

The Cable

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CO'S CORNER



First off, I'd like to take the chance to reiterate how humbled and privileged I feel to be your Commanding Officer. Lors de tous mes engagements avec vous, je suis toujours impressionné par votre professionnalisme, votre expertise technique et votre dévouement envers votre métier. The personal pride you take in doing the job the right way to the highest degree of technical standards shines a bright light on our Regiment and serves to cement our reputation for technical excellence across DND/CAF. Thank you for all you do. Merci à vous tous pour votre engagement continue.

The coming months will no doubt continue to present its share of challenges and opportunities as we look to navigate the ongoing headwinds presented by a constrained fiscal environment and personnel shortages while also addressing increasing operational demands, namely supporting camp infrastructure expansion in Op REASSURANCE.

Cela représente des défis que nous devons tous adresser ensemble ; il n'y aura pas de solution magique et chacun devra faire sa part mais nous y arriverons. Cela nous force aussi à nous adapter à notre environnement opérationnel afin de livrer les résultats dont le FAC/MDN nous demande. Make no mistake, this Regiment exists to support CAF/DND operations, both domestically and abroad. Technical excellence on operations is our calling card: everything we do needs to contribute to this operational focus as we look to optimize and streamline how we do our business.

It is also clear to me that as the CAF transitions towards a more digitally enabled 21st century fighting force it is indeed the back-end physical infrastructure that we install and maintain that will serve as the backbone to this transformation. For many, mental images of the cloud and digital networks imply something inanimate and virtual existing everywhere all at once, but we know the reality is that this exists in the physical world made up of the cables and antennas that we install and maintain, operating behind the scenes going largely unnoticed and out of sight by its users. The work that every one of you do day-in and day-out supports this reality. Je vous prie de reconnaître la nature critique et essentielle de vos tâches ; elles sont liées directement au soutien de nos opérations au Canada et à travers le monde.

Finally, I want to make clear that each and every member of this Regiment plays a critical role in our success and our outputs. Vous êtes tous et toutes des ambassadeurs du Régiment—you represent those that came before and those that will come after you. Continue to carry yourselves with pride and to uphold our motto – *Through*.

Your Commanding Officer, votre commandant
LCol Tom McMullen

RSM'S CORNER

First, I would like to say how honoured I am to be the 4th Chief Warrant Officer of 77 Line Regiment, a key organization who takes care of the installation and maintenance of cable lines and antennas across the country and abroad. A professional group of CAF members and public servants who have demonstrated their professionalism and expertise over the years. This makes me very humble.

Les derniers mois ont passé extrêmes rapidement et deux choses en particulier ont retenu mon attention. Initialement, l'entraide et le support de notre personnel. J'ai remarqué à tous les niveaux que les membres de l'unité font tout en leur pouvoir pour prendre soin les uns des autres. Tous sont dévoués dans la volonté de trouver des solutions afin de soutenir le personnel. J'encourage assurément tous les membres à continuer ainsi. The second is certainly the change in the financial context. This is a

complex situation, and we all need to work together to face it. More than ever, we must now ensure that we make the value of our work known. It is part of the job of everyone in the regiment to inform those around us on what we are accomplishing and the added value that this brings to their organization and to the CAF.

We are in an era of cultural change, and I have noticed over the last few months that the Regiment's members embrace this movement. We are pioneers in promoting inclusiveness and diversity, the CO and I are very impressed, well done to each one of you.

We face many challenges ahead of us. The best way to prepare ourselves is to take care of our mental and physical health. We must continue to develop our resiliency through our physical training. We are soldiers first and we must aim to achieve the highest standards. It is necessary to make sacrifices in the work we do, despite this fact, it is important to me that the members of the unit have a balance between their personal and professional lives. Stick together with your peers, friends and family and keep doing your good work.

Votre RSM
USQUE AD FINEM



Meet HCol Bhavana Varma



It is an honour and a privilege to be appointed Honorary Colonel of the 77 Line Regiment.

In the fall of 2022, I opened my mail and was surprised and honoured to see a letter from the Defence Minister, advising me that I had been appointed Honorary Colonel of 77 Line Regiment, upon the recommendation of the Chief of the Defence Staff.

The letter went on to say that the honorary rank is “honorary and advisory;” in other words, the Honorary rank does not confer authority or command (pew!), and the role is to serve as an advocate for the regiment as well as CAF, strengthening the military’s bond with the community.

The practice of honorary regimental appointments in Canada dates back more than a century, and it is indeed an exceptional honour and a real privilege to be the first Honorary Colonel of this regiment. Since this appointment, I have had the pleasure of attending some events and meeting many of you. These events include Remembrance Day, the military exercise at CFB Borden, a mess dinner, Command meeting, and other activities, as and when invited and available.

As you can imagine I was pretty overwhelmed and unsure where to even begin. Thanks to the CO, RSM and the ADC, I started to learn the ropes. The first exercise was to get ‘kitted’ and, thanks to Lt. Varey, this enormous undertaking was made slightly easier – it took me a while to figure out the various uniforms, shoes, equipment, and I can imagine the folks at the kit shop and Lt. Varey had their share of entertainment as I struggled to comprehend the complex world of military clothing and equipment. The RSM was equally patient as he gently showed me how to tie my shoelaces the right way, and very tactfully helped ensure I did not embarrass the regiment!

My first meeting with the various units at a Command meeting in Ottawa was enlightening and informative. I had no idea how much this regiment did, and how far and wide was its scope. The expertise, agility and knowledge of line techs continues to impress me. Your work is often completed in incredibly challenging situations and environments, and you continue to do this with a formidable team spirit of 'getting things done.' The civilians and military personnel in this regiment are to be commended for their work and dedication. I also had the privilege of attending a presentation on inclusivity early on. What impressed me is the grass-roots approach and how regiment members took the time and collectively developed a very comprehensive and well-designed strategy.

I'd like to thank LCol Alexandre Cote, CWO Dennis Taylor, for being so welcoming when I was first appointed. I am very grateful to LCol. Tom McMullen, CWO Bruno Thibault, Lt. Nicolas Varey, and Danielle Belisle for their amazing ongoing support and guidance.

I look forward to continuing to serve this regiment while in this role. Please feel free to reach out if there are any questions or if you feel there is some way I can assist in any way.

Bhavana Varma



Special Announcement!

Bhavana Varma, former president and chief executive of the United Way of Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox, and Addington, is one of 25 Ontarians named to the Order of Ontario in the 2023 list! Varma is receiving the province's highest honour for bringing a new vision to solving social issues in the region.



On behalf of your 77 Line Regiment family, thank you for your outstanding contributions!



SOLDIERS' COMMITTEE

Is culture change affecting our operational readiness? Is the CAF too progressive, or as written about in a frequency untold in times before, is the CAF too “woke”?

Est-ce que le changement de culture ruine-t-il le FAC? Est-ce que le FAC est trop woke?

Let us respond with another question: What is woke? It's a phrase that seems to have been hijacked from its original meaning of being “alert to prejudice and discrimination”, and changed to an adjective to describe anything that is unliked by agents resistant to change. It's a catch all phrase that means everything, and so it means nothing and adds no relevant context to any intellectually honest argument. Godwin's law is a phenomenon from the 1990's where it was observed “As an online discussion grows longer, the probability of a comparison involving Nazi's or Hitler approaches 1.” or to put more succinctly *reductio ad Hitlerum*. *Reductio ad Hitlerum*, also known as playing the Hitler Card, is a logical fallacy that attempts to invalidate someone's argument on the basis that it is comparable to or comes from Hitler. Wokeness has turned into the same thing - any discussion of culture quickly dilutes itself into a question of wokeness, both in the CAF and politics at large. I will confidently say that anyone who says the CAF is too woke, or militaries in general are too woke, are ignorant of military history in general. Historically militaries, although not always by policy but by action, have always been one of the more progressive organizations in a society.

