



8th Hussars Sabretache

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THE ASSOCIATION OF 8TH CANADIAN HUSSARS (PRINCESS LOUISE'S) INC.
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CHANGE OF COMMAND – 13 SEPTEMBER, 2022



On 13 September 2022 a Change of Command was conducted at Regimental Headquarters between LCol Jamie Hunter, out going CO and LCol Colin Beazley, incoming CO and the event was presided over by Col Greg Kennedy, 37 CBG Comd.

Due to limitations placed on ceremonies and celebratory parades during the period of mourning for HM Queen Elizabeth, attendance at the event was curtailed.



The CO receives his pennant from the RSM and a thank you from the Association reps.

FOREWARD FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER

"On behalf of the RSM, CWO Tom Holland and I, season's greetings to members of the Hussar family.

By way of introduction, I am LCol Colin Beazley, the recently appointed Commanding Officer, having assumed command of the Regiment from LCol Jamie Hunter in mid-September 2022. To say I am honored and delighted to have been selected to command such a prestigious and historical regiment would be an understatement. This honor comes after serving over 25 years in the Regular Force, primarily as a 12 RBC officer and a 2 RCR non-commissioned member. I am certain this next chapter will be rewarding and challenging. It's why we serve.

May 2023 will see the Regiment celebrate 175 years of continuous service to New Brunswick and Canada. Hussars have deployed on every significant mission to which Canada has provided soldiers since its inception, and will continue to contribute to peace and security well into the future. Recently, Hussars deployed across Atlantic Canada, aiding fellow Canadians in their time of need post severe hurricane weather.

In closing, the Regiment is poised to embrace the transition to cavalry tactics, provide soldiers to international deployments, and assist where, and whenever, required both domestically and abroad. I am certain the next 175 years will be as illustrious as the first.

C.A. (Colin) Beazley
LCol
VIII CH (PL)

THE SOLDIERS' APPRECIATION DINNER 2022



Having a brew before the SAD held at the Milton Gregg Armouries on Dec 10, 2022



MESSAGE FROM THE HONORARY COLONEL

As I write this, I trust you had a very good Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With the onset of 2023, The Regimental Family from May 18th to 21st, 2023 will be celebrating a very special occasion – the 175th anniversary of the 8th Canadian Hussars (Princess Louise's). A huge amount of work has been done. Plans are now well established. It will be an extraordinary weekend. Register now to attend all the events. (Details below)

First, we have made tremendous progress on the 175th Commemorative 310-page Pictorial History of the Regiment entitled “175 YEARS”. The book has passed its final “read-through” and will be going to the printers in early January 2023. It will be available free of charge to all members of the Regiment and the Association with distribution to take place at the Regiment's 175th celebrations in Moncton and Sussex on May 18th-21st, 2023.

The cost of the pictorial history was satisfied by a very generous group of Hussars and non-Hussars who came together as *Friends and Patrons of the Regiment*. We are deeply appreciative and grateful to members of this group who together contributed the money to publish this book.

To receive a complimentary copy of the pictorial history, a recipient must be a member of the Regiment or the Association. (If you are not a member of the Association, now is the time to become one: Along

with a free copy of the book (\$130.00 value), there will be other significant benefits over the anniversary weekend). The book will be available for purchase for non-members.

The agenda for the 175th anniversary events scheduled for the weekend of May 18-21, 2023, is now confirmed. There will be a Regimental Golf Tournament in Petitediac and in Moncton a Maritime Kitchen Party featuring a DJ and Jimmy the Janitor, a Veteran's Luncheon at the Royal Canadian Legion, a VIIICH Memorial Service at St. George's Anglican Church, an 8th Hussar 175th Commemorative Concert presented by the New Brunswick Youth Orchestra and the Gala Dinner on Saturday May 20th at the Hotel Beauséjour.

