sinking to the bottom and how East Coasters can't swim. For many of us it had been years since we'd completed a swim test, but in the end many of us with doubts had no problem treading water and doggy-paddling our way to victory.

We continued the training, with groups switching to another vehicle. It seemed like the vehicle of choice was the skid steer, the most fun and agile of the vehicles. The troops were tasked by MCpl Gallant to drive the vehicle around with the bucket on, picking up dirt and transporting it to another pile. Everyone had a blast with the skid steer. The next most popular vehicle would be the UTV, kind of like the line truck and skid steer combined but with track tires, of course. We were tasked by Cpl Blaquiere to drive the UTV on off-road terrain both up and down hills, and afterwards to use the platform part of the vehicle, using the tools comfortably. Lastly, the line truck platform—which technically is only half the qualification for the full truck, as some troops still need either air brakes or the experience of driving the truck. MCpl Potter had instructed each group to work together to pick up a pole and stand it straight up in a controlled state.

On Wednesday we took the time to complete the fitness test since it's been a while for most of us, especially with COVID putting things on pause. Also during this day we did refresher training on WHMIS.

Thursday was our last day of vehicle training, and with time to spare we made sure that if anyone needed more practice to do the test for any of the vehicles, they were given the time to do so before the week came to an end.

Friday the troops had all gathered at the shop got there instructions and said goodbye to each other until next time. The LLWC Gagetown crew had pulled off a really successful week of getting the preparing the vehicles, and administration for the testing and permits. The crew here really enjoys the opportunity to host the 5 Line Squadron vehicle training and hopes that this tradition keeps on going every year.

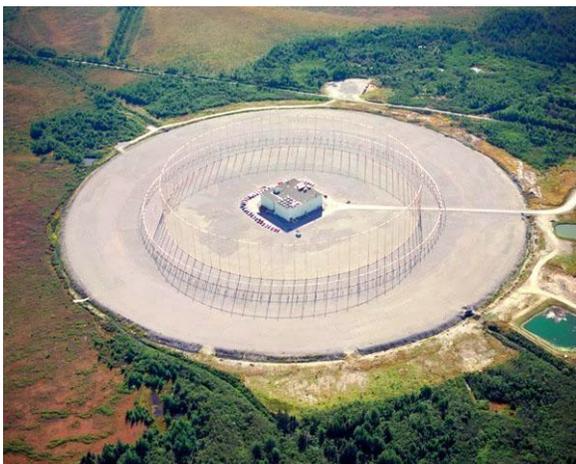


5 Line Squadron photo at end of vehicle training week

LLWC Gander by Pte Connors

I arrived at LLWC Gander on 8 Feb, a cold, snowy day. After driving 2500 km from Kingston, Ontario, I was very glad to finally be here. 9 Wing Gander is quite a small base compared to CFB Kingston but still has many of the same amenities, and as I am from Newfoundland it feels quite like home.

On my first day I was put right to work, starting on an interior cable install in the local Military Police (MP) building, and not long after at 103 Squadron's wash bay for a fibre and copper install. It felt great to finally be using the skills I learned at CFCSE on the jobsite. I was given the tour around the FRD-10 at CFS Leitrim, which should be an interesting 130-ft climb this summer if I'm given the opportunity. Working here at LLCW Gander has been great so far; everyone in the shop is friendly and always willing to help out.



FRD-10 at CFS Leitrim

LLWC Gander has an important job maintaining the infrastructure of 9 Wing, directly supporting 103 Search and Rescue Squadron and CFS Leitrim (#6) for communicating with our various vessels and aircraft on the East Coast. Without the maintenance of these systems, the communications between our aircraft and vessels could fail, and lives of civilians and/or CAF personnel could be put in jeopardy. Locally on the base, the maintenance of interior communication networks is important to keep base operations up and running between units. A quick phone call can solve many problems; if the phones go down, communication between units can have a devastating effect on base operations.

One example of a possible scenario was 103 Squadron's recent helicopter crash. If we had lost communications, the local authorities and MPs wouldn't have been able to react to such an emergency. Thankfully everyone on board survived with only minor injuries, but as we know, it could have been much worse.



