



1180-1 (President)

3 January 2023

Distribution List

HOME STATION REGIMENTAL SENATE (HSRS) MEETING, 29 NOVEMBER 2022

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

Members in attendance:

LGen M.K. Jeffery (Ret'd)
Col S.G. Haire
Col T.R. Young (Ret'd)
LCol J.P. O'Donnell – CO 1RCHA
LCol U.J.F. Wolanski (Ret'd)
LCol C.A. Wood – Commander Home Station
Maj J.R. Fisher (Ret'd)
Maj L. Jackson – Regt Maj, RCA
Maj S. Kiropoulos (Ret'd)
CWO J. Abrahamse – RSM Home Station
CWO S.A. McGowan – RSM 1 RCHA

Members unable to attend:

MGen R.W. Goodyear
Col D.Y.G. Brassard
Col S. Taylor
LCol J. Cochrane
LCol R. Stimpson
Maj A. Curr – 2IC 1RCHA
Maj M. Marshall - OC Coy
Maj H.B. Nelson
Maj S.D. Youngson – COS CFB Shilo

References: A. Final Agenda for a Meeting of the Home Station Regimental Senate.
B. The Constitution of the Home Station Regimental Senate, Revised January 2022.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 1000 hours Central Standard Time.

DISCUSSION

ACTION BY

2. Item 2 -Confirmation of Agenda. The President confirmed the agenda as published. No action required

3. Item 3 – 1 RCHA Update. LCol O'Donnell provided the following update: No action required

- a. A Battery has returned from Operation REASSURANCE and B Battery is currently in the process of deploying over three chalks.
- b. The Kingston Cup will not be contested this year since A and B Battery are conducting a staggered Relief in Place. The Regiment will conduct a sports day in lieu of the traditional hockey matches.
- c. B Battery conducted Exercise PATRICIA WOLVERINE which consisted of danger close engagement training with support from 408 Tactical Helicopter Squadron.
- d. With respect to individual training, Gun Detachment Commander qualifications are being sought after through Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) as the Artillery is concentrating on Development Period 2 training.
- e. 1 RCHA will not be supporting Operation PALACI this year due to other commitments. Other units will be supporting the task.
- f. The Regimental Officers will conduct a St Barbara's Day Mess Dinner, and on 9 December the Regiment will conduct a Christmas event combining the Soldier's Appreciation Dinner with the Spouses Dinner-Dance.
- g. With respect to the Canadian Armed Forces Operation RECONSTITUTION Order, LCol O'Donnell commented that it would not have a big impact on the Regiment as they are currently reviewing the unit operations plan. They are specifically reviewing events like support to the 2023 RCA Reunion to assess the degree of importance and if it meets the intent of the Order. A focus area of the Order is to assess community relations events to bolster recruiting and retention opportunities.

Secretarial Note. The CAF links to the Operation RECONSTITUTION Order are as follows:

[OPERATION RECONSTITUTION English](#)
[OPERATION RECONSTITUTION French](#)

4. Item 4 – Commander Home Station (Comd Home Stn) Update. No action required
LCol Wood provided the following update:

- a. Shelter charges for living in members will not change this year, however it is anticipated that utility charges will increase by \$10.00 a month.
- b. The CEO of the Canadian Forces Housing Agency will visit during the week of 5 December. The importance of housing operations at the base will be discussed.
- c. The RCA Band will be visiting Shilo on 28 May 2023. They will be conducting an appreciation concert to help recruiting.
- d. With respect to Operation RECONSTITUTION, hard direction and guidance is expected in the New Year.
- e. Regarding personal support, the family of a centenarian reached out to the base and special birthday message will be sent to the veteran in the spring. A 1RCHA soldier will be recognized as a Winnipeg Jets super fan at an upcoming CAF Appreciation event.
- f. The Shilo Stag is now online, and it can be read at the following link: [Shilo Stag](#).
- g. The Canex grocery store conducted a soft opening of the grocery store expansion on approximately 19 November. It has been well received.

5. Item 5 – C Coy, 3rd Canadian Division Training Centre Update. No action required
Major Jackson provided the following update in the absence of Major Marshall:

- a. A DP1 infantry course graduated on 28 November with the majority of the graduates receiving a posting to 2 PPCLI in Shilo.