The 8th Canadian Hussars (Princess Louise's) 175th Anniversary Commemorative Concert, performed by the New Brunswick Youth Orchestra will be presented at the Moncton Wesleyan Celebration Centre on Friday evening May 19th, approximately three to four weeks prior to their concert at Carnegie Hall in New York in late June. We are so pleased that they found time to join the Regimental Family for the commemoration of the 175th anniversary. The two-hour NBYO concert will include 8th Hussar music and historical vignettes making it an unforgettable Hussar event.

Once again, please register for these events now. Most of these events will see limits on attendance based on available seating.

The Regiment will exercise its *Freedom of the City* at City Hall in Moncton on Saturday May 20th, followed by a civic reception and series of public events at Regimental Lines including an open house displaying equipment and vehicles, both current and past,

On Sunday May 21st, events switch to Sussex, and will include a ceremonial flag-raising commemorating the special relationship which the 8th Hussars have with the commune of Eelde in Holland. The Regiment participated in the liberation of Holland and at the conclusion of the war, resided in Eelde where Hussars supported that community for 12 months before being repatriated to New Brunswick. The citizens of Eelde have been enormously appreciative of that support and have continually celebrated this relationship through participation an annual commemorative flag-raising event that takes place both in Eelde and in Sussex on the same date in May. That special relationship will be celebrated during the 175th Anniversary.

We are pleased to announce that the Dutch Ambassador to Canada has confirmed her attendance for the Gala Dinner on Saturday evening at the Hotel Beausejour and for the commemorative flag-raising in Sussex on Sunday May 21st.

As a member of the Regiment and Association you and a guest are invited to all these events – but registration is important.

During the weekend of May 18th-21st, 2023, the Regiment will also celebrate the 50th year of the appointment of HRH The Princess Royal as the Colonel-in-Chief of the 8th Canadian Hussars (Princess Louise's). We continue to work to obtain the requisite approval from DND and the federal governmental for a visit by the Colonel-in-Chief to the Regiment during the 175th Anniversary weekend. We are hopeful for a successful conclusion.

I will be providing you with further details in the coming weeks. Reserve these dates and mark your calendar now so that you may be able to participate with us. If you have not already registered, it would be most helpful if you could indicate now, through registration, plans to attend some or all these events.

You will be kept up to date on developments.

On behalf of the Regimental Family, I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the 175th anniversary celebrations in Moncton and Sussex from May 18th to 21st 2023.

Stay Healthy, Stay safe

Regi Patriaeque Fidelis

For Registration Details – Contact Perry Fullum at pfullum@rogers.com . Perry will provide you with the information you need, including Registration Form and the Hotel and Accommodation Packages. Register early!!

Check the Museum Blog for weekly news, activities and stories.
<http://www.8chassociation.com/blog---museum>

THE MUSEUM REPORT, December 2022



The museum opened to the public in mid June with four students on staff this year. One of our first touring groups was the curators of a number of military museums from across Canada who were meeting in Moncton, NB for the OMMC annual work shop and AGM. The staff quickly prepared the museum for visitors and started to focus on upcoming events scheduled for the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Regiment in 1848. In addition to daily responsibilities the staff produced a number of historical videos detailing the military history of 8th Hussar war time casualties. This project has

been developed over a period of years and it has provided family visitors with a memorial theme during their visits. Two other projects were completed during the year. One was a focus on showing the events of 175 years of history, Funding assistance was provided by VAC and the end product saw a table mounted display with side panels developed. It would be 10 ft by 6 ft high with a digital panel displaying 190 sequenced photographs of Hussar history. It is entirely portable which will add flexibility to establish a display at various venues during the 175th Anniversary. The team then moved into a second video project which focused on the last months of the war and the role the Regiment played then in the Netherlands before returning home in 1946. The video centers around a gold medal promised in 1945 and delivered in 1952. The video includes original audio from the ceremony. Few members of the Regiment have ever seen the medal or know the story behind it. This project was sponsored in part by the NB Department of Heritage. The upcoming anniversary events will provide lots of opportunities to visit the museum to check out this 17-minute history of the Regiment.

