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Season's Greetings From the 17 Wing Commander

As the holiday season approaches I wish to take a few moments to express to each and every member of the 17 Wing team (including civilian employees and family members of 17 Wing military personnel) my sincere appreciation for the unrivalled dedication to duty you have displayed over the past year (and continue to display each and every day). You are all an inspiration to me and I am proud to serve you.

At this time of year, some people tend to view the rigors of military service as a hardship we must endure. You and I both know that the sacrifices we and our families make to Service, we give freely so that others may enjoy a life free from oppression and shaped by the Canadian ideals we defend and cherish.

As you gather with family over the holiday period, I challenge you to keep the members of your military family in your thoughts also. Remember that donning the uniform of which we are all so proud unites us in thought and purpose and makes us part of a very unique, very select, and very close family.

Tracy and I want to wish you and yours a very happy holiday season and want you to know that we are very proud to be a part of this incredibly special 17 Wing family.

Colonel Andy Cook
17 Wing Commander



Vœux du temps des Fêtes du Commandant de la 17e Escadre

À l'approche des fêtes de fin d'année, je tiens à remercier sincèrement tous les membres de l'équipe de la 17e Escadre (y compris les employés civils et les familles des militaires de l'Escadre) du dévouement sans égal dont chacun a fait preuve au cours de l'année qui prend bientôt fin, et que chacun continue de démontrer jour après jour. Vous êtes tous une inspiration pour moi, et je suis fier d'être à votre service.

À cette période de l'année, certaines personnes ont tendance à considérer les rigueurs du service militaire comme une épreuve à endurer. Vous connaissez tout aussi bien que moi que les sacrifices que nous et nos familles consentons au nom des Forces armées; nous nous donnons corps et âme afin que d'autres puissent vivre une vie à l'abri de l'oppression, qui est en harmonie avec les idéaux canadiens que nous défendons et chérissons.

Pendant que vous vous retrouverez en famille au cours des fêtes, je vous mets au défi d'accorder une place aux membres de votre famille militaire dans vos pensées. N'oubliez pas que, par le fait de porter l'uniforme dont nous sommes si fiers, nous sommes unis par un esprit et un but communs et nous faisons partie d'une famille très unique, à la fois soudée et restreinte.

Tracy et moi vous souhaitons, à vous et à vos proches, de très joyeuses fêtes. Nous tenons aussi à vous dire que nous sommes très fiers de faire partie de la famille exceptionnelle que constitue la 17e Escadre.

Colonel Andy Cook
Commandant de la 17e Escadre

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NORAD Tracks Santa Claus

By **Bill McLeod**
Voxair Manager

"Keep your list up to date and be on your best behaviour because I'm coming soon," Santa Claus told reporters following his annual briefing at 1 Canadian Air Division/Canadian NORAD Region headquarters on 9 December.

Media were invited to witness the briefing at the Canadian Air Operations Centre, located at 17 Wing Winnipeg. NORAD (North American Aerospace Defense Command) has tracked Santa Claus' Christmas Eve flight continuously since 1955.

"We are tasked to identify every aircraft or unidentified object in our region," said Lieutenant-Colonel Michael 'Skip' Fawcett, "even Santa's sled."

LCol Fawcett said the biggest changes in how NORAD tracks Santa are in the use of social media tools. "The technology has been upgraded. Some of the communication tools for the kids have been greatly improved over the years," LCol Fawcett said.

According to Santa, the identification process carried out by Royal Canadian Air Force CF-18 fighter jets is carried out very quickly.

"The actual time I spend on the wings of a CF-18 is

very short," Santa said. "They just come up to me to make that positive identification and then I have to be on my way."

Santa confirmed that he had to really slow down his sled for the CF-18 jets to make that identification.

"We start at the international dateline and fly east to west using special secret technology," Santa said.

Elf Lily Bell, who was with Santa at the briefing, and will be handling the communications for Santa in flight was asked by reporters what it was like to work for Santa Claus.

"He is amazing. He's the best boss ever. He's jolly and happy all the time," she said.

As Santa left the Air Operations Centre he said, "Who's the best pilot ever? Ho, ho, ho!"

Children can follow Santa here:

Website: www.NORADSANTA.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/noradsanta

Twitter: www.twitter.com/noradsanta #NORAD-SANTA @NORADSANTA

YouTube: www.youtube.com/noradsanta

Google+: <https://plus.google.com/>

NTS Apps – available for Android, iPhone



Lieutenant-Colonel Michael 'Skip' Fawcett, Combat Operations Division Chief, briefs Elf Lily Bell and Santa Claus on the frequencies and procedures required for Santa's December 24 flight through the North American Aerospace Defense Command Region. The briefing took place on 9 December at the Canadian Air Operations Centre, 1 Canadian Air Division/Canadian NORAD Region headquarters, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Photo: Bill McLeod

Lost Dog Reunited with Owner

By **Sgt Bill McLeod**
Wing Public Affairs Photojournalist

Tears of joy fell as Stephanie Butz hugged her dog Sophie in a chain link enclosure at the Air Movements Unit (AMU) at 17 Wing Winnipeg on Monday, 30 Nov. The adventurous Sophie had been missing for four days since escaping from her yard the previous Friday.

"She was spotted as far away as Assiniboia Downs on the weekend," said Stephanie. Sophie's home is in the St. James neighbourhood of Winnipeg, not too far from where she was found on the Wing.

Captain Jason Milani, a pilot at 402 'City of Winnipeg' Squadron was walking past a window in 16 Hangar when he saw something white on the flight line that Monday afternoon. When he realized it was a dog he went to Wing Operations to report it.

Capt Milani had worked at Wing Operations before so he was able to point a camera at the dog to get a better look at her and then, because the duty officer was handling another matter, he contacted the Winnipeg James Armstrong Richardson Airport Tower.

The tower dispatched a Winnipeg Airports Authority employee in a truck to try and catch the dog but despite her size as a Great Pyrenees cross she is a very timid dog according to Stephanie. The worker chased the dog up and down the runways and from the 17 Wing side to the airport side and back again.

Captain Thomas Doelman, the Wing Operations Duty Officer, watched Sophie run around the flight line and look for a way out of the fence near the AMU. He called the AMU and told them they should try and get her penned in their chain link fenced area.

After Captain Doelman called the Air Movements Unit, Private Benjamin Demers went onto the ramp area and spotted the dog. He was able to call the frightened dog over to him and when he entered the chain link enclosed area at the side of the AMU Sophie followed

him in.

By luck, Danny Warden, a 17 Wing Telecom and Information Services Squadron employee in 16 Hangar, recognized the dog as being reported missing from the St. James area on Facebook. He called his daughter who contacted Stephanie and told her which finally led to the joyful reunion on the 17 Wing flight line.



Sophie the dog and her visibly relieved owner Stephanie Butz reunite at the Air Movements Unit at 17 Wing Winnipeg on 30 November 2015. Wing Operations alerted Private Benjamin Demers that the dog was on the ramp and he was able to lead Sophie into a chain link enclosure beside the passenger terminal. Photo: Sgt Bill McLeod

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Happy Holidays!*

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Christmas Greetings from the 17 Wing Chief Warrant Officer

Another year has come and gone – even quicker than my first year as the 17 Wing Chief Warrant Officer. It is once again the time of year when the weather turns cold and we hopefully slow down enough to take the opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the year's successes and achievements. Exceptional work is done from the armory in Thunder Bay to 440 Sqn flying in the north to 17 Wing Det Dundurn; all supporting the missions of the Canadian Armed Forces. This year has brought us a new Wing Commander who is just as engaged and focused on supporting people as his predecessor. Supporting people at 17 Wing is a unique challenge as we are mostly now a collection of lodger units which have command relationships with other Wings. This makes it a little tougher for us all as we have to build and nurture our professional relationships and pull together as one team and community. My assistant, Sgt. Mike Kuruliak and I enjoy this cooperation each and every day as we plan and coordi-

nate ceremonies and events and try to stay ahead of all that is being asked of our Wing community. Once again this year, your hard work, initiative and sense of one team-one mission continues to impress me. For me the most significant event we hold on the Wing is always the quarterly Honours and Award ceremonies. It is at these that the WComd and I are most proud and have the privilege of recognizing your great work and accomplishments. Of course most importantly we get to recognize the support and sacrifices of your families whom do so much to support us. So, now that the holiday season is upon us, it is my hope is that we take the opportunity to reflect on our personal and collective accomplishments and enjoy the company of friends and family.

From my family and I, enjoy a safe and happy holiday season. Merry Christmas!

CWO Mike Robertson
17 Wing Chief Warrant Officer

Meilleurs vœux de la part de l'adjutant-chef de la 17e Escadre

Une autre année s'est écoulée – plus rapidement encore que ma première année à titre d'adjutant chef de la 17e Escadre. Voici revenue la période où le temps se refroidit et où nous espérons ralentir suffisamment le rythme pour prendre l'occasion de penser aux réalisations et aux succès de l'année et de les célébrer. L'ensemble des militaires ont travaillé de façon remarquable à l'appui des missions des Forces armées canadiennes, qu'il s'agisse des membres du manège militaire de Thunder Bay, du 440e Escadron au Nord ou de la 17e Escadre, détachement Dundurn. Cette année, un nouveau commandant, tout aussi engagé et décidé à soutenir les militaires que son prédécesseur, a pris le commandement de l'Escadre. Le soutien des membres de la 17e Escadre représente un défi particulier étant donné que l'Escadre est maintenant constituée principalement d'unités hébergées qui relèvent d'autres escadres. Cela rend la situation quelque peu plus compliquée pour nous tous étant donné que nous devons nouer et entretenir des relations professionnelles et nous unir à titre d'équipe et de communauté. Mon adjoint, le Sgt Mike Kuruliak, et moi-même apprécions cette coopération tous les jours alors que nous devons planifier et coordon-

ner des cérémonies et des activités et que nous tentons de conserver une longueur d'avance sur ce que l'on demande aux membres de l'Escadre. Encore une fois cette année, votre travail acharné, votre esprit d'initiative et votre interprétation de la devise « une équipe, une mission » continuent de m'impressionner. Personnellement, je trouve que l'activité la plus importante organisée au sein de l'Escadre est la cérémonie trimestrielle de remise des décorations et des titres honorifiques. C'est à cette occasion que le commandant de l'Escadre et moi-même sommes le plus fiers et que nous avons le privilège de reconnaître votre travail remarquable et vos réalisations. Le plus important est certainement d'avoir l'occasion de reconnaître le soutien et les sacrifices de vos familles qui font tant de choses pour nous appuyer. Alors que la période des Fêtes arrive à grands pas, j'espère que nous prendrons tous le temps de penser à nos réalisations personnelles et collectives et que nous profiterons de la compagnie de notre famille et de nos amis.

Au nom de ma famille et en mon nom personnel, je vous souhaite un joyeux temps des Fêtes. Joyeux Noël!

CWO Mike Robertson
L'adjutant-chef de la 17e Escadre



17 Wing CWO, CWO Michael Robertson and his wife Joanne Robertson attend a Christmas Concert at the Centennial Concert Hall in Winnipeg MB, on December 9, 2015. Photo: MCpl Rick Ayer

THE VOXAIR



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All Ranks Christmas Party a Hit with the Kids

By Bill McLeod
Voxair Manager

There were squeals of joy and screams of fright and everything in between but there was no indifference to Santa on display at the 17 Wing All Ranks Children's Christmas Party held at Building 21 on Saturday, December 5, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Except for two small girls that raced to greet him, the other 250 children were too excited and occupied with the activities to even notice when Santa arrived at the party at 1:15 but it didn't take long before the line up to see Santa stretched around the two interior walls of the gym.

The activities for the children included face painting, cookie decorating, movies, three inflatable bouncy structures, and, of course, the visit with Santa.

"The participation of the three messes is what makes this party a success," said the event organizer Captain Amber Lawson. "In particular, I want to thank Warrant Officer Mike Manny and Master Corporal Brent Thompson for their support and work on this party."