6. Item 6 – RHQ RCA Update. The Regimental Major (RM), Maj Jackson provided the following update:

- a. The RCA Kit Shop will be re-branded to sell specific items known as “Gunner’s Gear”. The Facebook link to the RCA Kit is as follows: [RCA Kitshop](#).
- Secretarial Note. The Secretary, Col Young (Ret’d) will contact the RM regarding Airborne Gunner Kit. Secretary
- b. “Gunnery Gear” Christmas gifts has been sent to all deployed Gunnery. Annual Christmas Card greetings have also been distributed.
- c. St Barbara’s Day Greetings have been sent to the His Majesty the King; however, they were not Loyal Greetings as he has not yet accepted the appointment of Captain-General.
- d. The Regimental Major will be the Co-Chair for the RCA Reunion in 2023, and which will be held over the Canada Day weekend.
7. Item 7 – Approval of the Previous Minutes. The Chair stated that the previous minutes have been approved and posted on the RCA website in both English and French. No action required
8. Item 8 – Actions Arising from the Previous Minutes. The Chair sent a collection of Shilo advocacy letters written by former Commanding Officers to each of the current Unit Commanders. No action required
9. Item 9 – Election/Appointment of Executive Members. The President was confirmed re-elected for another term. No action required
10. Item 10 – Home Station Regimental Fund Update. Maj Jackson provided a financial update for the Treasurer as follows: No action required
- a. The current balance of the fund is \$8,616.46.
- b. The Senate supported 1 RCHAs Exercise Heavy Loader with \$500 in cash prizes of \$300.00, \$150.00, and \$50.00 respectively for first through third places in the competition.
11. Item 11 – Future Activities Potentially Meriting Senate Support.
- a. 10th Anniversary of Exercise Heavy Loader. The Chair wishes to make the support of this activity an annual event within the Senate’s program. He already has the No action required

necessary approval authority in the constitution for this activity.

- b. Maj Kiropoulos (Ret'd) proposed that for the future, the Exercise HEAVY LOADER prize money be equitably distributed, \$300.00, \$150.00, and \$75.00. The motion was seconded by Col Haire and passed unopposed.
- c. The Chair asked the Commander Home Station and Officer Commanding C Coy to identify similar annual activities in their units that the Senate could support.

Comd Home Stn
OC C Coy

12. Item 12 - Expansion of Senate Role to Include Advocacy for Home Station Issues.

- a. At present there are no other quality of life issues arising on the base. The expansion of the Canex grocery store has been well received. Future senior leadership visits include senior leaders from ADM (IE) and CEO Canex.

Chair

13. Item 13 – Communications Strategy. The Senate published its first messages on the 1 RCHA Facebook page. The link to 1 RCHAs Facebook page is: [1 RCHA Facebook Page](#). The intent is to publish minutes from meetings and other suitable messages on the site. The Chair expressed that all messages published by the Senate should be in bilingual format. The Chair further noted that Base Shilo does not have a Facebook page, but the Shilo Stag does. C Coy uses the Facebook page of its parent unit.

No action required

14. Item 14 – Update on Militaria Auction. Maj Fisher (Ret'd) provided the following update on the Militaria Auction:

No action required

- a. The next auction will take place in December 2023.
- b. The auction was advertised in the 8 September edition of the Shilo Stag. Instagram and Facebook are being considered as additional communication platforms that we could use to publicise the event. There have been no donations received to date this year.
- c. Tax receipts are issued for the appraised value of the item donated to the auction.

15. Item 15 – Other Business. The following points were raised:

No action required

- a. Gunner Peer Support (GPS) Program. The Chair shared the presentation made by the lead of the program at this

year's RCAA annual conference. He stressed that there is little bureaucracy with this initiative and that it can get funds to individuals in need quickly. Access to the program can be found through the following link: [Gunner Peer Support \(GPS\) Program](#).

- b. Council of Colonels. Colonel Haire informed the group of other Royal Regiment activities which included a recent sitting of Artillery Council. He expressed that the Commanding Officers CANFORGEN for 2023 has been released and that we have a strong succession plan for upcoming years.

16. Item 16 – Next Meeting. The next meeting will be tentatively set for after 17 March 2023. The Chair will consultation with the Commanding Officers.

Chair

CO 1 RCHA

Comd Home Stn

OC C Coy

ADJOURNMENT

17. Item 17 – Adjournment. The Chair called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was called for by LCol Wolanski (Ret'd), seconded by Maj Fisher (Ret'd). The motion was passed with no one opposed. The meeting adjourned at 1100 Central Time.

~~APPROVED/NOT APPROVED~~

P.J. Williams
Colonel (Ret'd)
President

Distribution List

All Home Station Senate Members (Including Ex-Officio non-voting members)