Woke, tel qu'il est utilisé aujourd'hui, est un terme ridicule, et la réponse à notre question précédente est tout simplement non. La vérité est que si vous pensez oui, vous n'êtes pas familier avec l'histoire militaire. Historiquement, les armées, pas toujours par leur politique mais par leurs actions, ont été l'une des organisations les plus progressistes d'une société.

From the Sacred band of Thebes, Napoleon's Grand Army, the Army of the Potomac, to the Allies of WW2, there has been one constant, and that is that the people fighting are bound more together by their cause than they are divided by their differences. Their acceptance of diversity and the importance of the people in the uniforms adds to their strengths, not diverts from it. These are lessons that were learned by the last full measure of devotion given by those who have fallen before us. Even in the Confederate States, the land where cotton was king and men were chattel, tried to integrate African American Soldiers in 1865 because as their lines were breaking, they realized too late that diversity is a strength that allows operational capacity. Have militaries been perfect? Absolutely not, but out of necessity the military have tried to advance. At times we have stumbled, but the desire is to always move forward. If you look at the CAF today, it is not diversity that is hurting our operational readiness, it is lack of numbers. With the Canadian population becoming more diverse, the only way for the CAF to remain relevant is to be inclusive of the diverse population that makes up our country. Who has the right to fight should not be dictated by conformity to a version of Canada that only a few share, but should be given to anyone willing to put on a uniform, and we must include them. If we resist change and labels of being too woke or progressive, we risk our future, for those who dislike change will find they dislike irrelevancy even more.

Les militaires, même s'ils ne sont pas parfaits, ont été plus inclusifs que les sociétés qu'ils servent. Si le FAC veut rester pertinent, il doit se souvenir de son histoire. Le FAC doivent évoluer avec la société pour rester pertinentes.

The Regiment has contributed to the cultural evolution of the CAF through the Inclusiveness Awareness Committee. As of formation in November 2021, they have assisted CPCC with policy and institutional issues. Under the leadership of MCpl Reid they have punched far above their weight and have had impact beyond the Regiment. MCpl Reid has decided to step down from the committee chair and the Regiment wants to take this time to thank them for their dedication and hard work. With MCpl Reid stepping down, the Inclusiveness Awareness Committee is going to change focus from institutional issues to more grassroots issues that are affecting members of the Regiment. In order to recognize this change, the Committee is also being renamed the Soldiers' Committee to represent its new purpose: To ensure that every member has a sense of belonging in the Regiment and is assured that there is a Chain of Command sponsored organization that is present to stand on guard for the issues important to the members of the Regiment. The Soldiers' Committee already sits in on the 77 LR CO's O Group and is a direct link from representatives of the Regiment to the senior leadership. More will come regarding structure, meetings, and desired outcomes in a separate announcement. For now, members of 77 LR, know that the intent is such that you are all represented, and your concerns are brought forward so that everyone has a sense of belonging. The only factor that should affect how you are treated as a member of 77 LR is your contribution to the profession of arms.

Le Régiment souhaite remercier le Caporal-chef Reid pour son travail au sein du comité consultatif sur l'inclusion. Le comité est renommé Comité des soldats afin de reconnaître le changement d'orientation des enjeux auxquels sont directement confrontés les soldats du régiment.

Some may be asking, how much impact can a group of soldiers have on an organization as large as the CAF? More than you know. In 1967 the CAF published CFAO 19-20, it was how LGTBQ+, or as phrased in the CFAO, personnel with "abnormal sexual behaviour", were to be dealt with. Even though in Canada homosexuality was decriminalized in 1969, MPs would still interrogate members suspected of homosexuality through a special investigative unit that was set up, using the so called "fruit machine" to weed out homosexuality in the CAF. It is estimated upwards of 10000 CAF members were released due to this policy and a larger unknown number of people avoided joining the CAF because of the hostility to them for just being who they are. One must think during our current staffing crisis how much damage, how much lost experience and leadership is the CAF facing because of these policies. That CFAO stood until 1992, and it wasn't until Diane Pitra challenged the CAF in court, was it made possible for LGTBQ+ members to serve without fear of being subjugated to the fruit machine. The CAF is still not perfect, there is still work to be done, but the work of individuals can be powerful and effective. That brings us to the Soldiers Committee. Is there something in the Regiment you see that is unfair? Is there policy being applied inconsistently? Is there something you would like seen changed to give others a better sense of belonging in the Regiment? If you answered yes to any of those, regardless of rank, trade, or if you're a PSE, everyone is welcome to join the soldiers committee.

The next few months are critical as the new chair, Cpl Schuyler Krohn, will be using this time to continue to bring structure to how the new committee will function. So, if you want to be part of the grassroots movement of the Regiment, if you want to make the Regiment a better place for everyone, than contact Cpl Krohn and they will disseminate the timing of when the first meeting of the newly formed Soldiers' Committee will be.

L'histoire des FAC n'est pas parfaite, mais ce sont des individus qui ont contribué à sa réparation. Donc, si vous voulez aider à résoudre les problèmes du régiment, en faire un endroit où plus de gens ont leur place, s'il vous plaît contactez le Cpl Krohn et faites du bénévolat pour le comité des soldats.

Regimental Headquarters

Festive Fundraising Success: NDWCC Highlights

Written by: Sgt Riverin

For the 2023 NDWCC (National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign), the members of Regimental Headquarters devised a variety of enjoyable ideas to raise funds for a charitable cause, fostering camaraderie and good times. Here are some highlights of the memorable moments we shared.

Halloween Door Decorating and Costume Contest

Our inaugural NDWCC event coincided with Halloween, featuring two exciting contests: Door Decoration and a Costumes Contest. The Commanding Officer (CO) served as the judge for both. Doors adorned with creativity emerged weeks before the event, intensifying the competition. Ultimately, Captain Murlat, Regt Adj, claimed the honor with a door decoration that simply required posting his job description to spook us all. In the costume contest, Megan Cain from Regt Central Registry secured victory with an inflatable alien abduction costume.





Ice Bucket Challenge

Challenged by the CFJSR command team, our CO and RSM enthusiastically accepted the ice bucket challenge, getting drenched as two fortunate RHQ members poured the buckets. The RSM's expression truly conveyed the chilly impact of the water. Subsequently, the 77 LR command team extended the challenge to two other unit command teams' at CFB Kingston, as well as all the squadrons within the regiment.



Additional RHQ NDWCC Events

- Two Bake Sales: RHQ members baked delectable treats and sold them on base.
- Garage Yard Sale: Members contributed items from home, creating a successful yard sale.
- CO & RSM Parking Auctions: The Comd Team's parking spots for January were auctioned off for fundraising.
- Christmas Door Decorations Contest.

Charitable Campaign Success

In total, the 25 RHQ members collected \$1200 in donations during these events, with additional contributions from online pay deduction donations. RHQ takes pride in the positive impact on the Kingston area community, and we thoroughly enjoyed the process.

Cable Yard Audit at 3 Line Squadron

Written by: Lt Zhang

From 2 Oct 23 to 13 Oct 23, myself and WO Stanley had the privilege of visiting CFB Edmonton, CFB Suffield, and CFB Wainwright in conjunction with DPDCIS to assist in the process of taking cable on charge. The maintenance and stewardship of these cable yards play a vital part in the overall success of our role within the CAF. Not only was this important to gain a better understanding of the overall audit process, but also to see firsthand the unique characteristics and challenges at each base.