The Children's Christmas Party also gets support from other community minded organizations. There were volunteers from 170 and 225 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadrons, the Girl Guides, and even the Scouts organization helped with the party atmosphere by popping popcorn.

One of the behind the scenes changes to the party this year was the donation by Grandpa's Workshop of a new chair for Santa Claus. In previous years the organizers have rented a chair from a local business but it was costing the messes \$500 a year. The new Santa chair was a big hit with the parents as it has the RCAF roundel carved into the centre of the back.

"The party went really well," said Captain Lawson. "Everyone seemed really happy with the flow and the activities."

To see more of the work from Grandpa's Workshop you can visit him on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/grandpaswoodworkshop/>



Two young fans run to greet Santa Claus when he first appeared at the 17 Wing All Ranks Children's Christmas Party on December 5 at Building 21. Photo: Bill McLeod

Season's Greetings from Major General Wheeler, Commander 1 Canadian Air Division and the Canadian NORAD Region

As hard as it may be to believe, the Holiday Season is upon us, a time to spend with family and friends. It has been a very busy year for the Royal Canadian Air Force, and we can safely say that all the men and women of 1 Canadian Air Division and the Canadian NORAD Region have earned some well-deserved rest and relaxation as we prepare to meet new challenges in the year ahead.

The RCAF has been hard at work this past year, both in Canada and around the world. Our people and aircraft have been working shoulder-to-shoulder with our allies in the Middle East, fighting the spread of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. We continued to support Canada's contribution to NATO efforts in Eastern Europe and we helped bring relief efforts to Nepal following the devastating earthquake in April.

While we have shone on the international stage, we have also been busy closer to home. The RCAF supported international counter-drug operations and patrolled the Pacific Ocean to help thwart illegal fishing. On top of that, we have been very successful in our continuous support of our NORAD commitments to defend North America; and our tireless efforts in search-and-rescue have undoubtedly saved lives all across Canada.

None of this operational excellence would be possible without your dedication to training. Twice this year, hundreds of Canadian and US military personnel exer-

cised across Canada's North and in the high Arctic in various NORAD scenarios to test our abilities to defend North America. The RCAF was also an important part of JOINTEX and NATO's Exercise TRIDENT JUNCTURE in Portugal and Spain. Meanwhile, so many other training events took place at wing and unit levels to ensure the highest readiness levels in the Canadian Armed Forces.

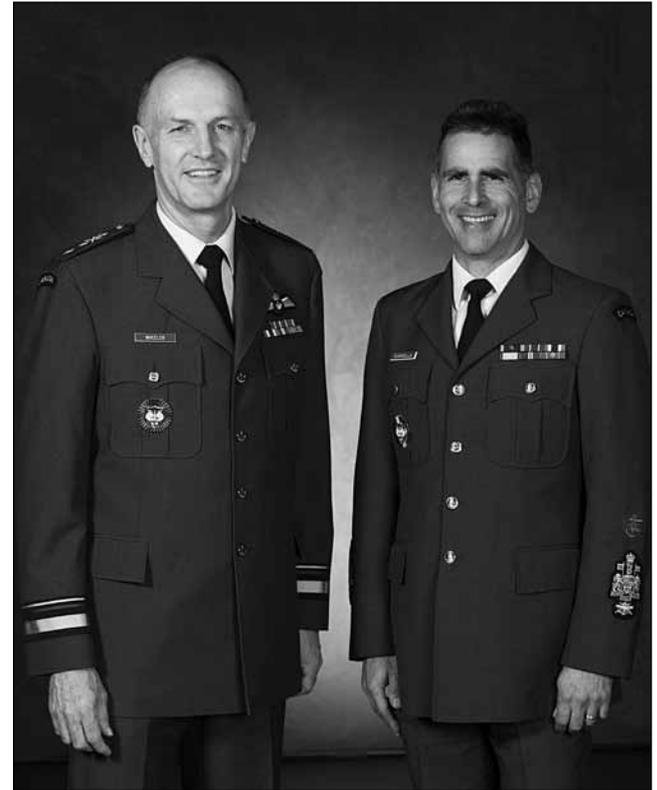
Your hard work doesn't come without sacrifice. We've had to sadly bid a final farewell to several members of our extended RCAF family in 2015. Meanwhile, at times this year we had over 1,000 people deployed around Canada and the world. There's no question in my mind that your families have continued to be significant pillars of strength for the RCAF. As we continue to proactively listen to their concerns through the RCAF Family Support Team, we strive to build opportunities to increase family connectivity and resiliency.

Next year promises to be just as eventful. We have a new Government of Canada and a new Minister of National Defence now in place, and although we await their direction, we expect to be busy again in 2016. The RCAF will mark the 75th anniversary of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, which brought together Canadian communities around the country and led to the creation of many of our squadrons, many of which will

also turn 75 next year. We look forward to working with all of you on the challenges ahead.

Before we get there, however, we implore each of you to take some time for yourselves and your loved ones. On behalf of the 1 CAD Chief Warrant Officer, Mike Scarcella, and I, we wish you and yours a very happy Holiday Season, and all the best in 2016.

**Major-General David Wheeler
Commander, 1 Canadian Air Division and
the Canadian NORAD Region**



MGen David Wheeler, 1 CAD Commander and CWO Michael Scarcella, 1 CAD CWO, pose for the 1 CAD Christmas card. Photo: Cpl Darryl Hepner

aux familles de l'ARC, nous nous efforçons de façon proactive à rester à l'écoute de leurs préoccupations, et par la même occasion à tenter de leur offrir des occasions de resserrer leurs liens familiaux et d'augmenter leur résilience.

La prochaine année devrait être tout aussi fertile en événements que l'année qui s'achève. Nous avons un nouveau gouvernement, et un nouveau ministre de la Défense nationale a été nommé. Nous attendons encore ses directives, mais nous pouvons nous attendre à avoir autant de travail qu'en 2015. En effet, en 2016, l'ARC soulignera le 75e anniversaire du programme d'entraînement aérien du Commonwealth britannique. Regroupant des communautés canadiennes de tout le pays, il a donné lieu à la mise sur pied d'un grand nombre de nos escadrons qui, pour la plupart, fêteront également leur 75e anniversaire en 2016. Nous avons hâte de travailler avec vous et de relever les défis à venir.

Mais en attendant, nous tenons à ce que vous preniez du temps pour vous et que vous passiez d'agréables moments avec tous ceux qui vous sont chers. L'adjudant-chef de la 1 DAC, l'adjudant-chef Mike Scarcella, et moi-même souhaitons à vous et à votre famille un joyeux temps des Fêtes et nos meilleurs vœux pour 2016.

**Le commandant de la 1re Division aérienne
du Canada et de la Région canadienne
du NORAD, Major-général David Wheeler**

Vœux du temps des Fêtes du major-général Wheeler, Commandant de la 1re Division aérienne du Canada et de la Région canadienne du NORAD

Cela peut être difficile à croire, mais la période des Fêtes est à nos portes. C'est le moment de passer du temps en famille et avec les amis. L'année qui se termine a été très occupée pour l'Aviation royale canadienne, et nous pouvons sans contredit affirmer que tous les membres féminins et masculins de la 1re Division aérienne du Canada et de la Région canadienne du NORAD peuvent prendre un repos bien mérité et se détendre en attendant de relever les nouveaux défis de la prochaine année.

L'Aviation royale canadienne (ARC) s'est donnée corps et âme à son travail au cours de la dernière année, au Canada et partout dans le monde. Les membres de notre personnel et nos appareils ont travaillé coude à coude avec ceux de nos alliés au Moyen-Orient, combattant la progression de l'État islamique en Iraq et en Syrie. Nous avons continué à appuyer la contribution canadienne aux efforts de l'OTAN en Europe de l'Est et soutenu les activités de secours humanitaire au Népal suite au dévastateur tremblement de terre qui s'y est

produit en avril.

Même si nous avons brillé sur la scène internationale, nous avons également été très occupés au pays. L'ARC a appuyé les opérations internationales de lutte contre le trafic de drogue et effectué des patrouilles dans l'océan Pacifique dans le cadre de sa contribution pour contrecarrer la pêche illégale. Nous avons de plus connu beaucoup de succès dans nos engagements auprès du NORAD pour la défense de l'Amérique du Nord; notre infatigable travail en matière de recherche et sauvetage a sans aucun doute permis de sauver des vies partout au Canada.

Nous ne connaîtrions pas ce niveau d'excellence opérationnelle sans notre engagement envers l'entraînement. Deux fois au cours de l'année qui se termine, des centaines de militaires canadiens et américains ont participé à des exercices dans le Nord du Canada et dans le Haut Arctique dans le cadre de scénarios du NORAD pour mettre nos compétences de défense de l'Amérique du Nord à l'épreuve. L'ARC a également fourni une importante contribution à JOINTEX et à l'exercice TRIDENT JUNCTURE de l'OTAN, au Portugal et en Espagne. Pendant ce temps, les escadres et les unités ont effectué de nombreuses autres activités de formation pour veiller à ce que les niveaux de disponibilité opérationnelle des Forces armées canadiennes soient optimaux.

Le dur travail que vous avez accompli vous a demandé bien des sacrifices. Malheureusement, nous avons dit adieu à plusieurs membres de la grande famille de l'ARC en 2015, alors que parfois plus de 1 000 de nos soldats participaient à des opérations au Canada et partout dans le monde. Il ne fait aucun doute pour moi que les membres de votre famille sont d'importants piliers de la force de l'ARC. Par l'entremise de l'équipe de soutien

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Season's Greetings from Brigadier-General Dave Cochrane Commander 2 Canadian Air Division

As we turn to the month of December on the 2015 calendar, we wonder where the year could have possibly gone and find ourselves busy at work and at home in the days leading up to a busy holiday season. But, this is also a wonderful time of the year to reflect on the significant accomplishments of 2015 while taking the necessary time to recharge our batteries with family and friends and ready ourselves for the opportunities of a new year.

This was a busy year operationally for the Canadian Armed Forces and Royal Canadian Air Force both at home and around the world. These operations and exercises could not have enjoyed the success they did if our Airmen and Airwomen did not have the solid foundation 2 Canadian Air Division units provide through ab-initio training and professional development. Despite this year's high turnover in staff throughout our Division, I have been markedly impressed at how our people have pulled together at all levels (Flying in Formation) to ensure that the training we provide and assist with meets the operational needs of the RCAF and our allies.

2 CAD has had an exciting year working to better provide these services more efficiently and effectively. Years of hard work from many across the RCAF came to fruition this year as we saw two successful amalgamations take place within our Division: 1 CFFTS and 402 Squadron; and AFTC and 16 Wing Borden. In addition, we should all be proud of the ongoing work being done on the professional development for NCM's and Officers. I am particularly pleased with the accomplishments on the development of common PLQ for NCM's and the front end analysis of the Air Force Officer Developmental courses.

Through all these changes and accomplishments, I

have been consistently proud to learn of the dedication of each and every member of our team that I have had the pleasure to meet face-to-face or hear about through your chain of command. From the headquarters to the hangar floor and classrooms, there is no doubt that those within our Division have worked hard for their accomplishments.

I am also fully aware that our families continue to be significant pillars of strength for our members, and I am proud that our leadership has endorsed a grass roots based RCAF Family Sponsor Program that will be in place for the next posting season and will go a long way to supporting those that mean so much to us.