The kit shop is very active since the 175th items went on sale in October 2022 which included a number of clothing items. In addition to the big sellers; beer steins, ball caps and license plates, a reasonably large amount of 175th anniversary clothing has been sold as well. However, a deadline for ordering special 175th items will be circulated shortly by email to ensure every one has them in time for the Anniversary. Supply chain issues are still creating problems and delays. The current kit shop items are listed at the following link; <http://www.8chassociation.com/museum-gift-shop.html> and e-transfers are now available at museumsupport@nb.aibn.com.

During 2022, numerous and generous donations have been received to support both the museum and the Association as a whole. The 2022 donors will be recognized elsewhere in this newsletter. It should be noted that these donations are the backbone of the museum's financial picture and we are grateful for your support. Without them your museum would not be viable!

I also wish to thank all of the museum board members and volunteers for the effort they put forward regularly to keep the museum operational and viable. Thankfully this year the flea market and the balloon Fiesta were a go and numbers of attendees at the events was very high. The museum shared the flea market revenues with the Sussex Cadet Corp and the Balloon Fiesta with the Port Elgin Corp. The funds went a long way in recovering losses from recent years.



The 175th Anniversary Display



Steve Wilson, Treasurer, parking the big ones. Sgt Abbott, MCpl Jones, Cpl Ostrum, Cpl Belliveau 2Lt LeBlanc

Credit must be given to all the volunteers who contributed time and effort for both parking venues. Due to the reduction in COVID mandates attendance was very high but temperatures in the high 30-degree range made each 12-hour day even more stressful.

THE TOTAL FORCE 8TH CANADIAN HUSSARS (PRINCESS LOUISE'S) 30TH ANNIVERSARY

In 1989 the Iron Curtain fell and with that many of the Western Countries saw the opportunity to reduce their Military Commitment in Central Europe. Canada took the decision to bring 4 Brigade back to Canada and this resulted in the Regular 8th Canadian Hussars Regiment being “Struck off Strength”. The Canadian Army was looking to improve the training level of the Reservists and when the above two situations collided the decision to form Total Force Regiments/Battalions was made.

I lobbied hard to be the first Commanding Officer (CO) of the newly formed Total Force 8th Canadian Hussars in 1993. I believed that it was important to demonstrate that a Reserve Officer could be the CO. The Regular Force had numerous candidates who were qualified.

The differences between my time as CO in 1983-1987 with my time as CO 1993-1995 were mainly the ability to carry out more exciting training. As the Regiment now had the Combat Training Centre Tank Squadron as part of the Regiment, there were opportunities to give Reservists some training time on the Leopards.

The challenges that I faced were trying to meld the Regulars and the Reservists into a cohesive unit. The Regular had to accept that the Reservist had family, civilian occupation and then Regimental activities. The Reservist had to become more professional and dependable to eliminate the criticism about how many are getting off of the bus. I had great support from a highly trained and dedicated staff who supported the development of this newly formed organization. I was led to believe that this was not the situation in the Infantry Battalion that attempted the Total Force Concept of Operations.

As the training level improved, we continued to search out opportunities for individual and sub-unit training activities that we could augment. The normal occurrence of having some of our soldiers transfer to the Regular Force is an ongoing reality of the Reserve Forces. Personally, the responsibility of career development of the Regimental Personnel and accurate preparation of Personnel Evaluation Reports (PERs) was paramount in ensuring the experiment worked.

The participation in Merit Boards with the other Armoured Corps COs was something that I had not experienced as Militia Regiment CO.

I believe that what we did was instrumental in raising the value of the Reservist as an important part of the Canadian Army capability. In the former Yugoslavia and

certainly in Afghanistan upwards of 25% of the deployed personnel were Reservists who were trained up to the standard to carry out these operations.

