



# Royal Niagara Military Institute

22 Timber Lane  
St Catharines, ON  
L2N 7R7

September 2018

Editor Art Tilley

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## COLD WAR SUB HUNTING

### ROYAL NIAGARA MILITARY INSTITUTE EXECUTIVE

#### President

LCol Blaise McDonnell, CD

#### First Vice President

LCol Bernie Nehring, CD

#### Second Vice President

Mr. Rod Morris

#### Immediate Past President

LCol Ed Rayment, CD

#### Kit Shop

Mr. Jim Doherty

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Sgt Lois McRitchie, CD

Lt(N) Kim Harcombe

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#### Newsletter Website Editor

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LCol Ed Rayment, CD

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LtCol Vince Ventura

#### Secretary / Cadet Liaison

Lt(N) Kim Harcombe



*P2V - USN NEPTUNE SUBMARINE HUNTER*

The speaker at our October 17th General Meeting will be CDR Stan Lichwala, USN. His talk will center around the time that he flew anti-submarine patrols for NATO, off the eastern coast of Canada. During this period in his career, he was stationed with the US Navy at Canadian Forces Base Greenwood, Nova Scotia.

At that time, in addition to Royal Canadian Air Force aircraft stationed at CFB Greenwood, the base was also host to RAF and USN sub-hunters.

Greenwood, originally an RAF station, was transferred to the RCAF on July 1, 1944, becoming RCAF Station Greenwood. During the Second World War it was part of the British Commonwealth Air Training Program, (BCATP). During that period in its history, a total of 57 airmen were killed in 25 crashes occurring between June 1942 and April 1945. The BCATP program was disbanded on March 31, 1945.

During the late 1940s RCAF Station Greenwood was selected as Canada's site for a maritime reconnaissance training unit for anti-submarine warfare. Originally Lancaster bombers, converted to the role of submarine hunters, were stationed there. Then on March 30, 1955, the Lancasters were replaced by Lockheed P2V Neptunes as the operational maritime reconnaissance aircraft. The first Canadian made CP-107 Argus arrived at RCAF Station Greenwood on May 1, 1958.

Today CFB Greenwood remains Canada's largest operational air force base on the Atlantic coast. The following aircraft types are permanently stationed at the base: the CP-140 Aurora, anti-submarine warfare/long-range maritime patrol aircraft; the CH-149 Cormorant, air-sea rescue helicopter; and the CC-130 Hercules, air-sea rescue transport aircraft.

## ROYAL NIAGARA MILITARY INSTITUTE CALENDAR of EVENTS 2018 - 2019

**2018**

DATE	TIME	EVENT	NOTES
Wed 19 Sept	1930	General Meeting – President’s remarks; Presentation about the COTC by LCol Nehring; followed by a Social	First meeting of new term
Thur 27 Sept	1900	Senate Function- Fresco’s Restaurant – B&G or Business Suit	No decorations or medals
Tues 2 Oct		Executive Meeting	
Wed 17 Oct	1930	General Meeting – Speaker CDR Stan Lichwala, USN	
Sat 27 Oct	1100	Bergen Op Zoom – Parade and Dinner	Dinner 1830 hrs
Sun 4 Nov		Branches 350 and 479 Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day	
Mon 5 Nov	1700	Herman Rodgers Pistol Competition	
Tues 6 Nov		Executive Meeting	
Sat 10 Nov		L&W Regt Armistice Dinner	
Sun 11 Nov		Remembrance Day - Legion Branches 24, 124, 138, 51, 4, 17	
Sun 18 Nov		10 Battery Dinner	
We 21 Nov		Members’ Dinner – Speaker TBA	Caterer Chef Toni
Tues 04 Dec		St Barbara’s Day - 56 Field Regt and 10 Battery, RCA	Timings TBA
Sun 25 Dec		Christmas	

**2019**

Tues 01 Jan	1100	New Year’s Levee	
Tues 08 Jan		Executive Meeting	
Wed 16 Jan	1930	General Meeting – Speaker TBA	
Tues 05 Feb		Executive Meeting	
Wed 20 Feb	1930	General Meeting – Speaker TBA	
Tues 05 Mar		Executive Meeting	
Wed 20 Mar	1930	General Meeting – Speaker TBA	
Tues 02 Apr		Executive Meeting	Annual reports due
Wed 17 Apr	1930	Annual General Meeting – Election of Officers	No speaker
Mon 06 May		Executive Meeting	
Fri 17 May	TBA	Ladies Appreciation Dinner- Venue TBA	

### CANADIAN



At our general meeting September 19, LCol Bernie Nehring will give a presentation on the Canadian Officers' Training Corps. The COTC was started in 1912 and terminated in 1968 by the government of Pierre Trudeau. Established in Canadian universities, it was fashioned after an equivalent program that is still in existence in the United Kingdom. In World War Two and the Korean War, the Canadian Army was able to produce high quality officers due to the high standards of the COTC.

**OFFICERS'**

**TRAINING CORPS**

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Please insure that your membership is up to date. If unsure, please contact the membership secretary, Ms. Donna Daffern:  
 11 Timber Lane  
 St. Catharines, Ontario  
 L2N 7R7  
 E-Mail: daffern@sympatico.ca

## KIT SHOP

**RNMI Coin - \$30.00**

**RNMI Tie- \$25.00**

**RNMI Name Tag - \$15.00 – Special**

**RNMI Crest - \$20.00**

**RNMI Lapel Pin - \$7.00**

These items are available at every meeting. Please see Mr. Jim Doherty to purchase.

## CANADIAN RANGERS



Composed mainly of Inuit, the Canadian Rangers are a part of the Canadian Armed Forces Reserves. Numbering about 5,000, they live and work in more than 200 remote communities across Canada's north. They are a lightly-equipped, self-sufficient mobile force, that are tasked with supporting national security and public safety operations, along remote coastal regions in the Canadian north. Reservists, they train alongside regular Canadian armed forces personal.

Their duties include:

- Conducting patrols;
- Reporting unusual activities or sightings;
- Collecting local data for the Canadian Armed Forces;
- Performing sovereignty or national security duties;
- Assisting in search and rescue efforts;
- Assisting with natural disasters such as forest fires and floods.

The Canadian Rangers are divided into five Canadian Ranger Patrol Groups (CRPGs), each based in different remote, isolated and coastal communities across Canada.

- 1st Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (Nunavut, Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories)
- 2nd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (Québec)
- 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (Ontario)
- 4th Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba)
- 5th Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (Newfoundland and Labrador)

## STANDARD ISSUE RIFLE

Because of the extreme cold of the northern winters, automatic and semi-automatic weapons proved to be unusable due to the gun oil freezing. For that reason, the Rangers had been equipped World War II era Lee Enfield .303 caliber rifles.



## NEW REPLACEMENT RIFLE



The old Lee Enfield rifles are now being replaced by the .308 caliber C19. Designed to work at temperatures well below freezing; it is a lighter, shorter, and more precise rifle. The new C19 is an improved version of the FTC TIKKA T3, developed by Sako, Finland. These rifles are manufactured under licence by Colt, Canada. They have a feature that allows them to be fired either left or right - handed. The trigger guard is wide enough to allow the user to fire it wearing winter gloves. The delivery of the 6,820 new rifles is expected to be completed by the



end of 2019.