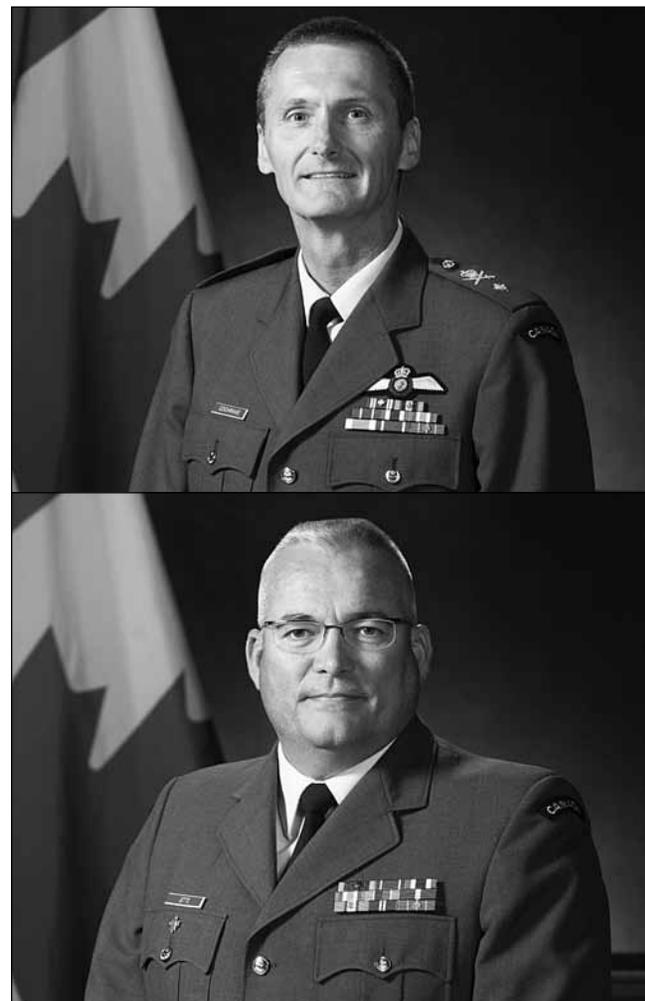
As we transition into the opportunities that will be presented to us in 2016 – we will be reminded of our role in setting the foundation for what our Airmen and Airwomen expect from the CAF. As such, we will continue the leadership role we are taking in important initiatives like Operation Honour.

Looking to the near future - I am confident that our support as an organization to the Government of Canada's initiative to assist Syrian Refugees will confirm in all of us how fortunate we all are to be part of this great country.

But before we open our new calendars and start filling the pages with progress towards a rewarding 2016, the 2 CAD Chief Warrant Officer, Pierrot Jette and I encourage you to take time to enjoy the present moment of the holiday season with friends and loved ones.

Wishing you a safe and happy holiday season and a fulfilling 2016.

Brigadier-General Dave Cochrane
Commander, 2 Canadian Air Division



Top: Lieutenant Colonel Dave Cochrane
Bottom: Chief Warrant Officer Pierrot Jette
Photos: Cpl Jean Archambault

Meilleurs vœux du brigadier-général Dave Cochrane Commandant de la 2e Division aérienne du Canada

En ce début de décembre, nous nous demandons comment l'année 2015 a pu s'écouler aussi rapidement, alors que nous sommes toujours occupés, au travail et à la maison, pendant les derniers jours avant la période chargée des fêtes. Quoi qu'il en soit, c'est le moment idéal pour faire le bilan des réalisations importantes de 2015, tout en prenant le temps nécessaire pour nous ressourcer en compagnie de notre famille et de nos amis, et de nous préparer à profiter des occasions qu'offre une nouvelle année.

Pour les Forces armées canadiennes et l'Aviation royale canadienne, ce fut une année chargée sur le plan opérationnel, tant au pays qu'ailleurs dans le monde. Les opérations et les exercices que nous avons menés n'auraient pas remporté autant de succès sans les assises solides que possèdent les membres de la Force aérienne grâce à l'instruction initiale et au perfectionnement professionnel que leur fournissent les unités de la 2e Division aérienne du Canada (2 DAC). Malgré le roulement considérable du personnel de notre division, je suis resté admiratif devant la façon dont le personnel a collaboré (volé en formation) afin que l'instruction que nous offrons et que nous facilitons réponde aux besoins opérationnels de l'ARC et de nos alliés.

L'année a été stimulante pour la 2 DAC, car nous avons amélioré l'efficacité avec laquelle nous fournis-

sons nos services. Plusieurs années de travail acharné de nombreux membres de l'ARC ont abouti, cette année, au regroupement réussi, dans notre division, de la 1 EPFC et du 402e Escadron, ainsi que du CIFA et de la 16e Escadre Borden. Par ailleurs, nous pouvons tous être fiers du travail soutenu que nous accomplissons pour le perfectionnement professionnel des MR et des officiers. Je me réjouis en particulier des progrès réalisés en ce qui concerne l'établissement d'un cours commun de QEL pour les MR, et pour l'analyse initiale des cours de perfectionnement des officiers de la Force aérienne.

A travers tous ces changements et toutes ces réalisations, j'ai toujours été fier d'apprendre le dévouement des membres de notre équipe que j'ai eu le plaisir de rencontrer en personne, ou dont j'ai entendu parler par l'entremise de la chaîne de commandement. Il ne fait aucun doute que tous les membres de notre division ont fait beaucoup d'efforts pour réussir, qu'ils se trouvent au Quartier général, dans les hangars ou dans les salles de classe.

Je suis aussi parfaitement conscient que nos familles continuent d'être d'importants piliers de soutien de nos militaires, et je suis fier de nos dirigeants qui ont approuvé le programme de parrainage des familles de l'ARC qui sera mis en œuvre à temps pour la prochaine période des affectations, et qui contribuera grandement

à appuyer nos êtres chers.

Alors que nous effectuons la transition vers les nouvelles possibilités qui s'offriront à nous en 2016, nous rappellerons notre rôle dans l'établissement des bases de ce à quoi les membres de la Force aérienne s'attendent des FAC. Par conséquent, nous continuerons de remplir notre rôle de chef de file dans le cadre d'importantes initiatives comme l'opération HONOUR.

En ce qui concerne le proche avenir, je suis convaincu que le soutien que notre organisation apporte à l'initiative du gouvernement du Canada d'aider les réfugiés syriens nous permettra de nous rendre compte de la grande chance que nous avons tous de faire partie de ce grand pays qui est le nôtre.

Toutefois, avant de commencer à remplir nos agendas de 2016 en vue d'une année enrichissante, l'adjudant-chef de la 2 DAC Pierrot Jette et moi-même vous encourageons à prendre le temps de profiter pleinement des fêtes avec vos amis et vos proches.

Nous vous souhaitons de joyeuses fêtes, ainsi qu'une année fructueuse en 2016.

**Le commandant de la 2e Division
aérienne du Canada,
Brigadier-général Dave Cochrane**



**17 WING
JUNIOR RANKS**



MONDAY – THURSDAY

Lunch 1130 – 1300 hrs
Afternoon 1500 – 1900 hrs

(Hours may be extended to 2200 hrs depending on attendance)

FRIDAY

Lunch 1130 – 1330 hrs
Afternoon 1500 – 2400 hrs

SATURDAY – SUNDAY

CLOSED

Hours will fluctuate on nights with scheduled events

Pool Tables Air Hockey Foosball

Cable TV Shuffleboard

WiFi Internet Wii Games TGIF's

Available for Weddings, Socials, Private or Unit Functions / Contact the Junior Ranks Admin Office Bldg 61 / 204-833-2500-5245

Holiday Message from the RCAF Command Team



Commander Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) Lieutenant-General Mike Hood and Chief Warrant Officer of the RCAF, CWO Gerard Poitras. Background copyright Hybridworks. Photo: Corporal/Caporal Vicky Lefrancois, D Air PA

At this most special time of year, it gives Chief Warrant Officer Gérard Poitras, the RCAF CWO, and me great pleasure to offer our best wishes to all members of our extended Royal Canadian Air Force family: our military personnel, both Regular and Reserve Force; our honorary colonels; our civilian colleagues; our families; our air cadets; and our veterans.

We've had a tremendously busy year in the RCAF, and due to the capabilities we bring to the Canadian

Armed Forces and to the Government of Canada, we will surely be called on again. In addition to our Operation Impact mission, we have been fully engaged in conducting search and rescue missions, participating in national and international training and exercises, fulfilling our NORAD role and guarding Canadian sovereignty, hunting drug traffickers, searching out illegal fishing activity, and much more. And of course we continue to fly in formation with our partners – supporting our sister services, the Royal Canadian Navy and the Canadian Army, other Defence organizations and other government departments.

In September, we took time to remember one of the most important events in our Air Force history – the Battle of Britain. The 75th anniversary of the battle was marked nationally by a magnificent ceremony, attended by the Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, on Parliament Hill. The Battle, in which more than 100 Canadian flyers and hundreds of groundcrew took part, was a turning point in the war. Next year, we will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the British Commonwealth Air Training Program – the enormous Canadian undertaking during the Second World War whereby our nation trained aircrew from around the world who then took the fight to the enemy and eventually were victorious.

And as I write this, we are participating in another tremendous undertaking: bringing Syrian refugees to safety and security here in Canada. Chief Warrant Of-

ficer Poitras and I know all of you, if you are called upon to assist in this mission, will do so with professionalism and, most importantly, the generosity and compassion for which Canadians are known.

As I look back on my first five months as your commander and on all you have accomplished, I want you to know that we are both extremely proud of you. We sincerely thank you for your dedication to ensuring the success of the Air Force mission. Keep up the great work, as we continue to work toward fulfilling our vision of AIRPower In Formation: an Air Force that is Agile and Integrated with the Reach and Power to achieve its missions, flying in formation with our partners.

We know that a career in the military often puts pressure on our family life. During this holiday season we hope that you will be able to enjoy some well-deserved rest and time with your family and friends. Their love and support is essential to our ability to do great things in the service of Canada. And for those of you who must be on duty during the holidays – at home or around the world – you have a special place in our thoughts, and we sincerely thank you for your commitment.

No matter what your belief or faith, we hope you will draw strength from the message of peace and joy that the Christmas season brings. Chief Warrant Officer Poitras and I wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas, happy holidays and all the very best in 2016.

**Lieutenant-General Mike Hood,
Commander Royal Canadian Air Force**

Voeux des fêtes de l'Équipe de commandement de l'ARC

En cette période si spéciale de l'année, l'adjudant-chef de l'ARC, l'adjudant-chef Gérard Poitras, et moi avons le plaisir d'offrir nos meilleurs vœux à tous les membres de notre grande famille de l'Aviation royale canadienne : notre personnel militaire de la Force régulière et de la Force de réserve, nos colonels honoraires, nos collègues civils, nos familles, nos cadets de l'Air et nos anciens combattants.

L'année a été des plus occupées à l'ARC et, en raison des capacités que nous procurons aux Forces armées canadiennes et au gouvernement du Canada, on fera sûrement encore appel à nous. Outre la mission de l'opération Impact, nous nous sommes pleinement engagés dans des missions de recherche et sauvetage et avons participé à des exercices et de l'entraînement au Canada et à l'étranger. Nous avons également rempli notre rôle auprès du NORAD, assuré la protection de la souveraineté du Canada, pourchassé des trafiquants de drogues, mené des opérations pour détecter la pêche illégale, et bien plus encore. Et bien entendu, nous continuons de voler en formation avec nos partenaires et d'appuyer les autres services – la Marine royale canadienne et l'Armée canadienne – les autres organisations de la Défense et les autres ministères.

En septembre, nous avons pris le temps de commémorer l'un des événements les plus importants de l'histoire de notre Force aérienne : la bataille

d'Angleterre. Le 75^e anniversaire de cette bataille a été souligné à l'échelle nationale par une superbe cérémonie à laquelle a participé le Gouverneur général et Commandant en chef du Canada sur la colline du Parlement. Plus de 100 aviateurs et des centaines de membres du personnel de piste du Canada ont pris part à cette bataille, qui a marqué un moment décisif dans la guerre. L'an prochain, nous célébrerons le 75^e anniversaire du Programme d'entraînement arien du Commonwealth britannique. Dans le cadre de cette vaste entreprise canadienne, durant la Seconde Guerre mondiale, notre pays a entraîné des membres d'équipage de partout dans le monde, qui ont ensuite combattu l'ennemi et en sont revenus victorieux.