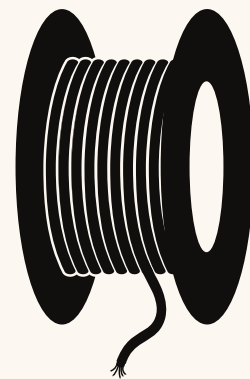
The audit was also a great opportunity to chat with the members to get a better understanding of the challenges they face with these drums of cables, and how RHQ can provide better support in their efforts. This trip marked a significant milestone in progress as 77 Line Regiment continues to take more cable on charge, coordinating closely alongside DPDCIS across Canada. A big thank you to MCpl Jesso, Sgt Korosi, WO Stoneham, and Mr. Steve Gauthier for welcoming and accommodating the RQMS team in your AOR.



CFB Edmonton

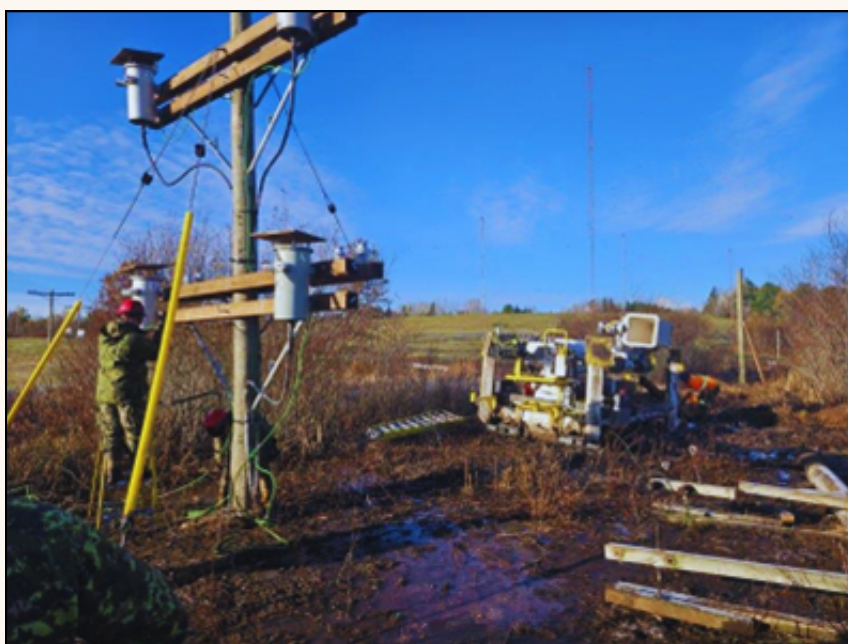
1 Line Squadron

Written by: MCpl Hauck



In with the new out with the old. This summer 1 Line Sqn underwent a large personnel overhaul as about 40% of our members were posted out and replaced with many new members to the Sqn. Our new members brought different levels of experience from around the country, such as base crews, regional work centers, and even field units that will all greatly benefit us at 1 Line Sqn. As the Regiment's National Line Work Center (NLWC), we are constantly employed and expected to fill the specialized 3rd line projects required across Canada that support dom and international operations.

This summer we completed a large fiber upgrade to the Valcartier base that required a larger than normal crew to complete. This cable project proved to be extremely challenging as the crew seemed to run into every problem they could. Suffice it to say the crew members that were there will always be suspicious that a conduit is collapsed in a maintenance hole. Every year we always take advantage of summer in the north (far north!) as we had crews completing antenna maintenance and fiber splicing in Resolute Bay and then moving to Iqaluit for a short stint. Being up north in the summer may help with the temperature but the crew there will always remember the wind. In the fall we had a crew out to Newport corners in Nova Scotia where pole line was required to be replaced for 200 series antennas. This required a plethora of hard work and lots of playing in the mud to be completed.



Crew members enjoying the mud in New Port Corner.

With all the new members coming into 1 Line Sqn it is important to keep our crews up to date with the specialized technical knowledge required to operate effectively as 3rd line antenna crews. To accomplish this in the fall we conducted an annual Complex Antenna System Installer Maintainer (CASIM) course in Kingston and then Trenton for many of the new persons. The course focused on how to work on the more complex antenna systems that are currently in operation across Canada especially the LPH 89J High Frequency antenna which are known to be maintenance hogs always requiring our attention. CASIM gave our members a great wealth of information and trained us to think outside the box making us specialized to work on these unique antenna systems.



Cpl Desmeules and Cpl McBride enjoying working at heights.

1 Line Sqn also supports the CAF internationally as we have members who recently returned from Kuwait and another crew currently working in Latvia supporting 3rd line fiber optic cable installs. The holiday season will see most of our members come together from projects to conduct required training to stay current and partake in some much-needed festive activities. We are already looking at complex and challenging projects upcoming in the new year, projects that only 1 Line can complete due to our vast knowledge and skillset that makes us 1 of 1 in the Regiment.



Lowering the pivot tower of a 89J to conduct maintenance.

2e Escadron des lignes

CTLL Valcartier

Le détachement Valcartier a été beaucoup suscité en cette fin d'année (juillet à janvier). Nous sommes en sous-effectif comme plusieurs détachements au sein du Canada. Nous réussissons tout de même à livrer la marchandise concernant toutes nos demandes, maintenance et administration.

Nous avons commencé un projet avec l'aide du QGET pour le remplacement d'environ 150 poteaux dans nos secteurs d'entraînement. Ce projet permettra de rafraîchir les poteaux qui commençaient à être très secs et n'étaient plus sécuritaires pour nos membres. Nous en sommes à une trentaine de poteaux de changer jusqu'à maintenant. Dû à un bris de notre UTV nous avons dû arrêter le projet pour l'hiver, car la plupart des poteaux ne sont pas accessibles avec le Contruck dû à la neige et au terrain accidenté.



Membre du détachement Valcartier en plein travail de creusage

Nous avons eu la chance de bénéficier de l'assistance précieuse d'un réserviste du 35e Régiment des transmissions, le Cpl Dussault. Sa contribution a considérablement renforcé notre efficacité opérationnelle, comblant le déficit en personnel au sein de notre détachement. Grâce à sa présence, nous avons pu former non pas une seule, mais deux équipes complètes, doublant ainsi notre rapidité dans l'exécution de diverses tâches.

Cette collaboration a également offert au membre l'opportunité d'acquérir une expérience précieuse au sein d'une unité statique pour la période de son contrat.



Cpl Dussault en pleine installation d'un poteau dans les secteurs d'entraînement à Valcartier.

CTLL Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu & Montréal

Écrit par: Cpl Dubois

Lors des derniers mois, les CTLL de Saint-Jean et de Montréal, malgré des petites équipes, ont effectué plusieurs tâches de maintenances dans leurs zones de responsabilité étendue. La particularité de c'est deux CTLL est leur proximité, un avantage qui est souvent très utile. Il arrive que les équipes joignent leurs forces, leurs connaissances ainsi que de l'équipement ou des outils, pour arriver à accomplir leurs tâches.

Lors du mois d'octobre dernier, le CTLL de Saint-Jean est venu en aide au CTLL de Montréal, pour préparer la venue de l'équipe régionale du 4e escadron des lignes (4e EL) qui venait pour un projet d'installation de câblages sur la base de Longue-Pointe. Les deux CTLL ont donc travaillé de pair pour s'assurer que tous les puits d'accès que 4e EL allait utiliser pour l'installation, soient vidé d'eau et prêt à travailler le plus possible.



Membre 4e EL ouvrant une épissure de plomb

Cette initiative a permis aux membres de 4e EL de terminer les travaux rapidement et sans accros. Avec le temps restant à ce projet, les membres du 4e EL ont pu donner un coup de main au CTLL de Montréal en faisant la maintenance de 2e lignes, dans trois puits d'accès. Ils ont fait la réfection d'une épissure qui n'était plus étanche, ainsi que le remplacement de deux épissures de plombs, réduisant ainsi les tâches de maintenance du CTLL Montréal.