Today with what is happening in the world and particularly the war being fought between the Ukraine and Russian Forces has recreated to a degree the Iron Curtain. We continue to see the need for a strong and healthy Reserve Force whether it be for Domestic or International Operations.

Mac Robinson

THE OLD MEN OF THE REGIMENT

Why we joined: Why we stayed – In their own words.

Sgt Don Abbott – I joined in June of 1984. At the time I was a 19-year-old just looking for a job, but over the years, after numerous weekend exercises, gun camps, unknown number of Milcons, Arcons, Divcons where I first learned my trade, then practiced my trade, and finally began passing on what I had learned to a new generation of Hussars, I found a sense of place with the Regiment.

The following is a list of the highlights of close to 38 years of service.

Did my Basic/GMT during the summer of 84, my Cougar gunnery summer of 85 then a Combat Stores man course fall of 85. After that I spent the next few years working in either the QM or as a gunner in one of the troops. Tried to go Regular Forces in 87, but only made it halfway through Cornwallis before I got popped for my eyesight. Re-joined the Regiment as soon as possible in spring of 88. Since then, I have done several Worthington Trophy teams, been to Ft. Knox, Kentucky at least 6 of the 7 trips there, did Ft. Pickett in Virginia three times, have done Forest fire fighting in Gagetown a couple of times, did Search and Rescue of a downed pilot in N.S. out of Aldershot.

Did my JLC/CLC (Junior Leader's course/Combat Leader's course) in 97, promoted Mcpl then did ten years as an instructor for a GMT course and several DP1 and DP2 courses. Passed the Armoured Crew Commanders course in 2003 in Wainwright. (One of the last courses with the Cougars). Spent the next few years with the troops working with the G-wagons.

Did the TAPV D&M course in 2017, then the TAPV Gunnery course in 2018. Promoted Sgt. in March of 2020. Now, I run the Ceremonial stores and Archives in Moncton as well I am the Troop WO for the Liri Valley Holding troop. Plan is to stay until after the 175th Anniversary events in 2023 after almost 39 years in.

MCpl Ric Jones – I joined in June 1984, at 18. I went to school with a friend who was in Reserves, and he suggested I join to earn tuition money for college. He was

in a different branch, but I decided to join 8CH because of the armoured connection. I liked tanks and war movies growing up.

I'd heard about 8CH going on exercise each year in Germany, so I intended to try that, but I got a civilian job, which restricted my options.

I made some friends through the years, but few stayed in the regiment. I took many courses, and I enjoyed the driving ones particularly. I also travelled with the regiment many places.

I became an instructor, and I liked teaching many new soldiers. I learned the great history of the regiment and I learned a sense of duty to the unit and country, which, with my friends, helped me stick out the hard times when I thought of quitting.

Now, after 38 years in the regiment, I've decided it's time to retire later this year.

Cpl Rod Belliveau. - I joined March 28, 1992 at age 17. There was a tradition of brothers and uncles serving. I feel it is an extension of the community of southeastern New Brunswick and Sackville area and a part of me.

When the regiment was first introduced to the Cougar that was my first interest in armoured fighting vehicles.

Over the years, I learned and enjoyed operating many army vehicles. It gave me confidence and leadership skills.

I received plenty of guidance and support for my personal trips to the Regiment's battlefields in Italy and the rest of Europe.

I stayed all these years due to a sense of pride and duty, and learning more of the history of the regiment and the army over the years, and the camaraderie and staying connected with fellow soldiers.



L to R; Sgt Don Abbott, MCpl Ric Jones, Cpl Rod Belliveau

Operation Lentus: Hurricane Fiona relief in Nova Scotia by Cpl Ryan Hum

Knowing that a hurricane was expected to come up the coast earlier in the week I volunteered to assist with relief efforts if needed. Needless to say, I was contacted shortly after the hurricane rolled through by my Sgt and advised we were needed. I notified my white-collar employer that I would be out of the office and packed my bags and headed out.