Au moment où j'écris ces lignes, nous participons à une autre mission de grande importance : offrir à des réfugiés syriens la sûreté et la sécurité du Canada. L'adjudant-chef Poitras et moi savons que tous ceux d'entre vous qui seront appelés à aider à accomplir cette mission sauront le faire avec professionnalisme et surtout, avec la générosité et la compassion qui font la réputation des Canadiens.

En repensant à mes cinq premiers mois à titre de commandant et à tout ce que vous avez accompli, sachez que nous sommes tous deux très fiers de vous. Nous vous remercions sincèrement pour le dévouement que vous manifestez pour assurer le succès de la mission

de la Force aérienne. Continuez votre excellent travail, pendant que nous continuons d'œuvrer à la réalisation du concept Puissance aérienne en formation : une Force aérienne agile et intégrée, dotée de la portée et de la puissance nécessaires pour accomplir sa mission et voler en formation avec ses partenaires.

Nous sommes conscients qu'une carrière militaire exerce souvent des pressions sur la vie de famille. À l'occasion de la période des fêtes, nous espérons que vous pourrez profiter d'un repos bien mérité et de temps avec votre famille et vos amis. Leur amour et leur soutien sont essentiels à notre aptitude à réaliser de grandes choses au service du Canada. À ceux d'entre vous qui devront être en service durant la période des fêtes, que ce soit au Canada ou ailleurs au monde, nos pensées vous accompagnent, et nous vous remercions sincèrement de votre engagement.

Quelles que soient vos croyances ou votre groupe confessionnel, nous espérons que le message de paix et de joie qui accompagne la période des fêtes sera pour vous une source de force. L'adjudant-chef Poitras et moi souhaitons à chacun d'entre vous un joyeux Noël, de belles fêtes et une bonne et heureuse année 2016.

**Le lieutenant-général Mike Hood,
commandant de l'Aviation royale du Canada**

New Coin Commemorating British Commonwealth Air Training Plan Now Available

From RCAF Public Affairs

The Royal Canadian Mint has launched a new \$20 silver coin commemorating the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP).

The Plan, as it came to be known, arose from Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King's desire to see Canada contribute meaningfully to the Allied war effort while, hopefully, maintaining control of Canadian personnel rather than seeing them absorbed into British units, and avoiding the terribly high casualty rates of the First World War. The BCATP agreement was signed in late 1939, and ran until 1945.

It was a simple plan, on the surface. Once Commonwealth nations around the world had determined through their own Elementary Flying Training Schools (EFTS) that enrollees did, indeed, have "the right stuff", candidates arrived at BCATP schools throughout Canada for advanced flying training, and air gunnery, wireless operator and air observer instruction. Upon graduation,

aircrew travelled to England where they formed units and entered the fray under their own nations' banners.

Beneath this ordered surface was one of the most demanding efforts undertaken by Canada during the Second World War.

Airfields and schools were repurposed or constructed throughout Canada. These facilities and their supporting infrastructure would employ some 33,000 military personnel and about 6,000 civilians, and require about 5,000 aircraft – at a staggering cost of more than \$607 million.

By war's end, BCATP schools had trained 131,553 Allied aircrew, and Canada had become known as "the aerodrome of democracy". The Plan was one of the most successful efforts undertaken by Canada during the Second World War. A legacy of the BCATP is visible in the many airfields and regional airports that dot our nation today.

The Royal Canadian Mint's new British Common-

wealth Air Training Plan commemorative \$20 silver coin is a fitting tribute to The Plan and to the Canadians who brought it to life.



Winter scene at a service flying training school on the Canadian prairies during the Second World War. Photo: DND

Red Rock Rescue Owes Success to Regular Training

By Captain Bettina McCulloch-Drake
Wing Public Affairs Officer

Search and rescue technicians (SAR Techs) from 435 Transport and Rescue Squadron are prepared for anything while on a mission or on a training exercise. Or so you might think.

Around midday during a rock climbing training exercise on October 28, 2015, in Red Rock Canyon Conservation Area in Nevada (United States), a four-person team comprising of Sergeants Kaulin Damron, Scott McDougall and Master Corporals Donovan Ball and Steve Delage, were initially caught off guard when they heard someone screaming.

"Initially we thought somebody took a fall from a climb," says MCpl. Delage in an article for the Para Rescue Association of Canada. A half-hour outside of town, Red Rock is a popular place for hiking and climbing with many different routes.

Shortly after they heard the sound, a man appeared on a big rock horn across the valley from the SAR Techs and yelled over, "How do I get down?"

Realizing the potential danger the SAR Techs moved to help the stranded man. After climbing down the rock face where they were, Sgt. Damron and Sgt. McDougall had to find a route through the valley to get close to the man's location. Then they had to climb up another rock face to reach him.

Setting up an anchor, through which to run the rope, the SAR Techs worked quickly to help the exhausted and anxious man. "Kaulin (Sgt. Damron) put the man in my harness and rappelled down in tandem." The descent was a bit slow with the man reaching out to hold the rope with his hands but Sgt. Damron's was patient and kept telling the man to relax and lean back.

Back up on the rock, Sgt. McDougall had to build a second anchor and improvise a harness before he could get down to join his colleague.

"As far as rock rescues go, it was fairly simple," says Sgt. McDougall, downplaying his part in the rescue. "We were in the right place at the right time."

SAR Techs conduct annual training to practice the skills they need to conduct missions in a variety of environments. Mandated to conduct a minimum of one mountain training exercise a year, SAR Techs practice their rope rescue skills and rock climbing skills such as ascending, descending, rappelling, belaying, and raising (or lowering) casualties using rope systems.



Search and Rescue Technicians from 435 Transport and Rescue Squadron performed a real life rescue in Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area outside Las Vegas, Nevada, while training there at the end of October this year. Photo: Submitted

MFRC Choir Sings in Christmas Concert at Wing Chapel

By Martin Zeilig
Voxair Photojournalist

"Ladies and Gentlemen, Mesdames et Messieurs, thank you so much for being here tonight, to celebrate with us this historical event in our community: The very first Christmas concert of the Military Family Resource Centre Choir!"

Those opening remarks by Sergeant David Grenon, the Choir Director, marked the beginning of a joyous evening of festive choral music before about 100 people

at the Wing Chapel on December 7.

After a rousing version of O Canada, the 20 member choir – comprised of both military personnel and civilians -- performed such standards as Joy to the World, Away in a Manger, Sweeter Still, Jingle Bells, We Wish You a Merry Christmas, Tourdion (Quand je bois du vin clairet), as well as Love Is An Open Door from Frozen, the popular animated Disney movie. There were also selections from the four person Voxair Ensemble-- all of whom, including Sgt Grenon, are members of the RCAF

Band.

The audience, who gave a standing ovation at the end while calling for an encore, was sent home with a beautiful arrangement of the traditional ballad, Irish Blessing.

"It's just amazing how much they worked," Sgt Grenon said afterwards, while also mentioning that the choir had "a fantastic first season" and great concert last June. "We had to rehearse and we pulled out a one hour show. For a normal community, it would have taken double the rehearsal time."

He also praised the section leaders, Sergeant Marie-Pier Laflamme (sopranos), Sergeant Cindy Scott (altos), Corporal Richard Monzon (tenors), and, Sergeant Joel Green (basses).

"I've had many choir directors over the years," commented choir member Captain Bettina McCulloch-Drake of Wing Public Affairs. "They've all had a certain energy, and passion to spare. David (Sgt Grenon) has this passion for music, a joy for life and it transfers into everything we do as a choir."

During warmups at rehearsals, Sgt Grenon gives the choir "vocal techniques" to help improve their singing, she added.

Audience member Lieutenant (N) Padre Chris Donnelly said his favourite song was the Irish Blessing. "They sang a mix of new and old songs, and that was great," he observed.

"They're a fantastic choir. You want to hear more (after they're done). The blend of voices was superb."

Meanwhile, Sgt Grenon also thanked the evening's guest pianist/director, Ms. Avonlea Armstrong, Sound Tech Mr. Gerrit Rietveld, the MFRC (Barb Thuen and Don Brennan), and the choir members.

"I'm not easy," he admitted. "I'm not the most patient conductor; and, I like to push the singers to their limits. Although our primary focus was to build a sense of community within military and civilian members and have a great Monday night activity, I'm still very demanding when it comes to the musical product. I ask a lot, and they succeeded."

They did, indeed, using the best universal language: Music. Bravo!



The 17 Wing Community Choir belting out a song during their Christmas Concert in the Wing Chapel on December 7. The choir, which is under the direction of Sgt David Grenon of the RCAF Band, is made up of military personnel and civilians from the community. Photo: Martin Zeilig

CDS Outlines His Priorities to Winnipeg Defence Team

By Sgt Bill McLeod

Wing Public Affairs Photojournalist

The Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS), General Jonathan Vance, outlined his priorities to a large crowd of Canadian Armed Forces members and Department of National Defence employees on the afternoon of November 30, 2015, at CFB Winnipeg.

After talking about the ongoing and upcoming operations the Canadian Armed Forces, the CDS introduced some of the issues he wanted to address.

"I think our policies that govern how we respond to grievances and how we generally take care of people have gotten a little tougher," General Vance said. "I'm sure some of you have felt this, that there have been changes in attitude and the approach in how we deal with people.

"There's not a single person here holding the rank of Master Corporal to four star (General) that doesn't want to take care of their people but some of the rules and policies lack common sense. I'm going to try and fix that," he added.

The CDS also talked about Operation Honour and how inappropriate behavior has a corrosive effect on the culture of leadership and high performance of the CAF. He said that he had seen some of the finest examples of humanity among soldiers in a firefight on the battlefield

while there are cases when members have treated each other badly back in Canada.

"If anyone here hasn't heard of Op Honour, raise your hand...and point to your boss," the CDS said.

Canadian Forces Chief Warrant Officer Kevin West restated the CDS' message. "It all comes down to one thing. Respect for people," he said.

Just before speaking to the audience, General Vance presented coins to Captain Dawn Wojtowicz, 38 Canadian Brigade Group; Master Warrant Officer Paul Nolan, 1 Canadian Air Division Headquarters; Sergeant Laura Plourde, 17 Wing Comptroller Branch; Corporal Regis Proulx, 402 Squadron; Corporal Matthew Sankey, 17 Wing Logistics and Engineering; and Corporal William Sutherland, also of 17 Wing Logistics and Engineering.

The CDS also presented a promotion to substantive Sergeant to Richard James Chapman of 17 Wing Construction and Engineering.

The CDS took questions from the audience after he spoke. The questions ranged from the effectiveness of Shared Services Canada in the military environment, the future of the reserves, imposed restrictions, wait times for grievances, reserve pensions, distance learning effectiveness, slow recruiting times, and the F-35 purchase.



Gen Jonathan Vance, CDS addresses the audiences during a Town Hall at 17 Wing Winnipeg, on November 29, 2015, Winnipeg, MB. Photo: Cpl Darryl Hepner

Chief of Defence Staff Presentations

Gen Jonathan Vance, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), presented awards & promotions to 17 Wing members during the 17 Wing Winnipeg Town Hall, on November 29, 2015, Winnipeg, MB. All photos by: Cpl Darryl Hepner.

Congratulations to all recipients!



Gen Jonathan Vance promotes MCpl Richard James Chapman, from 17 Wing CE to Sgt, during the 17 Wing Winnipeg Town Hall, on November 29, 2015, Winnipeg, MB.



Gen Jonathan Vance presents the CDS Coin to MWO Paul Nolan, whose exemplary efforts resulted in the superior operational preparedness of the Mission Support Battle Staff during Exercise Vigilant Shield 16/Determined Dragon 15.



Gen Jonathan Vance presents the CDS Coin to Sgt Laura Plourde, whose work ethic is unsurpassed and her unique ability to understand, motivate and inspire her subordinates, both military and civilian, is to be commended.