Durant le mois de novembre, les deux CTLL ont travaillé respectivement sur l'amélioration de salle de communication qui n'était pas conforme et où il était difficile de travailler. Du côté de Montréal la boîte (Nema box) de communication TR02 de la bâtisse L-003 avait grandement besoin de restructuration, l'équipement à l'intérieur de celle-ci était très désuet et presque plus fonctionnel. Le remplacement de l'équipement et de quelques câbles a été effectué afin de rendre le tout plus fonctionnel.

Du côté de St-Jean, la salle de communication G-185 de la Méga avait besoin d'une bonne maintenance. Le CTLL de St-Jean a demandé à celui de Montréal s'ils avaient dans leur inventaire un cabinet mural qui pourrait contenir tout l'équipement de cette salle. En effet ce fut le cas, le CTLL de St-Jean a donc pu faire les changements et améliorer l'état de la salle de communication.



Avant et après modification de G-185.

Ces événements illustrent l'efficacité du travail d'équipe entre les deux CTLL, même si leurs équipes sont petites, ils parviennent à atteindre leurs objectifs en unissant leurs forces.

Section des Lignes du RCN

Écrit par: CplC Peters



2023 fut une année extraordinaire pour la Section des lignes du RNC. Un grand changement a eu lieu lors de la saison d'affectation ; les membres restants sur place ont dit leurs aurevoirs aux anciens piliers de la Capitale, dont : Adj Grenier, CplC Pelletier, CplC Lafontaine, CplC Soucy et Cpl MacLean. La section a ensuite souhaité la bienvenue aux nouveaux membres : Adj Myers, CplC Bouchard, CplC Peters, Cpl Jefferson et Cpl Johnston.

Deux membres du RNC ont été déployés à Op IMPACT: Cpl Bilodeau et Sgt Deschamps. Cpl Bilodeau a mérité la mention élogieuse « South-West Asia Commanding Officer's Commendation ». BZ!

Nos membres se sont poussés autant au boulot que dans les compétitions sportives avec le but ultime d'atteindre leur plein potentiel. Cpl Jefferson et Cpl Haydari ont donné leurs 200% lors de la compétition IRON WARRIOR. Cpl Jefferson a complété la compétition en remportant la 9e place, dans sa catégorie, avec un temps accordé impressionnant de 2h24m34s. Cpl Haydari a complété la compétition avec un humble surplus de poids de 125 livres quand le poids requis n'était que seulement 35 livres... et ce avec ses bottes de lignes dans ses pieds. Machines!

Chargée d'expériences nettement positives autant pour les membres que pour la qualité/quantité d'infrastructure de télécommunication du RNC, l'année 2023 fut également une année remplie de défis constants qui se sont tous conclus sur une note valorisante.

Même si après le temps des fêtes nos bedons sont remplis de bonne bouffe, d'amour et de santé, cela ne veut pas dire que nous sommes pleins. 2023 n'était que l'entrée. Notre faim nous mènera à surmonter les nouveaux challenges que 2024 va nous offrir et nous allons tous les dévorer un après l'autre.

Que cette année soit une année encore plus gratifiante que 2023 pour tous ! Bonne année!

CTLL Bagotville

La saison d'affectation 2023 est arrivée avec un lot de mouvement de personnel pour le CTLL de Bagotville (BGV). Nous avons eu la chance d'accueillir 3 nouveaux techniciens des lignes dans notre équipe. Ce qui implique, malheureusement, le départ de deux de nos collègues. Notre très chère CDL, le Sgt Forgues, a accepté une accommodation, jusqu'en 2025, avec le quartier Général du 2e escadron des lignes. Avec la promotion au grade de Sgt, le Sgt Fleurent a accepté de quitter sa position au QGET de Valcartier afin d'agir en tant que nouveau CDL du CTLL BGV. Le Cplc Savard s'est porté volontaire pour assumer la position de superviseur des lignes du CTLL BGV. Pour finir, le Cpl Laberge en provenance du 8 ECCA a aperçu la lumière au bout du tunnel et a échangé sa position avec le Cpl Cyr. Celui-ci a dû nous quitter pour remplir ses fonctions de techniciens des lignes auprès de l'aviation.

Durant l'année 2023, notre CTLL a eu l'opportunité d'accueillir des technicien(ne)s de systèmes d'information et de télécommunication aérospatiales (tech. SITA) qui doivent accomplir une formation en cours d'emploi (FCE) de 3 semaines avec la section des lignes dans le but de compléter leur entraînement mandataire. Durant la période d'entraînements avec notre section, ils doivent accomplir plusieurs tâches spécifiques au métier de TL, pour ensuite effectuer une présentation PowerPoint à leur unité. Celle-ci consolide leur compréhension des acquis nécessaires à leur carrière dans les FAC. «Fun Fact», tous les candidats FCE qui complète leur entraînement avec notre section, nous ont tous dit la même chose : «si je ne perdais pas ma paie de spécialiste, je transférerais comme techniciens des lignes. Votre métier, et surtout votre chimie de groupe, est tellement mieux que celle que j'ai vécu dans toutes les autres sections!».



Avr Tarik pendant son FCE.

Avec la promesse de l'arrivée des nouveaux avions de chasse F-35 à la 3e escadre de Bagotville, notre petit CTLL ne manque aucunement de travail. Il y a de nombreux chantiers de construction éparpillés un peu partout sur son territoire. Nous devons constamment identifier nos câbles pour être certains que le réseau soit intact aux opérations de cette escadre hautement opérationnelle. De plus, lors des travaux, il y a toujours la découverte d'ancien câble de l'époque de la construction de la base. Durant ce type de découverte, les travaux doivent arrêter jusqu'au moment où l'un de nos membres assure au superviseur de chantier que le câble n'est plus en utilisation et qu'ils peuvent procéder à l'excavation. Tout cela se fait en continuant notre mandat premier d'assurer la maintenance du réseau de télécommunications de la BFC Bagotville et de sa zone géographique de responsabilité



Cpl Laberge pendant une localisation.

OP IMPACT ROTO 9

Written by: Op IMPACT Roto 9 Line Section (May – November 2023)



On 9 May 2023, Op IMPACT Roto 9 received its new Line Section: Line Communication Foreman (LCF) Sgt Patrice Deschamps, Second-in-command (2IC) MCpl Jeff Myre, and crew members Cpl Raphael Bilodeau and Cpl Luke Pelletier from 2 Line Squadron (Sqn). Three days after the main body hit ground, the crew welcomed WO Jamie Hardy, the incoming Line Communication Superintendent (LCS), returning back to the land of the golden sand and warm winds. Without time to waste, the handover started as the Roto 8 Line Section had only 5 days remaining in the sand. The outgoing members introduced, explained and walked the incoming crew through every square inch of Camp Canada's ISPs and OSPs (inside and outside plants). With a lot of info absorbed, the handover completed, and final good-byes said, we all got to work. The new Line Section took advantage of a little extra help from Cpls J r my Desmeules and Miguel Pelletier-Brazeau from 1 Line Sqn who were still on the ground seeing out the final days of their TAV (theatre activation tour). The extra hands were appreciated as the flood-gates had opened up, and it was off to the races with replacements of security cameras, constant work orders, MACS, structural wiring removal from administrative tents, and the structural wiring install of CHU 3 (container housing unit).

The crew established a steady and balanced work schedule. It felt like after a blink of an eye when we received the emails for HLTA (home leave travel assistance) trip plans. Away from our families, we celebrated and enjoyed in Canada Day festivities from abroad with new friends. Unfortunately, the LCS, the LCF and Cpl Bilodeau missed out on the daytime events, as they spent their day flying first-class on the Hercules around the JOA, at the courtesy of the RCAF. They managed to arrive back in Camp Canada lines for the showcase event everyone was waiting for... You guess it! The traditional Canada Day Desert Hockey Game!

