



1180-1 (President)

9 February 2021

Distribution List

HOME STATION REGIMENTAL SENATE (HSRS) MEETING, TUESDAY 19 JANUARY 2021

Chair: Col P.J. Williams (Ret'd) – President

Members in attendance:

LGen M.K. Jeffery (Ret'd)
LCol R.J. Lytle – Comd Home Station
LCol U.J.F. Wolanski
Maj J.R. Fisher (Ret'd)
Maj L.M. Jackson – Treasurer
Maj C.W.J. Larocque (Ret'd) – Organizer 2021 RCA Reunion
Maj H.B. Nelson, COS CFB Shilo
Maj S.D. Youngson – 2IC 1 RCHA

Members unable to attend:

MGen R.W. Goodyear
LCol D.Y.G. Brassard – CO 1 RCHA
Maj S. Kiropoulos (Ret'd)

1. Item 1 – Welcome Opening Remarks
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 1020 hrs CST by the Chair.
 - b. The Chair welcomed all in attendance to the meeting, which was conducted as a teleconference. He noted that since the last meeting, there had been several passings, including Col Chris Simonds (Ret'd), a former Commander Home Station, Maj Doug

Lockridge (Ret'd), a former 2IC and A/CO 3 RCHA and Bdr Donald Mackenzie (Ret'd) a former member of 1 RCHA.

2. Item 2 – Confirmation of Agenda

- a. There being no additions, the President confirmed the Agenda.

3. Item 3 – 1 RCHA Update

- a. Maj Youngson provided the following update:

- (1) the CO was on Exercise UNIFIED RESOLVE in Edmonton;
- (2) Manitoba is currently at COVID Code RED;
- (3) the Regiment had recently conducted primary Combat Function (PCF) course, including a Developmental Period 1 (DP 1) Gunner Course;
- (4) all members of the Regiment who were deployed on Op UNIFIER have returned to Canada;
- (5) 10 personnel are deployed on Op PALACI (Avalanche Control in Roger's pass, BC);
- (6) one person is deployed in support of Op LASER (the Canadian Armed Forces' (CAF) response to a worldwide pandemic situation);
- (7) five personnel are away on courses;
- (8) Exercise FROZEN GUN to validate A and C Btys will be conducted in February;
- (9) A Gun Detachment Commander (DC) Course will be run in future;
- (10) in March, the Regiment will prepare to move to Wainwright, AB, for Exercises AGILE RAM and MAPLE RESOLVE which will be conducted from April-June;
- (11) in March the Regiment will take over Op LASER lead from 2 PPCLI;
- (12) in early 2021, the Regiment will adopt a battle rhythm to enable it to allow larger elements of the unit to parade in unit lines on a rotational basis; and
- (13) in Spring 2021, the Regiment will finalize its UBIQUE 150 plans; and
- (14) 1 RCHA has resumed the Road to High Readiness, which will culminate in an exercise in Wainwright, AB in Spring 2021.

4. Item 4 – C Company, 3rd Canadian Division Training Centre Update

- a. Major Jackson provided the following update:

- (1) prior to the Christmas 2020 break, all in-house courses were completed with no issues;
- (2) personnel will work from home until 19 January 2021;

- (3) a Primary Leadership Qualification (PLQ) Course will start the week of 25 January;
- (4) a Basic Military Qualification (Land) (BMQ(L)) Course shortly; and
- (5) students will be isolating before reporting in for their courses;

5. Item 5 – Approval of Previous Minutes. As noted by the President, the minutes of the previous meeting had been approved and posted to the RCA website in both English and French.

6. Item 6 – Actions arising from previous Minutes.

- a. the President continues to pursue the option for a ‘Donate’ button on the RCA website (www.rca-arc.org) for the Home Station Regimental Fund, in order to better enable donations. The President will approach RCA leadership in the next few months and will advise the Senate as to progress on this issue;
- b. the President sent out a letter to former COs and RSMs of Home Station Regiment units calling for their support to the Senate and its work. No responses were received and the President will re-engage with this audience again in future; and
- c. The President noted that research to date revealed that a formal history of the Home Station had not been written. LCol Lyttle stated that he would send the President some related documents produced by the CFB Shilo Public Affairs Officer. The President stated that he was prepared to produce a brief history of 1 RCHA and suggested that Maj Jackson might wish to do the same for C Coy. All of these products could be published in the Shilo Stag newspaper as part of the UBIQUE 150 communications plan.

7. Item 7 – Election/Appointment of Executive Members. The President stated that he had approached MGen Goodyear asking if he wished to be appointed to another term on the Executive and was waiting to hear from him. The President urged Senate members to identify potential candidates for the vacant posts of Vice-President and Secretary.

