



NEWSLETTER



December 2010

Dear 12th CAR Veterans, Families and Friends – This will be rather a short one as a more elaborate letter will follow next June 2011 – which will, most probably include articles and photos from Afghanistan, where the members of our Regiment are presently being deployed.

LATEST NEWS – Our Regular and Reserve 12 RBC Regiment members are presently being sent in the field for their next mission in Afghanistan. Most of them will be under the Command of 1 R22R (the Vandoos) – there will be more than 200 all ranks and trades of our Unit from Valcartier plus 17 Reservists - 7 of which are from Trois-Rivières and will be serving with Recce Squadron (“A” Squadron) under the Command of Major Christian Caron. Another 5 from Trois-Rivières will be attached to other components – for a total of 13 – which is exceptional for a Militia Unit! For the first time since the 12 CAR terminated their combat mission, the Regiment will have one complete *TANK* squadron – the *Squadron Commander* is Major Éric Landry – and the *Battle Captain* – Captain Pascal Croteau, which you already know as he has written many articles in other editions. He has chosen to name his “C” Squadron Tank – *COMMANDER III!* Another chapter of our great Regimental history is being written. The same fighting spirit still exist that has been carried over when you went to battle and made the Regiment so prominent and respected by those that you supported when the chips were down!

WE WISH THEM ALL GOD SPEED!

WHAT’S NEW – Had many phone calls and interesting letters to say that you enjoy receiving the NEWS and keeping the family informed – all in all, you encourage me to continue – many of you have been generous in sending in your donations to the “12th Remembers” projects, which are now completed – the latest being the two wood carved collar badge insignias and pennant “*In Memoriam*” on the Memorial inside the Armoury. I THANK YOU VERY MUCH! Please take note that the following comrade has move to a new address: Mister Hector BARCELO – Manoir Outremount – 304 -1000 Rockland Ave.- Outremount, Qc H2V 4P5 – Telephone: 814-798-0526; We found the trail of Mister William MARSTON – 203-1123 Royal York Road – London, ON N6H 3Z5 – Telephone: 514-472-9860; and Bill ALDERSON – 1160 Clonsilla Avenue – Peterborough, ON K9J 8T8. PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS. **ON A SADDER NOTE** – I was inform by Mister Neil MURPHY, son of *Leonard MURPHY*, that his father died, due to respiratory complications, on October 15th 2010 – I will greatly miss his phone calls and will be remembered as a man who lived life fully and that took great pride of being part of the *BAND OF BROTHERS* of the 12 CAR – RIP LEN!

SITREPS – JUNE – DECEMBER 2010 – **June 10th** – Opening of the 2010 summer exposition of the Military Museum of the 12 RBC - the items on display were entirely from the Museum own collection of artefacts – you would have probably recognized some of them as the ones that you have donated! The general publics saw for the first time unique pieces never shown before, as well as take knowledge of the feats and history of the 12 CAR. On **July** the 8th – 50 members of “C” squadron, with their commander – battle captain and Master Warrant Officer U.N. CHAMPAGNE, came from Valcartier and visited the Museum and the City - a very hot and humid day – the Colonel and Honorary Lieutenant Colonel were also ADSUM – all enjoyed after their visit the air-conditioning of a downtown restaurant, along with “cool” drinks and a good meal! **August 22nd** – closing of the Museum – 1 150 visitors were greeted by two members of our Regular Unit, which acted as guides – very much appreciated as they were “clean cut” and well inform of our Great Regimental History – they were very proud to relate the great feats of our Veterans. **November 7th** – Remembrance Day Parade – 12 CAR Vets - Misters Vernon DOWIE – Robert HOROWITZ – James WHITEHALL with their spouses were present – Vernon deposited a wreath in memory of the 12 CAR fallen comrades at “CATHY’S” memorial as well as at the Cenotaph down town – as the Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier General Albert GEDDRY said, “the presence of the 12 CAR Veterans, which decreases over

the years, is important and makes us realize that it is thanks' to them that we enjoy the freedom that we have today". More than 150 members of both 12 RBC were on parade, including Veterans of the local Legion Branch – RCMP – Provincial and Municipal Police representatives, and for the first time – a group of Vets “BIKERS” – local Navy Reserve – Shawinigan Regiment Band and cadets - the general public appreciated the troops and showed them their appreciation by numerous applauds – members of the Reserve Unit which will be leaving for Afghanistan, were introduced before the parade and joined ranks with the Veterans! On the 11th – a great concert inside the General-Jean-Victor-Allard Armoury – more than 400 were in attendance to listen to this unique choir “VOCALYS” – along with invited musicians – it was a concert dedicated to all of the fallen – bag pipe – last post and on giant screen, with all the lights effects, photos of our heroes KIA in Afghanistan – many tears were shed – a concert that will be well remembered, and for many who attended, it was their first time in this centennial building. 27th – Trois-Rivières CO Christmas Dinner. December 4th – Troop Christmas Dinner – remember does – even in the field? The tradition continues and on the following day – the children Xmas Party.

COMING EVENTS IN 2011 – 140th anniversary of the foundation of the Regiment – many events planned – Change of Command and RSM in Valcartier – Lieutenant Colonel Stéphane Boivin, CD will take over command from LCol Stephen Lacroix, and CWO Jacques Roy, CD will be the one replacing RSM David Tofts. In Trois-Rivières Major Stéphan LeBlanc, CD will take over command from LCol Stephen Young.

CONCLUSION – Remember when you were overseas and the day you receive these “Gift” boxes – well the tradition continues – both Regiment will also send these parcels to all our “BOYS” that are now deployed in Afghanistan – you can also participate in sending one, or more, of these packages, to our Reserve members – each one cost approximatively 30\$ - and will be identified that you are the sender – a letter from you can accompany this “Gift” box if you so decide. You can send your cheque made out to the order of the *RAOUL PELLERIN FUND*- all subscriptions over 100\$ will allow you to send more than one parcel, and you will eligible to an income tax deductible receipt – you can send your contribution to the address as shown at the bottom of this letter.

I trust that you will survive the coming rigours holiday season without the trauma of the good old-fashioned hangovers of yesteryears! Do we become immune or do our drinking habits change!!! I wish you all and your family a *MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR – MAY THIS COMING YEAR BRING YOU ALL THE BEST AND HAPPINESS – WHICH YOU ALL GREATLY DESERVE!*

ADSUM!

***Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Robert (BOB) Gauthier,
Your “Liaison Officer”***

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