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We also managed to conduct some training alongside the coalition forces. In mid-July, USAF Safety Training Expo invited us to their confined space training.. The invitation was also extended to our Image Technician, Cpl Salustro. The expo consisted of multiple coalition units including USAF Safety Trg team, USAF Fire & Rescue, and civilian Cable Dawgs, to show case diverse maintenance hole (MH) confined space setups and PPE operation and maintenance. Coalition partners were impressed with our Line Section's modern confined space equipment and capabilities. Cpl Salustro, our honourary Line Tech of the day, dawned all PPE and was lowered in and out of the MH. We also took advantage of a realtime situation of the generator upgrade project. MCpl Myre took the opportunity to conduct a practical professional development (PD) session to our fellow communications and electronics (C&E) shop on proper cable locate procedures and locator equipment operation. Both the confined space training and cable locator PD session provided team bonding experience and increased knowledge and awareness of technical networks.





Soon after arrival, the Summer temperatures of 45 degrees wanted to accompany us on our jobs, so outdoor installations and repairs were mostly done early in the mornings while working outside was made easier at nightfall where temperatures dropped to 30 degrees. Both Cpls Pelletier and Bilodeau being SMEs in working aloft, they assisted the NRL in monthly satellite communications (SATCOMM) maintenance and security camera replacements. We often relieved ourselves of heat by spraying water from the pressure washer, which felt like sprays of blessing.



The HLTAs in mid-July allowed the Line Section members to enjoy some much needed R&R, either back at home or at a third location elsewhere. In absence of the crew, the LCS remained on-call and at short distance away, always ready to lend a hand. With two members away from Camp Canada on repairs within other parts of the JOA, both the LCF and the LCS at the C&E shop got working on their farmer tans in the 50 plus degrees. Their technical expertise were always much appreciated, but some of their elbow grease and the ol' fashion pick-and-shovel were also appreciated. Working steadily under the day's heat, chugging back only water, our direst daydreams were of a cold bottle of beer. Nevertheless, we put aside our daydreams and cracked open the

rock-solid Kuwaiti earth surface to dig approximately 50 meters of trench and install the conduit and cable during USAF bunker upgrade project



We dedicated some time to reconstitute serialized kit and equipment, submitting endless 2227/2228s for upgrades to our kit and equipment, paving the way for the current and future Roto's success. Prior to shifting to the retro-grade project, a tactical pause was called to allow the Task Force J6 to present Cpl Pelletier his appointment of Master Corporal.



September came around quick and all members were back on the ground from the staggered HLTAs. We were greeted with the arrival of two more container housing units. The team remained as determined as we have been since day 1 to accomplish yet another milestone. With our orders in hand, the Line Section deployed on multiple maintenance TAVs throughout the JOA. Installations, repairs, and upgrades were completed throughout the JOA prior to the arrival of Roto 10 crew.



In early November, our unaccompanied bags were dropped off, final administration done, and we patiently waited our bus ride to the airport. But first, the down-sized Roto 10 Line Sect arrived with Sgt Jon London and his lone section mbr, Cpl David Dion. Shortly after the two awoke from their first Kuwaiti sleep, the handover took place.

This was another deployment in the books for some of us, and the first for some to receive their medals prior to departure. The Line Sect was recognized for their tireless efforts, with MCpl Pelletier being presented the CO's coin and both WO Hardy and Cpl Bilodeau being awarded the Commander OSH-SWA (Operational Support Hub – Southwest Asia) Commendations. Roto 10, the reigns are yours. All the best, and take care.

3 Line Squadron

Masset 2023

Written by: Cpl Rodriguez.

Masset 2023 marked another milestone for the 77 Line Det Edmonton Regional Line Work Center. Masset, British Columbia is arguably one of the most challenging, exciting and intriguing project sites for Line Technicians in Canada. The RLWC visits Masset annually to do maintenance work on the pole line and antennae located there. This year's effort proved to be a resounding success.



In week one, as per tradition, we were greeted warmly by Bonnie, the gracious lady responsible for our accommodations. She delighted us with weekly treats of cinnamon buns and fresh bread. The equipment we shipped to the work site was delayed but the delay provided an unexpected opportunity. The team seized this chance to clear brush from the grounds in hopes of improving signal strength, as well as to clean up the antenna shop—tasks that would have otherwise been low-priority due to time constraints



By the end of week one and into the 2nd week, our equipment arrived, allowing us to focus on monopole maintenance and the replacement of damaged downloads. For Pte Duchesne-Rowan, it was the first climbing experience since training and for Cpl Kuzyk, it was the first climb at Masset. Both exhibited remarkable diligence and proved to be invaluable assets to the team.

While work on the monopoles was ongoing, I took charge of replacing the bottom springs and buckles on the Low Band Reflector screen. This maintenance work will extend the lifespan of the respective downloads. The concurrent efforts on the monopoles and the reflector screen enabled a seamless transition between the two tasks.

Weeks two and three were dedicated to the reflector screen and the long-wire cross loop—two other antenna structures adjacent to the FRD-10. While Cpl O'Halloran led the brush-cutting efforts in the secondary antenna site, Cpl Bui managed the work on the reflector screen. The concurrent execution of multiple tasks substantially boosted our productivity, making this one of the most successful projects in years. Additionally, we were fortunate to experience near-perfect weather in Masset—a rare occurrence—allowing us to work without disruptions from high winds or heavy rain.

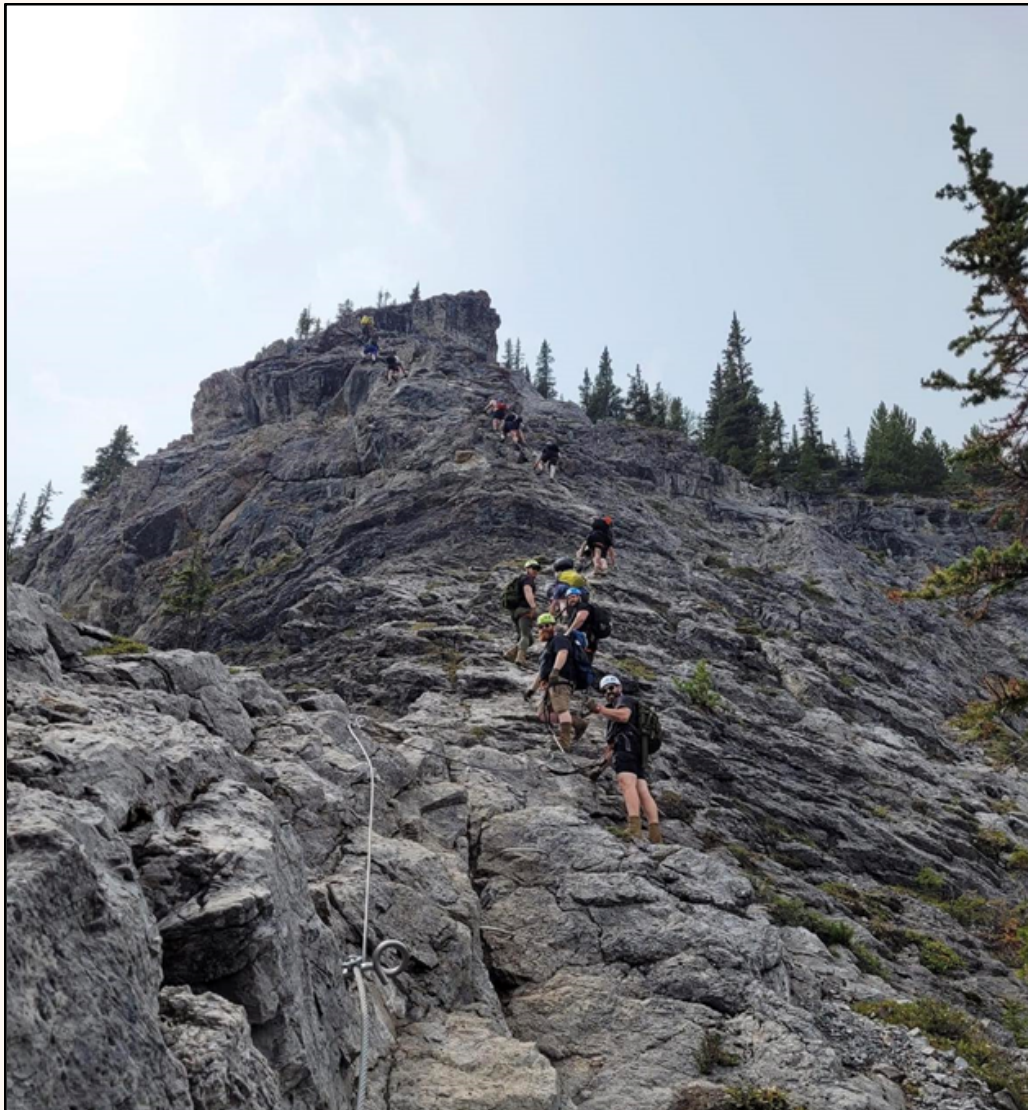
During our downtime, the team bonded both amongst ourselves and with the Masset community. We visited local eateries and participated in the Haida Days festivities. Some team members even acquired custom artwork commissioned by the Haida people. The nightly potlucks and campfires only added to the wonderful memories and strong bonds that the RLWC crew has forged on such projects. Although there's still much work to be done on this majestic site, we're departing this year with our heads held high, confident that we've made significant progress.