Recent helicopter crash at 9 Wing

LLWC Gander is also responsible for updating some infrastructure, such as the local MP building. Such upgrades are necessary for quick reaction to emergencies, for security and to ensure fast internet for day-to-day operations. Waiting 5 minutes for each page to load suddenly turns a 30-minute task into an hour-long task. For the safety of all personnel on 9 Wing, these upgrades are vital.

Personnel

Retirements

Retirement of WO Sheldon Gillis

Warrant Officer Sheldon Gillis, CD, will release from the Canadian Armed Forces on 07 Jun 22, after 23 years of loyal and dedicated service to Canada, the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and the best trade, the Line Trade.

Sheldon was sworn in at Corner Brook, NL, and was sent to recruit school in 1998 in St Jean, QC. Upon completion he then started his armored course, where he quickly saw the light and changed trades to become a Lineman. He then completed his line qualification at Canadian Forces School of Communications and Electronics (CFSCE) in Kingston, ON, to become a fully qualified tradesman in 2001. Upon completion, Pte Gillis was posted to Canadian Forces Joint Signal Regiment (CFJSR) in Kingston, ON, where he deployed to Sinai, Egypt, and to various bases across Canada where he completed many communications infrastructure upgrades. He was promoted to the rank of Cpl in 2002 and remained at CFJSR in Kingston, ON, until 2006 when he was posted to CFB Halifax Local Line Work Center, where he worked on cable plant maintenance. Cpl Gillis was promoted to MCpl in 2007 and was posted over to CFJSR Halifax in 2008, where he deployed to Afghanistan and to various bases on the East Coast. MCpl Gillis then posted to LLWC Trenton in 2011. MCpl Gillis deployed to CFS Alert in 2011 and to Op IMPACT in 2013. MCpl Gillis was promoted to Sgt and posted to CFJSR in Kingston, ON in 2016. Sgt Gillis deployed on Op ARTEMIS in 2016 and on Op REASSURANCE 2017, 2018 and 2019. In 2019 he was posted to 77 Line Regt Det Petawawa, Trenton, where he deployed again to JTF IMPACT in 2020. Promoted to WO in 2021, he was then posted to his current unit, 77 Line Regiment, 1 Line Squadron in Kingston.

Sheldon and his spouse, Melanie, have decided to remain in Ontario, where they intend to continue their hobby of camping. He has been offered a civilian job at McKesson Canada, where he will enjoy a much-needed break from travel to enjoy family time while starting a second career.



Retirement of MWO Dion Rose

After 31+ years of service to the Queen, country and the Line Trade, Master Warrant Officer Dion Rose will retire from the Canadian Armed Forces on 03 Oct 21.

MWO Dion Rose enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces in St. John's, NL, on 17 Aug 90. Upon completion of his basic training, he was posted to the Canadian Forces School of Communications and Electronics (CFSCE) where he conducted his Lineman training, and was then posted to 1 Canadian Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment (1 CDHSR). During his time at 1 CDHSR, he deployed on Op DANACA in the Golan Heights. In 1996, Cpl Rose was posted to NRS Newport Corner, where he served with the Navy. After spending 3 years on the East Coast, it was time to move on, and he was posted to Canadian Forces Joint Signal Regiment (CFJSR). From Jul 1999—Jul 2004, Cpl Rose



spent much time away from home on numerous cable and antenna projects within Canada, including Gagetown, Cold Lake, Trenton, Edmonton, Bagotville and Valcartier.

He also deployed twice on Technical Assistance Visits (TAVs) to Africa and once to Kabul, Afghanistan. In Jul 2004, MCpl Rose was posted to CFB Shilo, where he was a member of 731 Comm Sqn and later a Sgt, and then posted to 2PPCLI. In Jul 2009, Sgt Rose returned to CFB Kingston and served once again with CFJSR. As a project foreman he was quickly out the door once again, deploying all the way from the East Coast to the West Coast and up north to Alert. During this time around with CFJSR, he took part on a TAV and ROTO 0 in Afghanistan which lasted for almost a year consecutively. In Jan 2015, WO Rose was posted to CFJSR Det Halifax, where he became the Det 2IC and also did the job as Troop Warrant. In Jul 2017, MWO Rose was posted back to CFB Kingston as the Line Senior Trade Advisor at CFSCE, where he was able to help mold a new generation of Linemen. Next MWO Rose was off to the ultimate job, SSM of 1 Line Sqn, 77 Line Regt, in Jul 2020.