8. Item 8 – Home Station Regimental Fund Update

- a. Maj Jackson stated that the Fund now stands at \$2300.00, as a result of a single \$300.00 donation since the last meeting;
- b. as of 1 October 2020, improvements are being made to the automation of Non-Public Fund (NPF) processes, which will enable more efficient management and disbursement of funds;
- c. Maj Jackson will continue to inquire with CFB Shilo NPF as to when donations to the Fund can be made by Etransfer;
- d. Maj Jackson reminded all that any donation of \$20.00 or more will receive a tax receipt; and
- e. **Secretarial Note:** After the meeting, Maj Jackson communicated the following concerning the operation of the Fund under NPF:
 - (1) Base NPF will be able to transfer \$100.00 to the RCHA Memorial fund once they receive a copy of the minutes where the vote to spend was passed; and

- (2) moving forward, for amounts more than \$100.00 or to move funds outside NPF, the following will be required in order to spend any large amounts of money from the fund. These are all items required to spend money under NPF (not to collect money).
 - (a) we will need to fill out Delegations of Authority for the Fund. The President will be the Annex A (Delegator) and the Treasurer would be the Annex B (Delegated to); and
 - (b) the President will need to complete the NPP Delegated Authority Course on DND Learn. Once completed the certificate can be sent to the Treasurer who will it to send to Base NPF: <http://dln-rad.mil.ca/login-lien/index.html>.

9. Item 9 – Future activities potentially meriting Senate support

a. The Chair mentioned stated that such activities could include:

- (1) support to members of the Home Station Regiment in need. No such cases were brought forward for discussion;
- (2) the Spring 2021 militaria auction, an initiative designed to raise monies for the Fund. Maj Fisher (Ret'd) stated that he has approximately \$2000.00-\$2500.00 worth of items which. He will report back in three-four months as to whether these items should be put up for auction at a single event or at several events. **Secretarial Note:** after the meeting, Maj Youngson confirmed that the Shilo Stag will be happy to run the article requesting donations a few more times before the summer; and
- (3) a donation in support of the RCHA Memorial Rededication Project in Kingston, ON, to include the addition of the names of the Fallen from Korea and Afghanistan. As motioned by LCol Wolanski and seconded by Maj Nelson, the Senate unanimously voted to approve a donation of \$100.00 from the Fund for this project. After the meeting the President linked up the Treasurer with the Project OPI, Col DD Marshall (Ret'd) so that the transfer of funds and the obtaining of a receipt could take place. **Secretarial Note:** for future reference, cheques are to be payable to the "RCA Heritage Fund" and note on the cheque or in the attached note that it is for the RCHA Memorial. Cheques can be given to Maj Michelsen or Capt Jesseau in RHQ RCA.

10. Item 10 – Expansion of Senate Role to Include Advocacy for Home Station Issues

a. there are no issues requiring Senate attention at this time.

11. Item 11 – Communications Strategy. For now, communications will be effected primarily via the *Canadian Gunner News* e-newsletter and other interactions such as letters, emails, etc. Anything beyond that such as social media engagement will be deferred until a person with this competency is identified. In the meantime, the President encouraged Senate members to try and find such a person.

12. Item 12 – Update on 150th Anniversary of A & B Bty (UBIQUE 150). Key points to note are:

a. I RCHA is reviewing existing unit plans and will have a further planning conference in March. As a result of this conference, Go/No Go decisions may be taken regarding the

conduct of certain events approximately one month prior to execution. For now, however, a fitness activity planned in concert with the City of Brandon has been cancelled. Some activities that were planned to be conducted in concert with the 2021 Artillery Reunion, may be de-linked from the Reunion. Notwithstanding other Road to High Readiness commitments, and the pandemic, remaining key tasks for 1 RCHA could include:

- (1) executing Public Duties in the UK;
 - (2) Exercise GOLD RUSH GUNNER in the Yukon;
 - (3) a Freedom of the City of Brandon parade, which may be reduced in scope;
 - (4) Exercise WESTERN GUNNER involving C Bty travelling to Victoria, BC for adventure training and professional development;
 - (5) activities related to the Winnipeg Blue Bombers and the Grey Cup;
 - (6) Exercise HEAVY LOADER (a power-lifting event) and which will be conducted virtually with other Regular Force Regiments; and
 - (7) visits to North-West Rebellion battlefields.
- b. Maj C.W.J. Larocque (Ret'd) provided the following update on the 2021 Artillery Reunion:
- (1) discussions were ongoing as to whether the event should be postponed to 2022, particularly given that many of the attendees are from populations vulnerable to COVID-19, and uncertainty as to whether MB may lift quarantine restrictions for personnel coming from certain parts of the country; and
 - (2) the Reunion organizers are expected to make a Go/No-Go decision on the conduct of the 2021 Reunion by end January. The president stated that he would delay issuing the minutes of this meeting so that the results of the decision could be included. **Secretarial Note:** On 27 Jan 21 it was announced that the Reunion was postponed to 2022. Further details will be passed in due course.

13. Item 13 – Other business.


- a. the President stated that a book, Canada's Daughter: The Story of Captain Nichola Goddard, a member of 1 RCHA killed in action in Afghanistan in 2006, was on sale and could be purchased online through Indigo or Amazon. The book is written by Sally Goddard, Nichola's mother.

14. Item 14 – Date/time of next meeting. Tuesday 22 June 2021, to be confirmed. Details will be promulgated in advance.

15. Item 15 – Adjournment

As motioned by LCol Wolanski, seconded by LCol Lyttle, and unanimously supported, the Meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 1105 hrs CST.

Approved/Not Approved


P.J. Williams
Colonel (Retired)
President

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