Gen Jonathan Vance presented the CDS Coin to Capt Dawn Wojtowicz, who effectively and with compassion over the years assisted numerous ill and injured soldiers in the development of their respective care plans.



Gen Jonathan Vance presents the CDS Coin to Cpl Matthew Sankey, who is commended for his quick actions in providing first aid and care to a 9 year old boy who had collapsed during the Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Fort Garry Legion Branch 90. He immediately took action announcing himself as a Fire Fighter and First aider, while calmly and professionally taking control of the situation.



Gen Jonathan Vance presents the CDS Coin to Cpl William Sutherland, who excelled as the acting I/C of the Plumbing and Heating Section, easily assuming the responsibilities of a position two ranks higher than he currently holds. He stressed the mentorship and development of junior apprentices, maintained command and control of his section, all while mitigating plumbing and heating issues on the Wing.



Gen Jonathan Vance presents the CDS Coin to Cpl Regis Proulx, an exceptional aircraft technician who displays great leadership by successfully honing airmanship and professionalism in apprentices and peers, providing jr technicians the mentorship required to be successful in their aviation careers.

Wing Holds Vigil for Victims of the Montreal Massacre



Lois Mallett, chairperson of the board of directors of the Military Family Resource Centre, speaking to a gathering of some 20 women and men at the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women at the MFRC on Sunday, December 6. "Twenty six years ago, December 6, 1989 a terrible event occurred at Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal that left an impact on all of us and that should never be forgotten," she said. Photo: Martin Zeilig

By Martin Zeilig
Voxair Photojournalist

Late in the afternoon on December 6, 1989, Marc Lépine walked into the Engineering Faculty at the Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal armed with a loaded gun.

He separated the men from the women and proceeded to shoot 28 people, killing 14 young women, injuring 10 other women and four men in less than 20 minutes.

"He then turned the gun on himself," said Lois Mallett, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Military Family Resource Centre.

"It did not end here. As a consequence of this trauma, a number of survivors of that day have since committed suicide."

Her introductory remarks were made before about 20 people, including 17 Wing Commander Colonel Andy Cook and his wife, Tracy, at an outdoor candlelight vigil-- held before a backdrop of coloured T-shirts strung on two clotheslines with the names of the Montreal Massacre victims, as well as nine women killed in violent acts in Manitoba recently -- on Sunday, December 6, the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

The massacre led to more stringent gun control laws in Canada, Mallett said.

It also introduced changes in the tactical response of police to shootings, changes which were later credited with minimizing casualties at the Dawson College shootings, notes online information.

"This year, the Canadian Armed Forces launched an ambitious project to change the culture of the Military," LCdr Padre Barrett said when he spoke to the vigil.

"Operation Honour's mission is 'To eliminate harmful and inappropriate sexual behaviour within the CAF.' So, on this particular day, why do I start with OPERATION HONOUR when we are here to recognise the Montreal Massacre of 1989 and domestic violence?"

"I do so because our context is the military. Violence, while primarily against women, is simply not acceptable either in the home or in the workplace; because when violence happens, the pain runs very deep and there are so many victims. The individual victim, children, family and friends, employers and society, all suffer when violence happens. For many victims the suffering lasts long into the future."

He also observed that seven years after the shooting in Montreal Marc Lépine's sister committed suicide as a result of the guilt she carried from "not being able to

reconcile with her brother."

The pain and suffering of that day did not stop on December 6, 1989, but continued and continues to haunt many, Padre Barrett intoned.

"The motto of the MFRC is, 'Strength Behind the Uniform'; and it is this type of strength which will be needed to either prevent or heal from domestic violence," he added.

"As a person in uniform, I value the strength and resilience of my family as it allows me to leave for my work with the knowledge that home will be OK-- all things being equal. I know that I am not alone in my work. Equally so, I am certain the caring support of the MFRC and the Chaplain team will endow our families with the same knowledge and comfort that you are not alone when it comes to domestic violence and domestic health."

Afterwards, the group headed indoors for a sharing circle at which Colombe Pettletier, Coordinator Second Language Services at MFRC, spoke about her late friend, Genevieve Bergeron, one of the young women murdered by Marc Lépine that awful afternoon in 1989.

"She was kind, funny, intelligent, beautiful," Bergeron recalled.

"When she was still a student at our school, my friends and I used to chase after her down the corridors because even though we were little kids, she was nice to us. She cared about us. She made us laugh and she protected us from bullies. She helped us with our homework. She was a star. A bright shining star that we all looked up to. She had good values and integrity. She was full of promise."

"I'm very pleased to see members of the 17 Wing community, both military and civilian, paying tribute to the memory of the victims of the Montreal massacre, as well as victims of spousal violence today," Col Cook said.

Wreaths and Wishes for the Holidays

By Captain Bettina McCulloch-Drake
Wing Public Affairs Officer

Memories of family and cold winters in the country spring to my mind with the smell of balsam pine coming from the wreaths that I behold along the white, snow covered roads winding through Brookside Cemetery's Field of Honour.

Each of the over 11,000 names, carefully engraved on the stone markers, represents a family: a family that is missing a part of its heart and a part of its history. Some of those who lay resting here are remembered with frozen flowers paying testament. Others are merely whispers in our collective memory.

But, those whispers are getting louder thanks to the efforts of volunteers from the Canadian Armed Forces,

the Canadian Cadets Organizations, the Knights of Columbus and the City of Winnipeg and local businesses including Bison Transport. It is thanks to their efforts that a holiday wish is coming true for those who once served.

"Many of those who served just want to be remembered for what they gave to Canada," says Chief Warrant Officer Douglas Clark, one of the volunteers from 17 Wing Winnipeg who helped organize this year's commemorative ceremony which was held on the afternoon of Sunday, December 6. "Visiting their final resting place is a sign of respect and of remembrance."

"Wreaths Across Canada works to honour all those who served, whether they served in wartime or in peacetime," says Lieutenant-Colonel Danielle Clouter, the

chairman for this year's commemoration committee. "This ceremony is in no way meant to diminish Remembrance Day or any other commemoration such as Battle of Britain, Battle of the Atlantic, or D-Day. Rather this ceremony is focused more on making that personal connection to someone who once served, whether they were part of your family or not."

Celebrating its second year in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Wreaths Across Canada is working to ensure that each person who once served their country is remembered at a time when families gather for the holidays. Set on the first Sunday of December each year, the Wreaths Across Canada commemorative ceremony is modelled after Wreaths Across America and was started by Craig McPhee, a retired Canadian Armed Forces veteran.

The committee for Winnipeg's Wreath Across Canada commemoration would like to thank the Memorial Cross families, veterans and guests for attending the ceremony on the December 6. The Committee would also like to thank Bison Transport for its continued support of Wreaths Across Canada and its generous contributions that make the ceremony possible.



Chief Warrant Officer Douglas Clark briefs local Army and Air Cadets about their tasks during the commemorative ceremony at Brookside Cemetery's Stone of Remembrance as part of Wreaths Across Canada on the first Sunday in December. Photo: Capt Bettina McCulloch-Drake



Knights of Columbus helped to position many of the wreaths that line each row of gravesites within Brookside Cemetery's Field of Honour the day before the commemorative ceremony on December 6. The wreaths will remain until sometime in January 2016. Photo: Capt Bettina McCulloch-Drake

RCAF Band Christmas Concert Charitable Success

By Martin Zeilig
Voxair Photojournalist

During a pre-concert conversation a gentleman from rural Manitoba acknowledged he had made the trip into Winnipeg to attend the Jet Stream Christmas Concert on December 9 because he was so impressed by the Royal Canadian Air Force Band's performance earlier this year in his hometown of Beausejour, 46 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg.

"They were fantastic, so I just had to purchase a ticket to this concert," he added between sips from a small cup of foam topped latte while seated at a small round table at the makeshift café in a corner of the main floor lobby at the Centennial Concert Hall.

With a standing ovation and enthusiastic cheering after the concert, the over 1000 audience members obviously felt the same way. A portion of the concert proceeds will be donated to United Way Winnipeg, as well as to the 17 Wing Care & Share Fund-- part of the Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign.

The two hour concert, with an intermission, included guest performances by Canadian singer and composer Loreena McKennitt, who's originally from Morden, Manitoba, and is an RCAF Honorary Colonel, and children's entertainer Fred Penner, a native of Winnipeg.

"I'm very pleased to see the support for GCWCC and Care and Share," commented 17 Wing Commander Colonel Andy Cook, who was at the concert with his wife, Tracy.

He also expressed appreciation for having such famous artists as McKennitt and Penner perform with "the world class" RCAF Band.

McKennitt performed a solo piece with her harp, as well as a soaring vocal rendition of O Holy Night. She and Penner did a singing narration of How the Grinch Stole Christmas (based on the children's book by Dr. Seuss). Penner also sang It Feels like Christmas later in the show.

Jet Stream, an ensemble of the RCAF Band, is an

internationally renowned 23 piece show band.

"This tour de force does it all...Rock, Pop, Country, R&B, Funk and Disc," said the program notes.

"With a diverse repertoire of classic and recent smash-hits by superstar recording artists, Jet Stream appeals to audiences of all ages and events and can provide musical support for all types of military and government functions, schools, and community events."

Jet Stream's repertoire of tunes, both instrumental and vocal included Deck the Halls, The Man With the Bag, The Christmas Waltz, Cool Yule, The Christmas Song, Ella Claus, Jingle Bells, Mele Kalimaka, Happy Holidays, Winter Wonderland/Let it Snow/ Who Spiked the Eggnog, What Are You Doing New Year's Eve, Frosty the Snowman, and other seasonal songs.

"I'm thinking of the wonderful performance of the band, such a beautiful sound they produce," McKennitt, who has garnered domestic and international acclaim for her distinctive artistry, philanthropy and the independence with which she has managed her career, said during a backstage interview.

"I'm constantly marvelling at their wonderful musicianship."

This was her first time performing with the RCAF band, she noted.

McKennitt also observed that during her time as an Honorary Colonel with 435 Squadron she's learned about what the RCAF members do for Canadians and internationally-- disaster relief, combat, peacekeeping, search and rescue, among other tasks-- as well as having observed family life in the CAF.

"It's been a privilege to get a bird's eye view of the RCAF," she stressed in a quiet voice.

Meanwhile, Penner praised Jet Stream, calling them a fabulous orchestra with which to work.

"And, to work with Loreena again is a delight," he added, noting that he last performed with McKennitt on stage in Winnipeg 25 years ago.



The Royal Canadian Air Force Band "Jetstream" performs a Christmas Concert for school children from across Manitoba on December 9, 2015 at 555 Main St, Centennial Concert Hall, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Above & below photos: Cpl Justin Ancelin

Season's Greetings

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RCAF Band "JetStream" along with honoured guests Loreena McKennitt and Fred Penner, perform a Christmas Concert at the Centennial Concert Hall in Winnipeg MB, on December 9, 2015. Photo: MCpl Rick Ayer

Christmas Spirit Appears at Family Holiday Fun Event

**By Martin Zeilig
Voxair Photojournalist**

Although she knew about the letter her daughter, Crystal Ly, had written to Santa, Shan Chen confessed she had no idea what the missive contained.

"I wrote Santa what I wanted for Christmas," said Crystal.

With a bit of gentle prompting, she revealed in a shy voice that her gift request was for a Hello Kitty Portfolio by Fashion Angels. She added that splashing about in the children's pool was the best part of the whole day for her.



Kids about to have some thrills in a bouncy castle at the Family Holiday Fun in the gym at Building 90 on December 6. Photo: Martin Zeilig

Chen and Crystal were among the 50 people, the majority of whom were children, at the Family Holiday Fun in Building 90 on December 6.

Squeals of joy echoed throughout the gymnasium during the one hour long session playing games which included a pickup ball hockey game, jumping in two large inflated bouncers, learning how to juggle from Matt Henry, a PSP Recreation staff member, and other informal activities. That was followed by one hour in the pool and then a Holiday Crafts & Cookie Decorating session with a special appearance by Santa Claus – a.k.a. Bruce McLeod, a PSP fitness instructor in the Multipurpose Room.