Not yet retired, Dion and his wife Tania plan to live in the Kingston area where they fully intend to enjoy life, their dogs and travel after retirement. They have 2 children: Taylor, who resides in Alberta, and Justin, who resides in Kingston.

Retirement of MWO Sean Silver

Master Warrant Officer Sean Silver, CD, will release from the Canadian Armed Forces on 03 Jun 22, after 35 years of loyal and dedicated service to Canada, the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and the Line Trade.

Sean was sworn in and sent to recruit school in 1987 in Cornwallis, NS. Upon successful completion, he then started his Infantryman QL3 course, where he engaged in RCR Battle School in Petawawa. Subsequently, he served with 1 Royal Canadian Regt for 12 years. During his time with the RCR he served in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia, as well as completing a posting to Germany at CFB Baden-Soellingen. In Mar 1999, Sean changed trades to become a Lineman. He then completed his Line qualification at the Canadian Forces School of Communications and Electronics (CFSCE) in Kingston, ON, and become a fully qualified tradesman in 1999. Upon completion, newly trained Cpl Silver was posted to Canadian Forces Joint Signal Regiment (CFJSR) in Kingston, ON. As a Lineman, he deployed on several Technical Assistance Visits (TAVs) to Africa and Afghanistan as well as various bases across Canada. His skills contributed to the completion of many communications infrastructure upgrades while working as a crew Lineman. He was promoted to the rank of MCpl in 2004 and subsequently posted to Canadian Manoeuvre Training Centre (CMTC) in Wainwright, where he served in several units throughout the region. Sean achieved the rank of Sgt at 742 Comms Sqn and posted to 3 CDSG Sig Sqn in the Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) as a Line Construction Foreman (LCF). Achieving the rank of WO, he moved out East to Shared Services Unit (Atlantic) 5 CDSG in Jul 2014 as the LLWC LCF. In 2016, he became the Line Contraction Superintendent. WO Silver spent a couple of years making his home between Oromocto and Halifax, and deploying to multiple bases in the area of operations performing cable maintenance tasks. In 2017, promoted to the rank of MWO, he performed the duties of a Squadron Sergeant Major under the newly formed 77 Line Regiment with 3 Line Squadron in Edmonton. In 2021 he again found himself posted to 5 Line Squadron Halifax. MWO Silver has continued to work in concert with both organizations until his upcoming release.

Sean and his spouse Petra have decided to remain in the Edmonton area, where they intend to enjoy life to the fullest. We would like to wish him good health and happiness as he enjoys a well-deserved retirement going forward.



Retirement of Cpl Abdul Omer

Corporal (Cpl) Abdul Omer will retire from the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) on 15 Jan 22, after 9 years of loyal and dedicated service to Canada, the CAF, the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and, most importantly, the Line Trade.

Cpl Omer enrolled as a signal operator on 19 Jan 13 in Toronto, ON, and occupational transferred to Lineman in Aug 2016. Throughout his career he has deployed on numerous brigade-level exercises, as well as OUTCAN exercises in Germany and California with 1 CMG HQ & Sigs Line Section. Most recently he has been conducting 2nd line antenna maintenance and 3rd line cable installations with 77 Line Regiment, 3 Line Squadron, Regional Line Work Centre as a crew member.

Cpl Omer plans on visiting family in Calgary and Toronto before travelling to explore what the world has to offer. He plans on returning to the welding inspection field in which he has prior experience.



Awards and Recognition

TFL Command Team – Best Team Award

The Task Force Latvia (TFL) Command Team—Best Team Award is awarded to members of the Signal Squadron Line Section: Sgt Grenier, MCpl Trylinksi, Cpl Laidley, Cpl Donovan, Cpl Dionne and Cpl Larose (Members from 77 Line Regt and 5 GBMC 3 R22eR).

