



1180-1 (President)

12 April 2023

Distribution List

HOME STATION REGIMENTAL SENATE (HSRS) MEETING, 27 MARCH 2023

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

Members in attendance:

Col T.R. Young (Ret'd)
LCol J.P. O'Donnell – CO 1RCHA
LCol C.A. Wood – Commander Home Station
Maj J.R. Fisher (Ret'd)
Maj M. Marshall - OC Coy
CWO J. Abrahamse – RSM Home Station
CWO S.A. McGowan – RSM 1 RCHA

Members unable to attend:

LGen M.K. Jeffery (Ret'd)
MGen R.W. Goodyear
Col D.Y.G. Brassard
Col S.G. Haire
Col S. Taylor
LCol J. Cochrane
LCol R. Stimpson
LCol U.J.F. Wolanski (Ret'd)
Maj A. Curr – 2IC 1RCHA
Maj L. Jackson – Regt Maj, RCA
Maj S. Kiropoulos (Ret'd)
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

16. 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. The Regiment participated with a reduced sized contingent on Ex STRONG CONTENDER, the brigade winter sports competition. B Battery was on post deployment leave after returning from Latvia.
 - b. The Regiment just competed a Regiment School training cycle culminating with Ex FROZEN GUNNER. It was a great opportunity for junior leaders to gain experience and hone their soldier skills in winter operations. Many personnel had the opportunity to fill the leadership role of their superior.
 - c. The Regiment is currently on Spring Break and upon return, there will be a smaller individual training period followed by fire fighter training for the upcoming IRU tasking.
 - d. Throughout the spring and summer, the Regiment will conduct some adventure training in Canmore, Alberta in addition to Ex TOUGH GUNNER ; a forced march based competition to include a number of obstacles. On Artillery Day, 26 May, the Regiment will conduct a Spring Ball.
 - e. The Regiment is currently renewing a number of wall paintings within the regimental lines. They project will be complete before the RCA reunion this spring.
 - f. Op PALACI (Avalanche Control in Roger's Pass, BC) will be a 3rd Canadian Division task for 2023-2024.
 - g. The Senate's cash prizes donated to Ex HEAVY LOADER were well received by the troops. The notion of a cash prize permits the troops the flexibility to purchase whatever they need.

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

- a. The incoming Base Commander will be LCol David Cronk from the Lord Strathcona's Horse. His COS date will be 21 June and the Change of Command is scheduled for 26 June. LCol Wood will be posted to the Strategic Joint Staff (SJS) in Ottawa. There is also a possibility that the Base RSM may change.
- b. The RCA Band will be visiting Shilo on 28 May 2023. They will be conducting an appreciation concert to help recruiting.
- c. 26th Fd Regt (with its Band and Recruiter) will be supporting the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair.
- d. CWO Abrahamse was able to meet with the RSM RCA, CWO Normand in mid March.

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. C Coy recently completed a Primary Leadership Qualification (PLQ) course graduating 36 candidates and an Infantry Platoon Commanders course graduating 19 candidates. The leadership is currently planning to support up to 7 courses throughout the summer. Staff shortages will be a key factor in determining which courses will be supported. Staff checks to combine courses such as the Engineer Junior Leaders Course (JLC) with the Gunner JLC courses are ongoing.
- b. Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School (CFLRS) can now maintain its capacity to conduct training and is no longer exporting courses to the three services.
- c. LCol Wood added that one of his biggest challenges as the Base Commander is providing the best possible support to lodger units in a lean environment. He further added that it is not yet to the point where he needs the Senate to advocate on his behalf.

6. Item 6 – RHQ RCA Update. There was no representation from RHQ at the meeting, and therefore no update.

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 Senate is exploring additional initiatives to sponsor similar to Ex HEAVY LOADER from both the Base and C Company. He suggested course Top Candidate awards could be considered. Comd Home Stn
OC Coy
9. Item 9 – Election/Appointment of Executive Members. The next elections will take place in June. No action required
10. Item 10 – Home Station Regimental Fund Update. Maj Marshall provided a financial update for the Treasurer as follows: No action required
- a. The current balance of the Fund is \$8,616.46.
11. Item 11 – Future Activities Potentially Meriting Senate Support.
- a. 125th Anniversary of 1 RCHA – 1 December 2023. Potential support to this event will be discussed during the next Senate meeting. While 1 RCHA is currently in the initial stages of planning the event, the goal at the next Senate meeting will be to vote and allocate resources to support it. As a result, it is requested that 1 RCHA have their list of initiatives prepared and pre-vetted for Non-Public Funds (NPF) compliance by the Treasurer prior to the meeting. CO 1 RCHA
Treasurer
- b. The History of CFB Shilo. The Chair noted that the history of Shilo has not been updated in quite some time, and that he has a pictorial history that could be brought forward as a starting point for a possible Stag article. **Secretarial Note:** The Chair provided copies of the article and accompanying imagery to both the CO of 1 RCHA and the Comd Home Stn. Chair
CO 1RCHA
Comd Home Stn
- c. The CO 1RCHA indicated that he would add this material to another initiative within the regiment to produce the article. CO 1RCHA
- d. The Base Commander added that he would be able to provide translation support for the article. Comd Home Stn
12. Item 12 - Expansion of Senate Role to Include Advocacy for Home Station Issues. The Comd Home Stn discussed the following three items: No action required

- a. The Canex Grocery Store Expansion ending this past December was well received.
 - b. During her recent visit, the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba visit took a great interest in operations, visiting unit lines, and the community. The Lieutenant Governor provided some hints on possible lines of advocacy.
 - c. The Minister of National Defence (MND) is still planning a trip to visit Shilo. It has been postponed twice due to calendar conflicts.
13. Item 13 – Communications Strategy. Capt Marshall Mainprize, the new Adjt of 1RCHA will be the POC for the [1 RCHA Facebook Page](#). No action required
14. Item 14 – Update on Militaria Auction. Maj Fisher (Ret'd) provided the following update on the Militaria Auction: Chair
RHQ RCA
- a. The next auction will take place in December 2023.
 - b. Feedback from an auction held on 25-26 March revealed that items are being sold at a premium, and that inflation is having little impact in this market. Further, despite the Federal Government's Bill C-21 on Gun Control, there remains a lot of interest in guns.
 - c. Tax receipts are issued for the appraised value of the item donated to the auction.
 - d. The Senate will leverage the RCA Reunion this June as a venue in which participants can bring and donate their militaria items. Major Fisher (Ret'd) will be on-hand to accept the donated items. The Chair, with input from Major Fisher (Ret'd), will draft a general letter requesting donations and pass it to RHQ RCA and the Canadian Gunner News newsletter for distribution to the RCA Family.
15. Item 15 – Other Business. No points were raised: No action required
16. Item 16 – Next Meeting. The Chair in consultation with the COs and OC will set the next meeting for either before or after the RCA Reunion in June. Chair
CO 1 RCHA
Comd Home Stn
OC C Coy

ADJOURNMENT

17. Item 17 – Adjournment. The Chair called a conclusion to the meeting at 1042 hours Central Standard Time.

APPROVED/~~NOT APPROVED~~

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

Distribution List

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