Ex Mercury Spur 2023 (Adventure Training)

Written by: Lt Amin

In order to enhance esprit de corps and collaboration between both sister squadrons, 3 Line Sqn and 5 Line Sqn were granted the opportunity to conduct Adventure Training together for the first time. The training occurred at Banff and Kootenay National Parks, in Alberta and British Columbia respectively, between 6 – 12 Aug 23. Ex Mercury Spur was designed to develop teamwork, leadership and physical fitness through challenging outdoor activities.



3 Line and 5 Line Sqn members climbing Mt. Norquay (Via Ferrata).

5 Line Sqn personnel flew from their AOR to Calgary and consolidated with 3 Line Sqn in Canmore, Alberta. All personnel then drove to Two Jack Main Campgrounds in Banff to establish camp. Over the next few days members participated in various adventure training activities such as canyoning, climbing Mt. Norquay (Via Ferrata) and mountain biking. To establish a camp battle rhythm, junior members were given the opportunity to be camp commanders and oversee daily camp activities such as preparing meals, co-ordinating travel and survival briefs. The OICs for Ex Mercury Spur (Capt. Carter and Lt Amin) passed daily orders to camp commanders and provided oversight as required while the more senior NCOs of the group

Sgt Gallant and MCpl Thibodeau provided valuable feedback to camp commanders to improve their leadership skills. 5 Line SSM, A/OC and Padre flew from Halifax to participate in activities for a few days. This provided command leadership an opportunity to engage with dispersed troops and build lasting relationships.



Views of Banff Mountain range during our hike.

During the second phase of training, we tore down camp and conducted a road move to Redstreak Campgrounds in Kootenay National Park. After setting up camp in Redstreak Campgrounds for the next two days, we participated in Segway tours, ziplining and hiking around the area. The long days of driving, setting up camp and conducting various activities were taxing on the troops but we always enjoyed having dinner together around a campfire, further increasing morale and team cohesion. At the end of second phase, we travelled back to our original campsite in Two Jack Main Campgrounds to spend the last day of training. We conducted a gruelling day-long hike around Banff as our last training activity. After the hike, troops were given the opportunity to explore the beautiful town of Banff and we had dinner together in a restaurant sharing our thoughts on the amazing past few days.

We really enjoyed our time at the campsites boosting morale and completing various challenging outdoor activities. The troops were able to improve on their leadership skills by filling the camp commander role which helped them prepare for their future PLQ courses. 3 Line Sqn and 5 Line Sqn members were very happy with Ex Mercury Spur 2023 and are looking forward to conducting future adventure training activities together and with other Sqns.

4 Line Squadron

Triggered for Success

Written by: Cpl Richard "Dick" Foster



Members of 4 Line celebrate their victory in the 2023 Jean Romard Challenge.

Looking back on the accomplishments of 4 Line Squadron (4LS) the last 6-12 months is proving to be a bigger task than I first envisioned. Even written out in point form would fill the space allotted to this article. I'm floored by the work we do, the distances we travel and the capabilities we provide. It is clear to me; 4LS is triggered for success.

For example, Petawawa Regional Line Work Centre (RLWC) kicked the year off with a 4-week pole line install at Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Valcartier in February. Not challenging enough. Make it 5 weeks and add 2 emergency repairs. Every task on that job gave us a unique problem to solve. The hours were long, and the work was hard, but the bond that crew made during those weeks buried in snow and hydraulic fluid will never fade. Great strides were made in smashing the English/French language barrier with epic improv safety briefs regarding operating snowmobiles while laying line and NEVER traversing over a cable buried in snow.



Cpl Dick Foster surveys the Arctic landscape at CFS Alert, Nu

To challenge ourselves a little more, we hosted Exercise CLIMBING BEAR (Ex CB 23) and won the Jean Romard Challenge. Too easy.

July didn't slow down as we tackled tower maintenance in Point Petre and North Bay. Scheduling summer tower maintenance at such beautiful locations is one of the best perks of the job. Not to be outdone, we followed up by arranging adventure training with Wilderness Tours to camp and whitewater raft on the Ottawa River.

All 4LS attended Exercise COLLABORATIVE EFFORT (Ex CE 23) in Borden despite redeploying a crew consisting of both regional and local members for emergency repairs back in Petawawa. When contractors fail, 4LS succeeds. In the fall we crushed all tasks in Montreal, Borden, Toronto, and Bagotville before returning to silly week before Christmas.

While some crews choose to travel to sunny and warm destinations for spring break, our members packed their winter survival bag and hopped on a Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) transport plane for the Arctic. For the second time in two years, a hybrid Petawawa/Trenton crew had to replace a section of fibre damaged by the local wildlife. The first time was an act of sabotage by a group of rogue Arctic hares in December of 2021. This year brought the wolves. Amazingly, the animals attacked the same section of line we had previously replaced, making it a quick fix. Experience, technical skill, and veteran extreme winter fieldcraft enabled completion of the job in half the time.

June was a busy month for most units with Annual Posting Season (APS), summer leave and change of command parades. 4LS excels under intense stress and heat from the hot summer sun.



Cpl Josh Matthews demonstrates an aerial tower rescue during Climbing Bear.



Aftermath of significant storm damage in the Petawawa training area.

Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) Petawawa was undermanned and overworked. Their highlights include new lines being ran at the Canadian Special Operations Regiment (CSOR) complex, 6 Classified Infrastructure Squadron (6CI) Red Distribution Systems (RDS) projects for 427 Tactical Helicopter Squadron (427 TacHel Sqn). Professional Development (PD), On-the-Job-Training (OJT), networking and cross training with brigade members, who help keep the local shop occupied.

LLWC North Bay had its share of emergency repairs and unexpected outages. Despite the floods, lighting and other acts of God, the small crew managed and maintained the critical North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) infrastructure, coordinating with both civilian and military crews to keep our continental defenses strong and our country safe.

4LS continued to develop personally and professionally. In Trenton, Master Corporal (MCpl) Dan Pickering was successful in the Primary Leadership Qualification (PLQ) course. LLWC Trenton members trained Aerospace Telecommunications Engineering Support (ATESS) OJT members and mastered our new gas detectors. Corporal (Cpl) Garret Guergis supported 6CI with RDS projects while Sergeant (Sgt) CJ Maclean supported the Complex Antenna Systems Maintainer/Installer Course (CASMIC) as an instructor.