And the price was right too: Three dollars per child, \$10/Family, for those with a recreation membership; four dollars per child, \$12/Family for those without a membership. Adults were admitted free of charge.

"It's a nice simple family fun thing," offered Colleen Preston, 17 Wing Community Recreation Coordinator, who served as the OPI. "Parents came and played with their children."

"It's exciting," Shan Chen commented as her daughter was slathering green icing, from a small red paper cup, and multi-coloured candy sprinkles onto her star shaped gingerbread cookie at a table in the Multipurpose room. "We had so much fun."

She also complimented Preston and her staff for doing such "a good job" organizing the programming for the community at large.

At a nearby table, Captain Pat Hitchcock, who works at Wing Ops, watched as his three red haired youngsters, Juliette, Nicolas, and Barrett, were hungrily consuming their self-decorated Christmas cookies, and drinking their free hot chocolate.

"It was a really good afternoon," Capt Hitchcock said. "I had a great time, and so did my kids. The best part



Children and adults wading in the warm waters of the kiddie's pool during Family Holiday Fun in Building 90 on December 6. Photo: Martin Zeilig

of the whole day was going to the swimming pool and sitting in the hot tub by the children's pool."

Captain Claudia Marrao, from 1 Canadian Air Division, who was there with her children, Owen, 5, and Aidan, 7, said the afternoon was a really nice way to get into the spirit of the season.

"It was a lot of fun – the sports, going into the pool and now they get a snack," she added, noting that she also complimented Preston and her staff for their efforts.

Looking forward to serving you throughout 2016

Warmest holiday greetings

To: all our patrons at
17 Wing Winnipeg

From: the staff at
Baldwinson Insurance

Phone: (204) 889-2204

Holiday Fitness Circuit Fun



Top: Santa (a.k.a David Chung, PSP Fitness and Sports Instructor) warding off punches from a participant at the PSP Holiday Fitness Circuit in Building 90 on December 11. Better be nice to her. Bottom: Stationary cyclists working up a sweat at the Christmas Fitness Circuit. What a workout! Photos: Martin Zeilig

Good Food for the Wing



Deanne Bennett, Community Recreation Coordinator and coordinator of the Good Fox Box campaign, filling a blue bin with apples, asparagus and other wholesome food in the multi-purpose room of the Westwin Community Centre. Photo: Martin Zeilig

WComd Coffee Break at Canex Second Floor Opening



Left: 17 Wing Commander Col Andy Cook chatting with a guest at the Wing Commander's Coffee Break on the second floor of the new Canex (home of The Voxair) on December 8th. Right: Guests filling up their plates with fruit, muffins and other good food in the lunchroom of Building 139 during the Wing Commander's Coffee Break. Photos: Martin Zeilig

Season's Greetings

Once again we are nearing the end of another year and the Holiday Season. It is a great time for celebration, family get-togethers as well as a time to reflect and be thankful for the many good things in life.

Winnipeg is a wonderful city, located in the best country in the world. We are truly grateful to be a part of this city and that our real estate profession has enabled us to meet and serve so many people.

We sincerely wish to thank you for your loyalty, trust and support in making the past year such a success. Your friendship will continue to be the foundation of my progress.

Merry Christmas and may the New Year bless you and your family with good health, prosperity and much happiness.

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CFFSAT Honours & Awards

On 26 November 2015 in the Officer's Mess, Col Thomson & CWO Etheridge presented Honours & Awards to CFSSAT members. All photos by: Cpl Paul Shapka.



Col Thomson (left) and CWO Etheridge (right) present Maj Dallaire (center) the 1st Clasp to the Canadian Forces Decoration.



MCpl McPhail received the 2nd Clasp to the Canadian Forces Decoration.



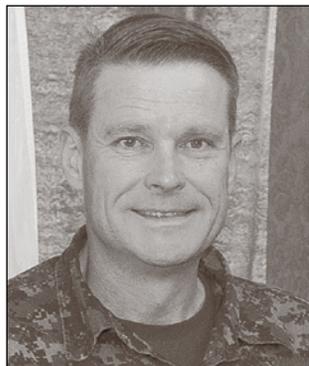
Sgt Lapointe received the Canadian Forces Decoration.



Sgt Richard received the Canadian Forces Decoration.



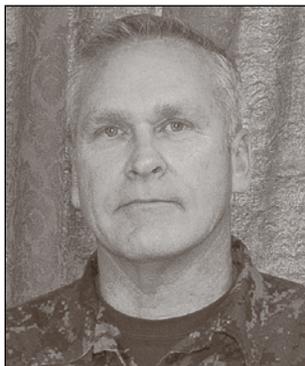
MCpl Gunn received the Canadian Forces Decoration.



WO Schmidt received a Commanders Coin.



MCpl McCallum received a Commanders Coin.



Maj Smith received a Commanders Coin.



Sgt Novakowski received a Commanders Coin.



LComd Cantafio received his Masters in Education.

Congrats to all Honours & Awards recipients!

WLE Promotions

On 27 November 2015 in Building 129, Wing Logistics & Engineering Commanding Officer LCol Genevieve Lehoux & WLE CWO Germain Boudreault presented promotions to WLE members. All photos by: Cpl Justin Ancelin



LCol Genevieve Lehoux (left) and CWO Germain Boudreault (right) promote Private Ryan Borden (center) to Private Trained.



LCol Genevieve Lehoux (left) and CWO Germain Boudreault (right) promote Private Simon Duchesne (center) to Private Trained.



LCol Genevieve Lehoux (left) and CWO Germain Boudreault (right) promote Private (T) Daryl St. Amour (center) to Corporal.



LCol Genevieve Lehoux (left) and CWO Germain Boudreault (right) promote Sergeant Susan Hannaberry (center) to Warrant Officer with WO Paul Hannaberry.



LCol Genevieve Lehoux (left) and CWO Germain Boudreault (right) promote Corporal Jennifer Inman (center) to Master Corporal with Master Warrant Officer Derek Inman.

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New Voxair Manager Begins

By Bill McLeod
Voxair Manager

I am excited to introduce myself as the new Manager of The Voxair and am looking forward to the challenges ahead. A lot of our readers will already know who I am and I hope to personally meet a lot more of you in the coming months.

17 Wing and the Winnipeg military community are not new to me. I have spent 11 of my 30 years in the Air Force in Winnipeg. Posted here as a Regular Force Imagery Technician from 1996-2001, I then served in the Air Reserves as the 17 Wing Photojournalist beginning in 2010. Before I joined the CAF I studied journalism at

Red River College and worked for a year on the Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer, a weekly newspaper in Alberta.

The 17 Wing community has had a huge impact on my life, which is why my wife and I decided that we wanted to return here when we were thinking about leaving the Regular Force. In fact, we were married in the junior ranks mess before we left Winnipeg the first time.

Although we all belong to the Defence Team, 17 Wing, and Winnipeg military communities we all also belong to a series of ever smaller and smaller communities like our branches, units, and sections.

I see the role of The Voxair as one of things in Winni-

peg that connects all of these communities together and helps tell the story of what we do here, both to ourselves and the world outside.

For The Voxair to be able to do this we need to hear from you. Please let us know if something interesting is happening where you work and although it's nice to hear when we are doing a good job, it's just as important for you to let us know when we aren't. We can be reached at any of these addresses:

+VOXAIR@WPersSvcs@Winnipeg

Local 4120

www.thevoxair.com

or visit us on Facebook



The new Voxair Manager, Bill McLeod, is looking forward to working with you on future stories. Photo: Martin Zeilig

Cadets Gain New Instructor



On Friday 4 December in the presence of staff, cadets and parents of 170 Squadron, Mrs Heather Pesto was attested and joined the ranks of the Cadet Instructors Cadre. Bravo Zulu!

170 Squadron is part of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets, a youth program designed for kids aged 12-18. We parade at 17 Wing Building 21 on Fridays from 1830 to 2130 hrs. For more information email us at 170air@cadets.gc.ca or visit www.cadets.ca.



Correction



We ran an incorrect caption in our last issue for a photo in our story about the Learning and Career Fair. The correct caption should be: 'Two Commissionaires from Commissionaires Manitoba engaging in conversation with a visitor to their table'. Our apologies to Commissionaires Manitoba for this error.

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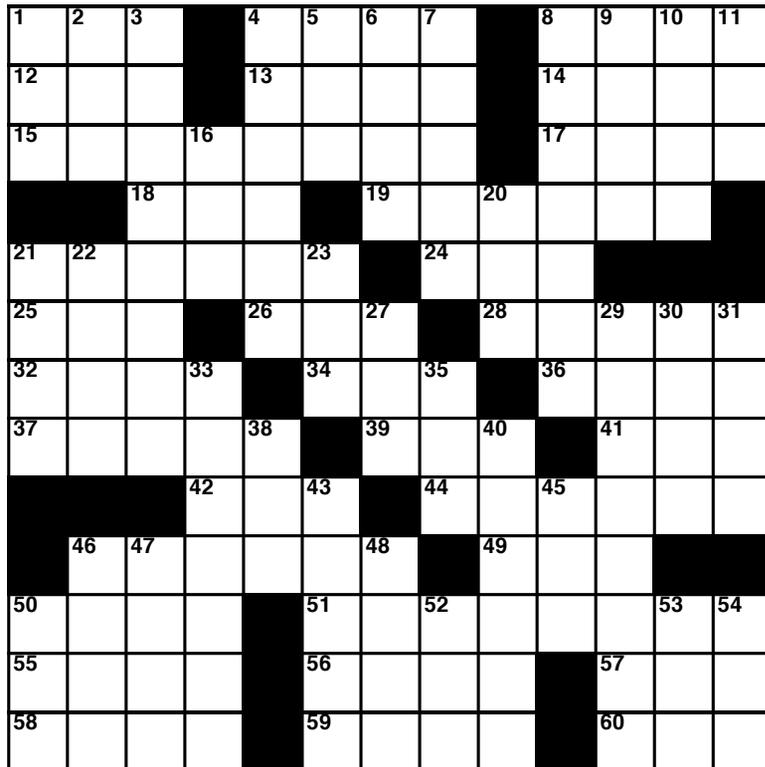
Canadiana Crossword

A Christmas Quiz

By Bernice Rosella and James Kilner

ACROSS

- 1 Ancient
- 4 European mountain range
- 8 Part-time employee
- 12 Neither
- 13 Despicable
- 14 Golf club
- 15 Scrooge's given name
- 17 World's longest river
- 18 Own, in Edinburgh
- 19 Uplifted
- 21 With 34 Across, Scrooge's famous expletive
- 24 Tangle
- 25 Peterborough to Pembroke dir.
- 26 Chow down
- 28 Filmed record
- 32 Fat
- 34 With 21 Across Scrooge's famous expletive
- 36 Walter Brooks' talking horse
- 37 Something to face?
- 39 Computer memory, abbr.
- 41 Part of the verb to be
- 42 Food rechewed
- 44 Turk's tunic
- 46 Sustenance
- 49 Room or hall preceder
- 50 Gaze lasciviously
- 51 Wrangler's disciplinary device
- 55 Rich dessert
- 56 Word before house and after hall
- 57 Go wrong
- 58 Containers
- 59 Do in
- 60 Refs decision

