



COLONEL COMMANDANT'S MESSAGE

NOVEMBER 2015

Dear Friends,

Already a month plus in the turret and life is good! On the 8th of November I made my first official visit as Colonel Commandant in Trois-Rivières the home station of the 12th Regiment Blindé du Canada (12th CAR) where my military journey began fifty plus years ago. Was great to revisit the old stomping grounds, join in their Remembrance Day ceremony and share a libation (or two) with the new and the old guard.

On the 11th of November, my thoughts and prayers went out to all those brave Canadians who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defending our values and protecting our Nation. We will remember them.

Spent the better part of the 13th of November in Kingston with Colonel Steve Kelsey the Director Armour and LCol (Ret'd) Bernie Ciarroni, the President of our Association. In addition to setting the stage for the next Association Annual General Meeting to be held in the "Limestone city", we discussed issues of common interest stemming from the earlier Armoured Board in Gagetown. An important "take away" is the need to enhance our dissemination practices. Communication being a key factor to our existence, we are considering different options to achieve best results in this domain. I will provide more clarity in the New Year.

Accompanied by LCol (Ret'd) Ross Carruthers and our wives, I attended the Vimy dinner in Ottawa. A grand affair organized by the Conference of Defence Association Institute. This fund raising activity is well attended by the political, industrial, former and active military "who's who" of the National Capital and beyond. Our future participation in this activity will need to be discussed in the greater context of our partnership with the CDA/CDAi.

A visit (15-17 November) to exercise "Common Ground" in Gagetown was a treat. Spent a full day traveling the "back forty" observing our future troop leaders and Squadron sergeant-majors navigate through their field assessments in the context of a heavy battle group deployment. As always I am encouraged by the level of professionalism emanating from these young leaders. Before leaving I had the distinct privilege of presiding the badging of eleven (11) new officers into the Corps. They are all deserving of a position in their Regiments. Kudos to the Commandant of the School and his team for the excellent mentoring.

Worthy,

Georges

Colonel (ret) G. Rousseau
Colonel Commandant
Royal Canadian Armoured Corps