In Borden, crews completed cable locates within the massive Borden Canadian Armed Forces Ammunition Depot (CFAD) leading the complete revitalization of the roads within the compound. Their completion of All Moves/Adds/Changes (MACs) within CFB Borden led to an early start to the imposed maintenance plan of the 2024 fiscal year.

In Meaford, their more recent significant projects were wiring CFAD compound gates, 7th Line Gates (as Warner Hill has washed away), fuel depot fibre run, adding Wireless Fidelity (WiFi) in the accommodation buildings, and the Workplace Communication Services (WCS) Project (base infrastructure upgrades).



Cpl Mithra Tanskanen performing cable locates after a broken water main in North Bay.

The members we're most proud of don't rest when the job is done – they deploy on OPERATION REASSURANCE to Latvia and keep working while the rest of us take five. Camp Adazi won't expand on its own, so Cpl Josh Matthews, Cpl Nick Davies, Sgt Mark Price, and Warrant Officer (WO) Art Booker are showing how we take care of business in the Baltics. Whether it's in the cable maintenance holes (MH) or the trenches on exercise, our deployed members continue to represent our Regiment and as North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) members of the Enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) with class and professionalism. Stay safe boys – we'll see you all soon.

We all know significant challenges await 77 Line Regiment in 2024. We're looking at imposed financial controls and often higher expectations. Our most deserving members are being posted and promoted and leave big shoes to fill for our upcoming junior leaders. Our skills don't have the luxury of fading anymore. We all need to keep up with new technology, standards, and practices of our increasingly technical trade among the realities of an evolving defence force.



4 Line Squadron competes in the pole carry event in CFB Valcartier during the Jean Romard Challenge.

We have tickets and projects to catch up on before we can tackle the mountain of new tasks and MACs we're expected to take on, often with less resources than in the past. 4LS can't do it all. We need each member on every crew across all squadrons to remain focused and motivated to perform at our best. We need our members knowledge and experience taught at Canadian Forces School of Communications and Electronics (CFSCE) in Kingston. We need to stay fit. We need to stay social. Keep your families close and cherish any downtime. Use any opportunity for personal growth and bring your friends and communities together.

I see amazing people perform great work everyday. We'll get the job done and get our message through, no matter the cost. I'm still proud to be a lineman in the Canadian Army, as we all should be.

5 Line Squadron

LLWC Gander

Written by: Cpl Connor



Cpl McConnell, MCpl McCabe

It's been a busy year for LLWC Gander, MCpl McCabe and Cpl McConnell were deployed to OP Reassurance in June 23. At the time of writing this they're on the final stretch and plan to return home in a couple weeks.

We also had 2 members posted into CFB Gander this year. MCpl Fred White who came from 14 OSS Greenwood and previously CFB Edmonton HQ & Sigs. We also welcomed Sgt Brad Saunders from CFJSR in Kingston in September of this year. And we said goodbye to MCpl McCabe as he was posted to CFB Comox; we wish you well!



FRD -10 Antenna Structure being replaced

The FRD-10 construction has finally been finished by the Titan crew on the Low Band reflector screen. All 80, 120ft poles and upper 27' Beams along with hardware all 719 8Awg copper wires have been replaced. It only took 4 years and a pandemic to get it done! Although the biggest structure on the Antenna has been replaced there's still no shortage of work for this 70-year-old structure.



During the summer, along with other members of 5 Line, Cpl Connors traveled to Banff Alberta to meet up with members of 3 Line to participate in adventure training! Some notable events such as repelling in canyons and waterfalls, Via Ferrata on Mt. Norquay, mountain biking in Banff, segway and zipline tours. And to finish it all off a 15km hike up a mountain 2350M above sea level. Simply put, it was spectacular.



And immediately after, Cpl Connors was tasked on a 3-week job in Goose Bay, NL with RLWC Atlantic for 1st line maintenance of the antennae structures in and around the base. Additional work was done to the buried, and underground cable infrastructure. Eric Patey kept us busy!



From all of us at LLWC Gander and OP REASSURANCE Latvia, we wish you a happy 2024!

International Space University

Space Systems Program Participant Experience

Written by: Maj Gill

I had the privilege attending the 35th Space Studies Program (SSP) held between 24 June – 25 August 2023 in São José dos Campos, Brazil. Already having a CAF space background, this course has been on my “space bucket list” since 2012. The SSP provides courses in all space disciplines, as well as hands-on education through workshops and professional visits. A unique curriculum designed specifically for professionals starting or changing direction in their space careers. This course is intended for people working in space-related fields who wish to broaden their knowledge base. During the SSP, participants work on team projects to address current and future challenges in the space sector.



Major Tyler Gill as flag bearer for the Space Studies Program opening ceremonies.

There were 85 participants from 32 different countries in attendance this year. British, French, Italian, Brazilian, and South Korean militaries were also represented. The course was a 9-week program split into 3 parts. The first part consisted of 3 weeks devoted to 58 core lectures where the participants were taught by space professionals, business professionals, space companies and space agencies around the world. All the lectures incorporated six space departments:

Engineering, Science, Human Performance in Space, Humanities, Space Policy/Law, and Space Applications. There were two exams which all participants were expected to pass. The core lectures were very interesting, given by experts such as Canadian Astronaut Robert Thrisk, former NASA Chief Scientist, Jim Green, along with other astronauts and representatives from NASA, Blue Origin, Canadensys Aerospace, JAXA, Israeli, Canadian, Brazilian, and European space agencies, etc.

The second part was 3 weeks dedicated to space departments. Each participant was split into one of the space departments, where they were given more detailed curriculum in smaller groups. Participants also travelled within São José dos Campos and spent one weekend in Rio de Janeiro visiting museums, educational facilities, astronomy labs, etc. Each participant was expected to produce and present a department project to pass the department portion of the program. During the department phase of the program, I chose Humanities. Already having a broad understanding of other departments, I felt drawn to this one because of its focus on inclusion, communication, and outreach. It was a good opportunity to think outside of the engineering and science piece of the space puzzle, and focus on areas such as art, how to communicate space interest to younger generations and develop communication skills that will help my ability to speak to diverse groups.

The third part was 3 weeks dedicated to the team project. The projects were the following: 1) The Metaverse, 2) Water Securities, 3) Smart Cities, and 4) Space Situational Awareness. Each project consisted of approximately 20 participants. The groups were responsible to write a paper and prepare a presentation. The papers were equivalent to a master's level project, approximately 80-100 pages total. The teams were expected to organize themselves, splitting off the work accordingly, to ensure the tight deadlines were made before the end of the program. The team project is where most of our work was concentrated. I chose Space Situational Awareness (SSA) because of my background, and I felt this would have been the most beneficial to the CAF. Our project proposed an international framework for SSA that would be used to govern space traffic management for a safer and more sustainable environment. We studied up on the engineering, law and policy, and business areas that would need to be considered for such a structure. This topic is awkward in today's space political sphere, and not something we were able to solve in 3 weeks, but to have the number of countries all talking about the same problem and how to solve it was quite impressive. These papers were presented at the 74th International Astronautical Congress (IAC), Baku, Azerbaijan, 2-6 October 2023

Program highlights: the Chinese Space Station crew made a recording for the class that was shown during one of the public lectures we attended. Second, we had an opportunity to ask questions to UAE astronaut, Sultan al Neyadi, from the International Space Station flying 500 km above São José dos Campos. Third, a Russian engineer who worked on Russian space systems during the Cold War, Dr. Mikhail Marov, also made a recording and answered pre-written questions from the program participants during a public event.



Canadian and United States astronaut panel discussion. Chinese Space Station pre-recorded presentation to the Space Studies Program participants.