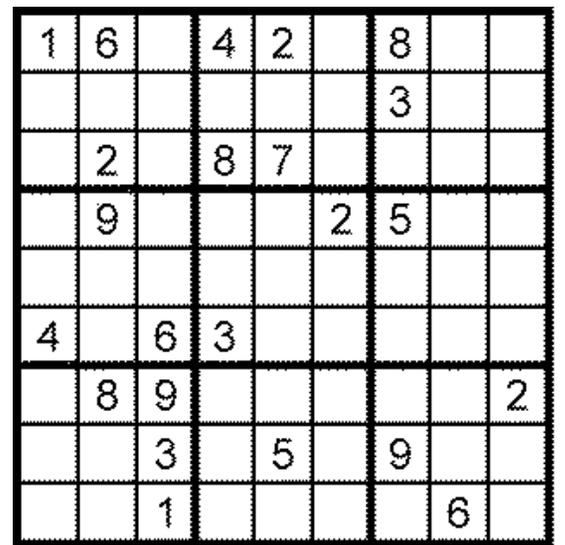


- 3 Idealists
- 4 Dundas or Spadina
- 5 Elizabeth, to some
- 6 Commoner
- 7 Body fluid
- 8 The little grace sayer
- 9 Lake between Ontario and Huron
- 10 Shape
- 11 Vancouver Ex
- 16 Bill
- 20 Clod
- 21 Ship's wheel
- 22 Two-toed sloth
- 23 Prattle
- 27 Salt
- 29 Scrooge's bookkeeper
- 30 Queen of the gods
- 31 British Prime Minister or Manitoba hamlet
- 33 He authored A Christmas Carol
- 35 Ad ___
- 38 Prompt
- 40 Scrooge's protagonist Jacob
- 43 Things owed
- 45 Hardly any
- 46 Citrus hybrid
- 47 Blueprint
- 48 Knitter's stitch
- 50 Frequently, to Browning and others
- 52 Pasture
- 53 Gall
- 54 Weir or Hnatiuk

DOWN

- 1 God bless us ___ and all
- 2 Loft

My Sudoku



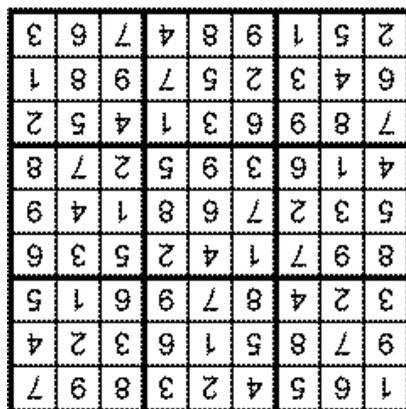
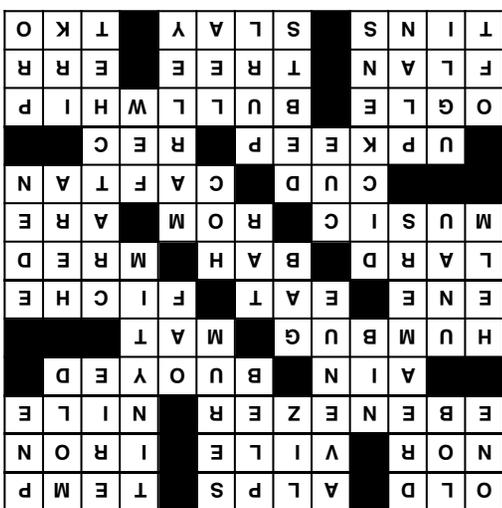
©My Sudoku #8 vol 1

PSP Funspiel Lives Up to Its Name



Kathy Dmytrisin and Diane Brine sweep a rock at the PSP Funspiel held at the Assiniboine Memorial Curling Club on Friday, 9 December.

Crossword & Sudoku Answers



2016 Publishing Schedule

Issue Number	Issue Date	Content Deadline
1	13 January	6 January
2	27 January	20 January
3	10 February	3 February
4	24 February	17 February
5	9 March	2 March
6	23 March	16 March
7	6 April	30 March
8	20 April	13 April
9	4 May	27 April
10	18 May	11 May
11	1 June	25 May
12	15 June	8 June
13	13 July	6 July
14	17 August	10 August
15	31 August	24 August
16	14 September	7 September
17	28 September	21 September
18	12 October	5 October
19	26 October	19 October
20	9 November	2 November
21	23 November	16 November
22	7 December	30 November

THE VOXAIR

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Responsible Hosting During the Holidays



As winter holidays approach, many of us host parties and get-togethers. While parties are a great way to enjoy time with your friends and family, ensuring the safety of your guests should also be a priority. With this in mind,

here are some tips to keep you and your guests safe over the holidays:

- **Have a plan from the start.** When your guests arrive, ask them how they are planning to get home. Tell guests you want to ensure everyone gets home safely. Ask for their car keys to keep in a safe place until it is time for them to go home. Be sure to have a list of local options and phone numbers of safe ride home programs in a visible location.
- **Provide alternatives to alcohol.** This can include snack foods and non-alcoholic beverages, including mocktails.
- **Keep sharp.** By avoiding alcohol, you will be able to make sound decisions throughout the night.
- **Refuse to allow drunk driving.** If a guest has had too much to drink, have them stay overnight, pay for a cab ride home, or find another safe way of getting them home. Do everything you can to stop them from driving. If they do end up driving, despite your best efforts, call the police and tell them what has happened.
- **Be prepared for guests to stay the night.** When buying supplies for the party, pick up items such as extra toothbrushes, disposable razors, and travel sized toiletries. If you have a guest bed, make it up before the party begins.

Remember, when you keep your guests safe, you also keep yourself safe!

For more information and tips on safe use of alcohol, visit your local Health Promotion office on the 2nd floor in the CANEX building, local 4150, or check online at <http://www.forces.gc.ca/health-sante/ps/hpp-pps/aap-sdp/atoc-atdm-eng.asp>.

ADULT FITNESS DESCRIPTIONS

FREE WEEK! MON. JAN 11 TO SUN. JAN 17, 2016. REGULAR CLASSES RUN JANUARY 18 TO APRIL 3, 2016

MONDAYS Jan 11 - Mar 28 NO CLASS MAR 28	<p>NEW! FUSION FITNESS 930 - 1030 hrs Friendly and dynamic class that combines 4 separate facets of fitness in 1 hour including cardio, strength, endurance and flexibility. Includes targeted workouts to build, shape and tone specific muscle groups. The program changes every week, and all exercises can be modified to suit the fitness levels of participants. Everyone succeeds in this class.</p> <p>INDOOR CYCLE CLASS 1700 - 1800 hrs Take an ultimate ride in this all out, anything goes cycling class. Speed zones, hills, intervals, drills and sprints will take your cycling to the next level.</p> <p>NEW! CARDIO BLAST 1745 - 1845 hrs All are welcome for a fun-filled, diverse cardio class. Some days you may do kickboxing, some days step, some days high/low impact, some days resistance training will be incorporated. Come to have fun and improve your cardiovascular fitness!</p> <p>TRAIN LIKE AN ATHLETE 1800 - 1900 hrs Do you want to jump higher, move faster and be stronger? This class will combine Tabata-style intervals, agility drills, and plyometric drills to improve your body's function. All abilities welcome!</p>
TUESDAYS Jan 12 - Mar 29	<p>FUSION FITNESS 1700 - 1800 hrs Friendly and dynamic class that combines 4 separate facets of fitness in 1 hour including cardio, strength, endurance and flexibility. Includes targeted workouts to build, shape and tone specific muscle groups. The program changes every week, and all exercises can be modified to suit the fitness levels of participants. Everyone succeeds in this class.</p> <p>YOGA BEGINNER VINYASA 1815 - 1915 hrs Increase your body awareness, develop strength, balance and flexibility. Learn to relax and re-energize. An active and flowing yoga class.</p>
WEDNESDAYS Jan 13 - Mar 30	<p>PILATES 0930 - 1030 hrs Work hard and have fun doing Stott Pilates with one of Manitoba's senior instructors. Through a combination of exercises during each class you will tone and elongate your muscles, "fire" your deep tissue muscles, flatten abs & improve body mechanics, while alleviating stress and tension. The multi-dimensional repertoire provides effective training for injury prevention, rehabilitation, and daily movement.</p> <p>INDOOR CYCLE CLASS 1700 - 1800 hrs Take an ultimate ride in this all out, anything goes cycling class. Speed zones, hills, intervals, drills and sprints will take your cycling to the next level.</p> <p>ZUMBA 1745 - 1845 hrs A fusion of Latin and International music mixed with low-and high-intensity moves for an interval-style, calorie-burning dance fitness party.</p> <p>POWER YOGA 1900 - 2000 hrs A stronger and faster paced class focusing on improving strength and flexibility. This practice is a total body workout that creates longer, leaner muscles and a body with more mobility to improve circulation.</p>
THURSDAYS Jan 14 - Mar 31	<p>NEW! TOTAL BODY BLAST 0930 - 1030 hrs For all abilities. A variety of workouts for the entire body alternating each week from triple sweat cardio, total body workout, core and more.</p> <p>FUSION FITNESS 1700 - 1800 hrs A friendly and dynamic class that combines 4 separate facets of fitness in one hour including cardio, strength, endurance and flexibility. It includes targeted workouts to build, shape and tone specific muscle groups. The program changes every week, and all exercises can be modified to suit the fitness levels of participants. Everyone succeeds in this class.</p> <p>PILATES (BEGINNER) 1730 - 1830 hrs A system of exercise where smooth, continuous movement and proper breathing will tone and lengthen your muscles, increase abdominal and back strength, improve posture and body mechanics, reduce joint and lower back stress and leaving you feel refreshed and taller. You will be introduced to the BOSU, which focuses on balance, core and back strength. Adding in the cardio aspect of BOSU gives this session a complete workout.</p> <p>PILATES (ADVANCED) 1830 - 1930 hrs A class for those who have previously taken Pilates, understand the exercises and are stronger after taking the beginner course. This class will focus on breathing techniques, balance, strength, flexibility, body awareness and posture. You will be introduced to the BOSU which focuses on balance, core and back strength. Adding in the cardio aspect of BOSU gives this session a complete workout.</p>
FRIDAYS Jan 15 - Apr 1 NO ACTIVE KIDS MAR 25	<p>WEIGHT ROOM CIRCUIT 1830 - 1930 hrs Starting with a dynamic warm up and ending with a good stretch, the instructor will provide a different circuit every week, help you learn the machines, build your confidence using them, and coach you to increase endurance and strength. A great class for beginners or for those more advanced.</p>
SATURDAYS Jan 16 - Apr 2 NO ACTIVE KIDS MAR 26	<p>MUSCLE BOOT CAMP 0930 - 1030 hrs This is a fun and fast-paced full body resistance workout using mats, dumbbells, BOSU and other apparatus. The focus is on toning and strengthening abs, butts, thighs and developing upper body strength and endurance. Suitable for all levels.</p>
SUNDAYS Jan 17 - Apr 3 NO CLASS MAR 27	<p>SHALLOW-DEEP AQUA-FITNESS 1500 - 1600 hrs A fun-filled class using the whole pool - deep and shallow ends - to give you a complete workout. A great way to train your cardiovascular system without impact on your joints. Participants are encouraged to use both water depths but if you have a preference of deep or shallow you have the option to stay at one depth.</p>
<p>* Due to the nature of our military facility there may be unforeseen interruptions and/or closures therefore programming may be cancelled. CHILDREN ARE NOT PERMITTED TO ATTEND OR OBSERVE ADULT CLASSES.</p>	

Anyone who takes part in any of the FREE Week activities (Adult fitness classes or drop-in sports) will be entered into a draw for free Jets tickets. FREE Week is 11-17 Jan 16.

Free!

Star Wars Movie Marathon

BLDG 90 Theatre

Movie Show Time 1000 hrs



Tuesday, December 22nd



Wednesday, December 23rd



Thursday, December 24th

Popcorn and drinks available for purchase!
\$1 each



FREE!

Movie

Presented by the MFRC & PSP Community Rec.

Monday 21 December

Channel your inner Elf and join us for an afternoon of fun and laughter!

MOVIE STARTS AT 1 PM

Bldg 90 Theatre

Featuring... 

