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January 14, 2016



Royal Canadian Artillery Association News



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DEFENCE NEWS

Canada's first veterans ombudsman shocked it took 5 years to track homeless vets



CBC News

Pat Stogran, Canada's first veterans ombudsman, vividly recalls being hauled into the minister's office one day in late 2008, where an angry, red-faced Greg Thompson — the veterans minister of the day — upbraided him for making public the issue of homelessness among ex-soldiers. **READ MORE**

Canadian Forces carries out medevacs in Labrador, on Burin Peninsula



CBC News

Aircraft with the Canadian Forces completed two separate medevacs in Labrador and on Newfoundland's Burin Peninsula. A Cormorant helicopter transported a 50-year-old man from Grand Bank to St. John's International Airport. No details about his condition were released. **READ MORE**

Hearing damage most common disability in Canadian Forces



Chronicle Herald

It was after a training exercise at CFB Gagetown in New Brunswick that Nova Scotia army veteran Robert Grant first noticed the ringing. "I was instructing on the use of a grenade on the grenade range. It bounced too close, and the sound seemed to rattle around the inside of my helmet. The concussion made me lose my hearing. Twenty minutes to a half-hour later, it came back. But I never lost the ringing." **READ MORE**

Saskatchewan gun owners wary of new Liberal government



Leader Post

Gun owners in Saskatchewan are watching the new Liberal government with a sideways glance. Bill Temple, chairman of Saskatchewan Gun Collectors Association show, which held its 55th annual event in Regina, is "quite convinced" the Liberals will bring back the long-gun registry. This despite the party explicitly saying it won't revive the program, which Stephen Harper's Conservative government dismantled. **READ MORE**

Requirements for new fighter jets are being redrawn, defence minister says



National Post

The requirements for Canada's next fleet of fighter jets are being redrawn as part of a thorough defence review ordered by the new Liberal defence minister. Harjit Sajjan said his department is looking at the procurement of military equipment, the size of the Canadian Forces and the theatres where they operate. **READ MORE**

Royal Canadian Navy looks to outsource tugboat services



CBC News

The Royal Canadian Navy is looking at getting rid of its own tugboats to save money. It has invited companies to submit their "business case" to provide tug services at HMC Dockyard in Halifax and CFB Esquimalt in British Columbia. The contract could last 25 years. **READ MORE**

Summerside veterans' memorial to commemorate 'untraditional' conflicts



CBC News

A group that works to remember fallen soldiers from P.E.I.'s Prince County has plans for a new memorial, one that reflects Canada's more recent military conflicts. Summerside's Lest We Forget committee plans to erect the memorial at Credit Union Place, which is where the legion conducts its annual Remembrance Day ceremony. The memorial will complement a wall of Remembrance currently inside CUP. **READ MORE**

RCAA NEWS AND UPDATES

Public health care plan and dental tax write off



RCAA

If you are paying for public health care and dental package, here is some information for your income tax:

Call CF Medical Plan Office 1 800 267 6542 and CF Dental Plan Office 1-800-267-0350.

Ask them for your premium paid tax receipt for the past 10 years and they will take your information and you will receive it in the mail. I was assured that the amount I paid over the past 10 may be applied to my income tax submission for 2015 tax year. The form will be mailed to you in Feb/Mar 2016 and then from that date on you will receive the tax amount via a letter every year.

THE LAST POST

BECHTEL, Charles, Sgt, 9 Jan 2016

MACLEAN, Norman, Capt AOP, 8 Jan 2016

VAUTOUR, Joseph (joe) Eloi, 7 Jan 2016

WEBSTER, Ronald James, Col, 28 Dec 2015

DILLING, Frederick Ronald, 20 Dec 2015

MCKAY, Robert Neil, LCol, 19 Dec 2015

JAMES, Ronald Kenneth (Jesse), Col, 17 Dec 2015

INGLEHART, Gordon John, 15 Dec 2015

MUISE, Keith Robert, 12 Dec 2015

O'NEIL, Donald William (Bill), 12 Dec 2015

BLACKWELL, Eugene (Blackie), MWO 11 Dec 2015

REYNOLDS, George Francis Finley, Col 10 Dec 2015

MCTAGGART, A.E. (Ted) Capt. (Mstr Gnr), 10 Dec 2015

MARTIN, Charles Edward, WWII, 7 Dec 15

WHALEN, Ivan, RCHA, 7 Nov 2015

KEMPERS, Herman Jan 'John', 3RCHA, 29 Oct 2015

TAYLOR, Norman, WWII Gunner, 19 Oct 2015

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- [MP says veterans, seniors should get deep discounts on passports](#) (CBC News)
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