Space Studies Participants asking questions to UAE astronaut, Sultan al Neyadi, while he was flying in the International Space Station 500 km above Brazil

Overall, this was an excellent experience. I grew personally and professionally and was able to network with over 32 countries, positioning the CAF as a key player in the space sector. The ISU alumni stretch throughout the space sector which I will be able to take advantage of moving forward throughout my career in the CAF. Thanks to the 77 Line Regt CoC for recognizing the benefit of sending me on this course, and to the 3 Canadian Space Division for selecting and funding my nomination with the anticipation of my return to a space position further into my career.

5LS Remembrance Day Parade in Mount Uniacke

Written by: MCpl Thibodeau



Members of 5 Line Squadron after the Remembrance Day parade at Mt. Uniacke.

On November 11, 2023, the Remembrance Day Parade in Mount Uniacke, Nova Scotia. The Royal Canadian Legion District Branch 165 Legion had the honor of being supported by the 77 Line Regiment 5 Line Squadron, Fire Services and Navy Cadets. This collaboration provided the parade with the necessary ceremonial tasks.

The community of Mount Uniacke had not previously had a military contingent participating in their Remembrance Day Parade before 2019. However, in a move towards inclusivity and to promote team cohesion within the squadron, members of the 5 Line Squadron from various locations such as Gagetown, New Brunswick, Gander, Newfoundland, Greenwood, Nova Scotia, and the Halifax region, alongside the 12 Wing Lodger, have come together to offer their support to the community.

This plan has been in motion since last year, with a significant effort by Master Warrant Officer Denton to establish and build relationships with key military units such as 12 Wing Shearwater and MARLANT. Additionally, MWO Denton has coordinated with the Mount Uniacke Legion and the local community to ensure the success of this collaboration.

The involvement of the 77 Line Regiment 5 Line Squadron in the Remembrance Day Parade is highly significant, as it demonstrates the dedication and commitment of the Canadian Armed Forces to honoring and remembering those who have served and sacrificed for our country. This inclusion not only added a new dynamic to the parade but also strengthen the bond between the military and the community of Mount Uniacke.

The presence of the 77 Line Regiment 5 Line Squadron undoubtedly brought a sense of pride and reverence to the 2023 Remembrance Day Parade. As we commemorate and pay tribute to the brave men and women who have served our nation, their support served as a reminder of the sacrifices made and the unbreakable spirit of our military community.

The support from 12 Wing Shearwater in the Remembrance Day Parade further highlights the unity and cooperation among different branches of the Canadian Armed Forces. This gesture served as a reminder of the significant role that the Royal Canadian Air Force plays in our nation's defense.

A helicopter flyby was organized and gave a sense of gravity and reverence to the ceremony. The powerful roar of the helicopter's engines and the precision of the flight maneuvers captivated the audience and serve as a poignant reminder made by our military personnel. As the helicopter passes overhead, it symbolizes the bravery and commitment of those who have served and continue to serve our country.



The inclusion of the helicopter flyby adds a dynamic element to the Remembrance Day Parade and offers a unique perspective for attendees to appreciate the contributions of the Royal Canadian Air Force. This contribution also showed support for the veterans and their families in attendance.

The coordination and collaboration between 12 Wing Shearwater and the other organizations involved in the parade highlight the importance of teamwork and unity in honoring our nation's veterans. This joint effort further emphasizes the significance and solemnity of the Remembrance Day Parade, creating a truly memorable and meaningful experience for all those in attendance.



The involvement of the Royal Canadian Legion District Branch 165 Legion in this collaboration further emphasizes the importance of remembrance and unity. The Legion has long been a pillar of support for veterans and their families, and their presence in the Remembrance Day Parade reinforces their commitment to preserving the memory of our fallen soldiers.

In conclusion, the Remembrance Day Parade in Mount Uniacke, Nova Scotia in 2023 was an extraordinary event thanks to the support and contributions from various organizations. Their collective efforts ensured a poignant and memorable tribute to those who have served and sacrificed for our country. This collaboration serves as a shining example of the enduring bond between the military and the local community, emphasizing the importance of remembrance and honoring our veterans.



6 Classified Infrastructure Sqn

Introduction to 6 CI Squadron

Written by: Cpl Smith

As the newest squadron in 77 Line Regiment, you may be wondering who we are and what we do. Our newness to the unit may give the impression that we are a new squadron. While 6CI is a new sub-unit for 77 Line Regiment and we bring new capabilities with us, CFCMU is like a well-maintained used car. That is to say, while we may be new to you, we've been motoring along for awhile now, providing our capabilities to the CF. Despite this, we are not well known in the CAF. Perhaps it is because Classified Infrastructure is a lot like Fight Club. The first rule is, you don't talk about Classified Infrastructure.

Canadian Forces Crypto Maintenance Unit (CFCMU) first stood up on 01 May 71, taking over for Sigs C, a unit of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals based in Kingston ON (Army) and the Wire Communications Section of NO. 6 Repair Depot in Astra ON (Air Force). The unit took over the responsibilities of teletype and cryptographic maintenance and installations from the previous two units. Originally, CFCMU was a field unit of the Assistant Deputy Minister (Material) (ADM (MAT)). The unit has been a lodger in Kingston since this time.



Official Opening

CFCMU operated in Canada from coast to coast and in the far north. It also operated globally in Germany, Cyprus, Egypt and Vietnam. Further, it contributed to Canada's strategic military messaging capability under the SAMSON Project.



Sod Turning

In 1983, the CFCMU crest received Royal assent from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Motto “Communicatio Tuta” is Latin for “Secure Communications”. The center of the badge shows a globe surrounded by two lightning bolts over a red and black background. It symbolizes the unit’s role in providing secure communication services around the world in support of the Canadian Armed Forces.

A year later in 1984, CFCMU moved out of B19 in CFB Kingston which had been shared with the Canadian Forces Distribution Authority. The dedication of the Goodwin Annex took place on 02 May 86. The annex was specifically built to house CFCMU. In 2004, CFCMU took control of B19.



Pride and Excellence

In 1991, CFCMU received the Canadian Forces Unit Commendation from the Chief of Defense Staff, General AJGD de Chastelain. In 1995, the unit was transferred from ADM (Mat) to become a field unit of Assistant Deputy Minister (Information Management) (ADM (IM)). The unit was placed under the Director General Information Management Operations (DGIMO) Operational Command in 2008. A year later the unit was placed under 76 Communications Group (Comm Gp), a subordinate of the DGIMO formation. The same year, the unit was awarded the Assistant Deputy Minister (Information Management) (ADM(IM)) Team Merit Award from the ADM(IM), Mr. John Turner in recognition of exceptional effort in support of Canadian Forces Operations Center.



Do not ask about the fish, I cannot tell you.

Other things of note about 6 CI squadron include our unofficial motto, “Pride and Excellence” and our unit prayer which was proposed in Dec of 2009.

*God in whom we find refuge –
 Rock of Safety, Fortress of Security, and Shield of Strength –
 through your mighty power,
 even the smallest can do great things.
 Inspire us, the members of the Canadian Forces Crypto Maintenance Unit,
 with pride in our work,
 and guide us on the quest for excellence.
 Keep us safe in all our travels,
 and protect those whom we love.
 Sharpen our minds and strengthen our hands
 so that we may serve you, God, our country,
 and the causes of justice and peace. Amen.*

Most recently and perhaps more interesting than the above history lesson, CF CMU joined 77 Line Regt as 6CI squadron. As a squadron of 77 Line Regiment, 6 CI is happy to share our 50+ year history with the rest of the regiment. In effect, our history is now also a part of your history. The histories of all six squadrons intertwine, making the whole stronger. Like the strands of a cable. Or to quote the famous leader, “Apes together, strong”.

Thank you!



“The histories of all six squadrons intertwine, making the whole stronger. Like the strands of a cable.” - Cpl Smith, 6 CI Sqn