MFRC MILITARY FAMILY RECREATION CENTER WINNIPEG



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Upcoming MFRC Programs and Events

*Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays
from the Staff and Board of the MFRC.
We wish you and your family a happy,
healthy New Year.*

MFRC FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Drop in and celebrate the season with the MFRC staff and Board members, for our annual Christmas Party. There will be holiday crafts and activities for the kids to do, Christmas music and snacks, as well as a surprise visit from a special someone from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Friday, December 18 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

MFRC Holiday Hours

Monday, December 21—8:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, December 22—8:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 23—8:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, December 24—Closed
Friday, December 25—Closed
Monday, December 28—Closed
Tuesday, December 29—8:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 30—8:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, December 31—Closed
Friday, January 1—Closed

PYJAMA CHRISTMAS COFFEE

Monday, December 21

From 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Join us for the Pyjama Christmas Coffee. There will be Christmas music, activities for the kids to do, hot chocolate and seasonal baked goods.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS COLOURING

Wednesday, December 23

From 10:00 to 12:00 p.m.

Childcare available for children ages 18 mos. to 5 years with pre-registration.

Registration deadline: December 17, 2015

Holiday colouring sheets! Sweet holiday treats!

Come join us for a low-key morning of colouring, visiting and snacks. Families with children ages 5+ may register for this event. Younger children may attend childcare with Miss Maddy. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

STAY N' PLAY

Tuesday, December 29

From 9:30 to 11:00 p.m.

Parent participation required

Parents and children (infant—5 years old) can drop in for some play, crafts, songs and fun in the playroom. Please bring a nut free snack for your child.

FREE MOVIE – ELF

Monday, December 21 at 1:00 p.m.

Building 90 Theatre

PSP Community Recreation and the MFRC are partnering to offer a viewing of the movie "ELF" at the base Theatre. Channel your inner Elf and join us for an afternoon of fun and laughter!

Employment Opportunity

Winnipeg Military Family Resource Centre (MFRC)

The MFRC is accepting applications for a part time Reserve Outreach Coordinator. This position is responsible for working with reserve units in the MFRC's area of responsibility, including; Winnipeg; Portage la Prairie and Northwest Ontario, in order to provide information on our programs and services to Canadian Armed Forces Reserve Force members and their families.

As an applicant you have previous experience and thorough understanding of military operations, reserve units and programs and services offered through the MFRC.

Bilingualism is an asset.

Apply in person at the Winnipeg Military Family Resource Centre at 102 Comet Street, by email to winnipegmfrc@familyforce.ca or by fax to 204-489-8587.

Application deadline: January 8, 2016. No phone calls please. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Guest Speaker / Conférencière d'honneur
RCAF HONORARY COLONEL
LOREENA MCKENNITT
COLONEL HONORAIRE DE L'ARC

Entertainment by / Musique de la
The Royal Canadian Air Force Band
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2016

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Cocktails 6:00pm – Dinner 7:00pm
Cocktails à 18 h – Dîner à 19 h

Gala des rubans jaunes
10^e Annuel

Saturday le samedi
FEBRUARY 20 FÉVRIER

\$100 per person* or Table of 10 for \$900 100\$ par personne* ou 900\$ pour une table de 10
*La taxe pour les services de restauration sera ajoutée aux prix des plats de base et d'option.
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For ticket information / Pour obtenir des renseignements sur les billets : 204.833.2500 ext. / poste 4500
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Taroscopes

BY NANCY

Aries (March 21 – April 19): You're held in higher esteem than you realize. Say "Yes" when an opportunity for fun presents itself. Planning every moment is too stressful. Celebrate your successes. Your imagination is working at warp speed. Goals need to be realistic and provide a sense of excitement.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20): Improving your ability to navigate unexpected events is the best way to minimize stress. Enjoy the beauty in every day no matter the circumstances. Plan for the future but be flexible enough to adapt as things change. Life is not a spectator sport. Get in the game, fully.

Gemini (May 21 – June 21): Watching from the sidelines you've learned a lot about people. Spend the bulk of your time with those who have shown they respect you and will treat you as an equal. Accept the help of those who have connections in your field. Network. Let people know you are a team player.

Cancer (June 22 – July 22): You'll be experiencing a few "ah ha" moments regarding family members. Look at things from a higher perspective instead of getting pulled into taking sides. Dig up the root of the problem and you can deal with it more effectively. Speak to professionals as you plan for your future.

Leo (July 23 – August 22): Life tends to throw everyone a few curve balls so don't assume you're the exception. Accept this gracefully and you'll manage better. Opportunities will continue to come your way so let go of the past. Tackle a bad habit that holds you back. Treat others with consideration and respect.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22): Worrying about something and making assumptions won't help. Conserve your energy so that you can act promptly and effectively when there is a crisis. Practice staying calm when you're caught up in situations beyond your control or when life seems especially frustrating.

Libra (September 23 – October 23): Enjoying when all is well in your world while being sensitive to difficulties others face is possible. If they can't celebrate with you just keep some distance and give them time to heal from their own hurts. They really are happy for you. Don't burn bridges or issue ultimatums.

Scorpio (October 24 – November 21): An equitable balance of give and take makes for an ideal relationship. Consciously work at keeping a healthy work/life balance. If things feel "off," reconsider how you are using your time and energy. Use compassion as a guiding principle when dealing with others.

Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21): There are some things you can't change, fix or control. Avoid limiting the natural growth and development of life. If you find yourself trying to force something or someone to change to fit your expectations ask yourself, "Why does this make me uncomfortable?"

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19): Drifting along can feel like you're in motion, but it's not really progressive. Leave your safe harbor. Do more of the things that you enjoy. Establish and maintain genuine, supportive relationships. Share your goals with someone who can help you succeed.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18): Much of what you've invested your heart and soul into is finally paying off. Expect to be in the spotlight as people are catching on to your brilliance. Possibilities and opportunities result. The beauty you find in every day inspires you. Time really does fly by.

Pisces (February 19 – March 20): Difficulties can be highly motivating. They can highlight what needs to change and what you really want. Trust your inner knowing, the compass of your soul, to guide you. Create a contract for yourself. Commit to doing more of what you love and focus on life achievements.

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MEAT DRAWS: Friday at 6:30 pm Saturday at 3:00 pm

WELCOME ALL MILITARY PERSONNEL

Chaplain's Corner

Care and Share Fund and Christmas Care: The Gift 17 Wing Gives To Itself

By LCdr Barrett, WChap

Wow, it seems like Christmas (or Chanukah or Kwanza) has landed in our lives again. Where has the time gone. It seems like Christmas has surprised me somewhat. The lack of snow and cold (at least at the time of submission) seems to be the reminder that triggers the intensity of my memory. But there is another reminder that I, as a Chaplain, am given each year about this time. I begin to receive inquiries about Christmas support for people who are financially stressed. With this type of reminder I have mixed emotions. On one hand, I am saddened to know that there is a need for this service and that financial strain can dampen what should otherwise be a joyful, festive time of the year. But on the other hand, I also see the generosity and genuine caring that exists within our military community.

(just a moment – someone just walked in) ... (Speaking of genuine caring, that brief interruption was from a military supervisor asking to put a family's name forward for the Christmas Care Program as I was typing this up.)

It is at times like this I find I am profoundly blessed to be around people who care so much for the personal well-being of our personnel and their families (military and civilian) and are willing to seek out ways to help. In the Hebrew Texts we read in Deuteronomy 15:11 "There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I com-

mand you to be open-handed toward your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land." While there will always be people who, for a variety of reasons, will be challenged financially, there is no guarantee that others will help. Thus, most religious texts encourage people to be generous in both spirit and material ways. So, whether it is through donations or referrals to the Care and Share, I believe our military community is living out this most noble attribute of generosity and compassion.

The Care and Share operates all year round and through the course of the year, the Chaplain team provides support in a variety of ways. The Care and Share however is different in that it is a benevolent fund that is managed by the Padres but is supported through the gifts and donations that come from our personnel our various units and fundraising activities. As I close off this article, I will be going to the RCAF Band who host an annual Christmas / Festive concert in support of the Care and Share. The Band and those attending a big thank-you for the ongoing support you provide. Finally, remember to support the annual golf tournament the Chaplains host each summer for the Care and Share and send us your recyclable aluminum cans. The Care and Share truly is a gift that 17 Wing gives to itself. Many blessings to you, your family friends and loved ones from the 17 Wing Chaplain team.



17 Wing Military Chapel / Chapelle militaire de la 17^e Escadre
2235 Silver Ave near Whytewold Road / 2235, av. Silver, près de la route Whytewold

Ste Marguerite Bourgeoys Chapel Community / Communauté de la chapelle Ste Marguerite Bourgeoys

Thursday 24 December (Christmas Eve) 7 p.m., Catholic Mass
Jeudi 24 décembre (veille de Noël), messe catholique à 19h

Friday 1 January (Mary, Mother of God) 11a.m., Catholic Mass
Vendredi 1^{er} janvier (Marie, Mère de Dieu), messe catholique à 11h

Good Shepherd Chapel Community / Communauté de la chapelle Good Shepherd

Thursday 24 December (Christmas Eve) 9 p.m., Protestant Service
Jeudi 24 décembre (veille de Noël), service protestant à 21h

with Carols and Candlelight / avec chants à la lueur des bougies

Welcome and may you have a prayerful, charitable and safe Christmas Holiday.
Soyez les bienvenus. Que votre Noël se passe sous le sceau de la prière, de la charité et de la sécurité.

Faith and Life

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Sunday School: It is held during the service for children ages 3 to 12. Childcare is provided on an as-required basis for children under 3 years of age.

Marriage: Contact the chaplain at least six months in advance if possible. A marriage preparation course is a requirement. *Please contact the Chaplain before setting the date for the wedding or arranging family travel.*

Baptism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is available by contacting a Chaplain. Baptism Preparation is a requirement. *Please contact the Chaplain before setting the date for the baptism or arranging family travel.*

Protestant Chapel Guild: It meets the first Sunday of the month at 1900 hrs in the Chapel Annex. All women are welcome.

CHAPLAINS

Padre Jack Barrett
(Anglican) - Wing Chaplain ext 5417

Padre Lesley Fox
(United Church) - Chapel Life Coordinator ext 6914

Padre Christopher Donnelly
(United Church) ext 5785

Padre Charles Baxter
(Ukrainian Orthodox) Det. Dundurn 306-492-2135 ext 4299

17 Wing
204 833 2500



17 Wing Community Chapel
2235 Silver Avenue
(Near Whytewold)



Administrative Assistant
ext 5087

CATHOLIC

ST. MARGUERITE BOURGEOYS RC CHAPEL COMMUNITY

CHAPLAINS

Padre Paul Gemmiti
(Roman Catholic Priest)
- Chapel Life Coordinator
ext 4885

Padre Emanuelle Dompiere
(Roman Catholic Pastoral Associate)
- Mental Health Chaplain
ext 5956

SUNDAY MASS (Bilingual) 1100 hrs
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Religious Education: Classes can be available to children from Preschool to Grade 6.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: It is available by request and at special times of the year. Contact Padre Gemmiti.

Baptism: We recommend that you contact the chaplain's office for an appointment six months in advance. *Please contact the Chaplain before setting the date for the Baptism or arranging family travel.*

Marriage: Six months notice (1 year preferred) is required for weddings, as counselling is necessary to prepare couples for Christian marriage. A marriage preparation course is also required. *Please contact the Chaplain before setting the date for the wedding or arranging family travel.*

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

In assistance to Winnipeg Harvest, the donation box is located at the entrance of the chapel.

EMERGENCY DUTY CHAPLAIN

After normal working hours s/he can be reached through the Wing Ops Duty Centre at 204-833-2700.

INFO PHONE NUMBER

For service times and contact with a chaplain of your choice, phone ext 6800 and follow the prompts.

WEBSITE

Those with access to the DIN can visit <http://17wing.winnipeg.mil.ca> then click Wing Admin - A1, then Wing Chaplains.

CARE & SHARE BENEVOLENT FUND

Contact Wing Chaplain Office for further information.



Your 17 Wing Chaplain Team

From left to right:
Lt (N) L Fox,
Capt P Gemmiti,
LCdr J Barrett,
Capt C Baxter,
Lt(N) C Donnelly,
Capt E Dompiere

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