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February 18, 2016



## Royal Canadian Artillery Association News



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### DEFENCE NEWS

## From the Sault, this weapon can destroy a house in Richards Landing



SOO Today

Members of the 49th Field Artillery Regiment are developing proficiency with a state-of-the-art howitzer that can accurately hit house-sized targets more than 30 kilometres away. The Royal Canadian Artillery's new M777 lightweight 155-mm howitzer is equipped with a digital gun management system that can direct guided projectiles using an inertial navigation unit combined with global positioning system (GPS) satellites or lasers. **READ MORE**

## Defence firm blasted for 'shameful' claim Canadian soldiers were biased during equipment trial



National Post

A federal trade tribunal has torn a strip off the subsidiary of a U.S. defence firm for insulting Canadian soldiers, calling it shameful that the company made unsubstantiated claims that the troops were biased when testing battlefield communications equipment. **READ MORE**

## Canada's shipbuilding industry sounds alarm over DND plan to potentially lease foreign-built tugboats



Ottawa Citizen

Canada's shipbuilding industry says it is concerned over recent reports in the *Citizen* that the Canadian government may lease foreign built tugboats rather than build replacement tugs for the Royal Canadian Navy at

home. In mid-January, the *Citizen* carried an article noting that the federal government had confirmed that some of the smaller ships that could be supplied in the future to the Canadian Forces don't have to be built in Canada.

**READ MORE**

## Veteran Family Program helps military families



Westman Journal

A federal funded pilot project aimed at easing the transition from Veteran to civilian life has recently begun in Shilo at the Military Family Resource Centre. The Veteran Family Program, which began last fall in Shilo, is just one of seven pilot sites across the country that is currently providing support to medically-released Veterans and their families. The four-year project provides families involved access to the program for two years from the date of release by the military. **READ MORE**

## Veterans Cemetery expansion plans falling into place



Victoria News

For the past 20 years, Veterans Affairs Canada has been working on a plan to expand the Veterans Cemetery in Esquimalt. And now it appears that plan is falling into place thanks to a parcel of land from the Gorge Vale Golf Course. **READ MORE**

## ARCTIC RAM: Canadian Armed Forces depart on northernmost training exercise ever



Metro News

A Canadian Armed Forces brigade will make history this week as they conduct their northernmost training exercise ever. About 120 members of 38 Canadian Brigade Group left 17 Wing Winnipeg recently to head to Resolute Bay, Nunavut where they will take part in an exercise that will see them 'rescue' a 'downed satellite.' **READ MORE**

## When students meet veterans, history will be recorded



Prince George Citizen

Before there are no voices left to record, a group of high school students are looking to capture the stories of local Canadian Armed Forces veterans. "Ranjit Gill, our executive director, is a really big proponent on military families and providing support and she came up with the idea," said Katherine Carlson, curator at the Central BC Railway and Forestry Museum. **READ MORE**

### RCAA NEWS AND UPDATES

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## The Welfare of Gunners



Executive Director RCAA

I expect that all us at one time or another have hit a bump in the road that has disrupted our lives or the lives of those near and dear to us. A sudden illness or disability, a catastrophic accident, the loss of a home; regardless of the cause, we need help! **READ MORE**

## RCAS Dominates Annual Saint Barbara's Day Hockey Game



Captain Nicholas Kaempffer

While every day is great day to be a Gunner, on the 4th of December, it is especially glorious, for the feast of Saint Barbara unites the Kings of Battle to celebrate their beloved Patron Saint through sports, mess dinners, and other events. 2015 was no exception, as the 3rd annual sporting competition between The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery School (RCAS) and 4th Artillery Regiment (General Support), RCA (herein referred to as 4 Regt (GS)) turned into an electrifying match between two titans, once power was restored to the Base Gym. **READ MORE**

## Vers la surveillance et l'acquisition d'objectifs



Major Guy Vézina, Commandant 57e Bie

La 57e Batterie d'artillerie (57e Bie) du 6e Régiment d'artillerie de campagne vit actuellement une autre transformation. Elle a été désignée par le Cmdt du Régiment pour constituer sa troupe de Surveillance et d'acquisition d'objectifs (SAO) attribuée avec son nouvel établissement des effectifs de l'unité. Il ne s'agit pas de son premier changement depuis sa longue existence, puisque son origine remonte à 1828. Soulignons qu'elle a

déjà portée la dénomination de 57e Bie de repérage en 1954. **LIRE PLUS**

## RETIREMENTS

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**Departure wit Dignity:** 30 Fd Regt, RCA (The Bytown Gunners) will be hosting a depart with dignity for LCol Dana Clarke, Maj Paul Heenan and Maj Pierre Lepine. All three were Bytown Gunners at the start of their careers and the Regt had the pleasure of hosting all three when they fired their last rounds on Ex DELTOID FLEX on 17 Oct 15.

**LCol Dana Clarke:** joined 30 Fd Regt in May 1974 and served as a Gunner and Bombardier on peacekeeping duty in the Sinai. He then commissioned and, in 1984 transferred to the regular force. Key postings included: command of a gun troop in J Battery, 3 RCHA; command of 89 Battery, 1 Air Defence Regiment; Afghanistan 2003-04; and command of 4 Air Defence Regiment, RCA from 2004-2006. He was a key advisor to the Army Commander on the use of air defence and then, after commanding the Canadian Contingent in Sierra Leone, was posted to NDHQ where he was a Section Head in the Strategic Joint Staff and then the Directorate for International Security Policy. A keen wild life photographer, he is currently studying professional photography at Algonquin College. He retired on 22 Oct 15. He and his wife Dena Palamedes are looking forward to lots of travelling and warm winters at their southern home in Florida.

**Maj Pierre Lépine:** started his career as a Gunner in 6 RAC in 1972 and moved to Ottawa to attend university. He was commissioned in 1974 and transferred to the regular force in 1983. Key postings included 5 RALC and the Air Defence Artillery School where he became an Instructor-in-Gunnery in 1987. In 1999 he took command of 18 Air Defence Regiment in Lethbridge. In 2004 he accepted one of the more interesting postings in the CAF as a student at the German Army General Command and Staff College and then became the Canadian exchange officer in Bundeswehr headquarters in Berlin on the German General Staff. Fluently tri-lingual, he enjoyed six years in Europe and was the first Canadian awarded the German Armed Forces 'Ehrenkreuz der Bundeswehr in Silber', their equivalent of the OMM, for his outstanding work. He was posted to RMC in 2010 as a Professor of Political Science. Dr Lépine retired on 8 Oct 15 and remains as a civilian professor. He and his wife Deborah enjoy trips to the Middle East to teach in Oman.

## THE LAST POST

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**SMITH**, Col D. Ian OMM, CD, 10 Feb 2016

**CARVER**, Chester, 4 Feb 2016

**LACHANCE** James (Jim), 23 Jan 2016

**BOOTH**, Darrell Anthony, 12 Jan 2016

**WOODS**, Thomas Edward (Woody), Jan 17 2016

**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

## TRENDING ARTICLES

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Missed last week's issue? See which articles your colleagues read most.

- [Disabled veterans still await the government's plan](#) (Ottawa Citizen)
- [Canadian Forces' armoured vehicle program delayed again](#) (Ottawa Citizen)
- [E Battery Winter Warfare 2016](#) (RCHA)

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Frank Humada, Vice President of Operations, 289-695-5422 | [Download media kit](#)  
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Please submit all news to RCAA Association's Executive Director Maj (Ret'd) Garry Smith.

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