The Signal Squadron Line Section is made up of members from different units and organizations across Canada. Despite being complete strangers, they successfully created the most cohesive, respectful and professional team within the eFP. Through their efforts, Camp Adazi has been able to rapidly expand black and red network infrastructure and services to accommodate the large influx of personnel across the eFP, as well as ensure mission critical networks continue to function despite several large outages. The Line Section worked closely with G6 MI Bde to provide internet service connectivity to numerous sending nations in order to enhance command and control across the area of responsibility.



TFL Command Coin – MCpl Robert Trylinski

From 12 Dec 21 to 13 Jun 22, MCpl Trylinski demonstrated outstanding professionalism, technical knowledge and commitment to TFL mission success as the Signal Squadron Line Section 2IC. MCpl Trylinski acted as the main liaison between the squadron and all nations on camp for line requirements, ensuring all projects were skillfully executed, enabling TFL units to accomplish their mission goals. His dedication to his team and the mission has brought tremendous credit to TFL.



Latvian Mechanized Infantry Brigade Commendation – Sgt Todd Clark



Sgt Todd Clark was recognized with the Latvian Mechanized Infantry Brigade Commendation for his excellent work and performance on his tour.

COS (IM) Coin – MCpl Ryan Nistor

On 18 Sept 21 at approximately 2230 hours, MCpl Nistor was a first responder to the scene of a motor vehicle accident that occurred near his residence. Upon hearing the accident, MCpl Nistor immediately went to the scene and provided emergency first aid to the victims: calling 911, extracting the occupants from the vehicle in a safe manner, and tending to their immediate wounds until emergency first responders attended the scene. His leadership and his actions taken to quickly assess the scene, make it safe for emergency first responders, and selflessly provide immediate casualty care reflects well upon 77 Line Regt and the CAF, exemplifying the core values of service and demonstrating the contribution that the CAF provides to the safety and wellbeing of all Canadians.

COS (IM) Coin – MCpl Sheldon Smith

MCpl Smith acted as the second 3 Line Sqn Regional Line Work Centre (RLWC) Project Foreman as a result of a vacancy within the Sqn at the Sgt rank level. In this role, MCpl Smith, with his RLWC team, completed numerous 2nd and 3rd line projects in the 3 Line Sqn AOR, some examples being a microwave alignment on a 480' tower, 2nd Line Ae maintenance and a 3rd line cable installation. He prepared his crew for deployment by reviewing the Statement of Work (SOW), initiated the travel claim administration, mentored one of his peers to perform as the Project 2IC, and expertly coordinated helicopter transportation for his crew to the remote locations. The projects were completed on time safely despite poor weather conditions and tight time constraints. MCpl Smith's leadership, teamwork, and trade knowledge were instrumental to the success of these RLWC projects. He has performed the duties expected of a higher rank in an exemplary manner, achieving mission success and being an excellent example to his peers, the junior members of 77 Line Regiment. His dedication and achievements have brought great credit to 3 Line Sqn, 77 Line Regt.

COS (IM) Coin – Cpl Daniel Hauck

In 2020, while deployed on Op REASSURANCE, Cpl Hauck was recognized for his mentorship of the junior line technicians during the completion of the Camp Adazi fibre optic and ISP upgrade project. Currently employed in the 3 Line Sqn Regional Line Work Centre, he expertly undertook the role of project 2IC for the 3rd line cable installations in Comox and Aldergrove, BC, reviewing the Statement of Work and extrapolating critical technical and resource requirements which resulted in the project's successful completion ahead of schedule. Throughout, he expertly mentored and coached his less experienced peers. Cpl Hauck seeks to excel in all his endeavours, as demonstrated by achieving the CAF FORCE test silver incentive level. He exemplifies the desired traits of both a great soldier and a Line Technician; his leadership, initiative, dedication and teamwork have routinely been performed at a level higher than that which is expected of his rank.

Facebook Closed Group: [77 Line Regiment](#)

Canadian Association of Forces Linemen (CAFL) Website: <http://cafl.org>

Communications and Electronics Branch website: <https://cmcen-rcmce.ca>

77 Line Regiment SharePoint: <https://collaboration->

<img.forces.mil.ca/sites/7CommGp/77LR/SitePages/Home.aspx>

77 Line Regiment Kit Shop: <https://specialtytrophies.ca/77lineregiment/>