I met up with more than a handful of other soldiers both from the A and B squadron at the Moncton garrison. We spent the next couple of days preparing for deployment including prepping vehicles, kit, and rations that would be needed for the troops.

In a nutshell, the following sentence from Canada's National Defence website summarizes things fairly accurately:

"Under the umbrella of Operation LENTUS, Canada's military response to natural disasters in Canada, CAF members lent their unique capabilities to serving alongside provincial, territorial and municipal partners from September 25 to October 13, 2022, providing assistance to the province and its residents in removing trees and debris to clear and open roadways and allow local line crews to restore power in affected areas."

That is precisely what we did. We helped people that were adversely affected by the aftermath of the storm to help get their lives back on track. I recall arriving at the first person's house where we looked in awe and shock after seeing the carnage the storm left at this old man's place. He had large trees laying across the front of his house and his shed completely crushed as well as many other trees blocking his entry to and from his driveway. What would have taken one individual week to complete, we were able to collaborate and get done within an afternoon. As the saying goes, many hands make light work.

Safety first. Yes, we did all receive chainsaw qualifications and an understanding of techniques with an emphasis on safety. We did not cut any trees down that were intertwined with powerlines except were explicitly given the ok by NS power. Luckily for us, one of our Master Corporals operated a chainsaw in his full-time civilian job and was up to the task of providing in-depth knowledge and performing the complex cuts, where I and other members were able to use the axes and saws to break up smaller pieces and carry it out of the way.

One of the tasks we were given was to recce rural areas and to assess areas that required help with tree clearance. This proved to be useful as we did find areas that needed attention and was a great way for us to brush up on our reconnaissance and mapping skills. For some of the troops (including myself) a bonus was being able to get MILCOT qualified as those were the vehicles that we predominately used.

Along the way, new friends were made and a comradery was built during the evenings after the day's work with fellow soldiers across different trades all helping to serve one common goal of helping people out in need. This is a big reason why I joined the Forces. To be able to give back to our country and help out in times of need.

It should also be noted that members of the Regiment with Cpl Demers, collected donations for the food bank at a local supermarket in Moncton, twice this past summer.

Contact us: *Association:* **Secretary,** AUSTIN.WILSON@forces.gc.ca

Museum: hussarssussex@nb.aibn.com

Mail: **PO Box 1695, Moncton, NB E1C 9X5**

Web page: <http://www.8chassociation.com/contact-us.html>

CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS: E-mail is often not delivered due to changes in personal e-mail accounts. Please be sure to advise the committee of any changes to your mailing address or email address, when changes occur. Your assistance in this regard would be truly appreciated.

Thanks!

Secretary – Austin Wilson E-mail: AUSTIN.WILSON@forces.gc.ca

DONATIONS.

The following members and organizations have made donations either to the Association or the museum. We gratefully acknowledge their support and thank them sincerely.

Association

Doran Vienneau

Jim Ellard

Technology Venture

Dave Henderson

Robin Craig

Canada Org

Betty Slade

Wayne Fogarty

Doug Seed

Richard Mungall

Larry Zaparzan

Museum

Peter Meshau

Marianne Donovan

Brian McNichol

Marnie McAleese-Gillett

Wayne Fogarty

Mike Ghitty

Please note at this time we have received 16 new life time memberships,

ASSOCIATION BURSARY PROGRAM

As a reminder to all our members, please note that the deadline for applications to the bursary program is 30 June 2023. Details for applying are found at the following address. <http://www.8chassociation.com/bursary.html>. For additional information please contact Jamie Kendall at jkendall_nb@outlook.com

The cut off date for articles for the next issue of the Sabretache will be 30 June 2023. This should give everyone plenty of time to write their articles. Articles and pictures can be forwarded to:

The Editor - Diane Lutes

E-mail: lutersr@nbnet.nb.ca

Looking for Kit Shop items? Visit the Association Giftshop:

<http://www.8chassociation.com/museum-gift-shop.html>

Harold Gamblin Chapter Christmas Dinner



The Planners; Gail McKinnon and Steve Wilson

The CO and RSM's table

After a hiatus of 2 years, it was a pleasure for member of the 8th Hussars family to be able to gather together for a time of food, friendship and camaraderie. The annual Christmas dinner of the Harold Gamblin Chapter of the 8th Canadian Hussars was held at the Masonic Hall in Hampton, NB on December 3, 2022. Over 70 were in attendance and we were delighted to number among these 10 members of the Gamblin family, including Lulu Guravich, Col Gamblin's daughter. Col Gamblin served as C.O. during the WWII years, from 1939 – 1942.

The program for the afternoon included a brief history of Col Gamblin's exemplary service, greetings from the Hampton Legion, the Association and C.O. LCol Beazley and RSM CWO Holland, followed by a presentation by Linda Webb and her children about their participation in the program "In Our Father's Footsteps", a unique WWII Dutch pilgrimage. Despite all of this, and a delicious meal, the true highlight of the afternoon for most participants was the chance to mingle, chat and catch up with friends and comrades after the isolation of the Covid years.

LAST POST (Courtesy of the Radley Walters Chapter)

With sadness we announce the passing of the following members of the Corps and Regimental families, for the year 2022.

MR. CHUCK DAVIDSON (Brother Carolyn Lescombe)	PETAWAWA, ON	13 JAN 2022
MR RON PATRICK SIMS	POINT de BUTE, NB	19 FEB 2022
LCOL (RET'D) JOHN "JACK" TRUEMAN	RIVERVIEW, NB	29 MAR 2022
LCOL (R) RONALD ANTHONY PUDDISTER	OTTAWA, ON	29 APR 2022
CPL LUC DAIGLE	ROGERVILLE NB	03 MAY 2022
MRS. HUGHENA MORRISON	GLACE BAY NS	14 MAY 2022
DARRELL TINGLEY	ELGIN NB	28 JUN 2022
MRS. FERNE ARMSTRONG	PETAWAWA, ON	03 AUG 2022
WILFRED (WILF) YORKE	PORT PERRY, ON	30 AUG 2022
ANDRE LAROCQUE	RICHELIEU, QB	05 SEP 2022
CWO (RET'D) MIKE LUSSIER	FARNHAM, PQ	04 OCT 2022
ALBERT RONALD DENNY	ANGUS ON	28 OCT 2022
MR. DONALD KORTH	SUSSEX NB	09 NOV 2022
MWO (RET'D) T.J. O'CONNER-NEPINAK	MANITOBA	10 NOV 2022
MR. JOEL SIVERSON	BURNABY BC	16 NOV 2022
MR. PARKER WILLIAM (BILL) HOLMES	AMHERST NS	22 NOV 2022
MRS. ELISABETH CHRISTMAS	SIDNEY NS	10 DEC 2022
MR. DAVID LONGAPHIE	SALISBURY NB	23 DEC 2022

REGI PATRIAEQUE FIDELIS – FAITHFUL TO SOVERIGN AND COUNTRY

The Chapter list of fallen comrades within the Corp and Regimental families is certainly not complete. Information is posted as received and put into the association records.

The Radley-Walters Chapter would like to acknowledge the sacrifice and contribution being made today by our soldiers and particularly those of the Armoured Regiments so actively involved. We offer our support to those that leave home to carry on the tasks that the people of Canada have asked you to do. In doing so, you uphold the fine tradition of your Regiments and The Canadian Forces. You have our utmost support and thanks.

We wish to pass our condolences to the families who have lost love ones in these recent times. There has been no greater sacrifice than the giving of one's life so we may all live in a better world in the future. To the families of those who have fallen we offer our thanks, our admiration and deepest gratitude to all.