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2026 Spring Symposium: Firearms For the Military? For the Home? For a Museum?



EUSI Members and Guests attend the Firearms Symposium

Article, Photos: Joe Zasada

The Edmonton United Services Institute (EUSI) hosted a symposium on February 28, 2026 at the Kingsway Legion; the topic was *Firearms: For the Military? For the Home? For a Museum?* - and several guest speakers spoke on a variety of related topics.

George Kuhse, EUSI Director, led the event in a moment of remembrance for our fallen Canadian Armed Forces personnel. Dr. Teri Bryant, the Chief Firearms Officer of Alberta, provided valuable information about laws around firearms pertaining to collections, inheritances, museums, artifact finds, and recent changes. Jean Lauzon talked about donating artifacts to the Alberta Aviation Museum. Hans Brink spoke about finding unexploded ordnance and weapons caches, and the plans to create a new military museum in the Edmonton-area with a focus on tanks and vehicles. Robert Blackman from the Estonian Defence League (Estonia Kaitsevagi), spoke about firearms and shooting culture as a national defence imperative in Estonia (a NATO ally), via video conference. Captain Lauren Skibinsky spoke about what to do if you find unexploded ordnance or ammo. Matt Ostapchuk spoke about donating artifacts to the Royal Alberta Museum, including their collecting mandate, procedures, and our shared role in preserving Alberta's history. Norman Leach spoke about NATO allies and firearms at home being a National Defence imperative.

The EUSI mission is to help raise awareness about national defence and related topics among all Canadians by conducting educational presentations. To learn more about EUSI and to watch videos of the Firearms Symposium, visit eusi.ca.



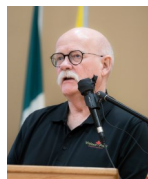
*George Kuhse
EUSI Director*



*Dr. Teri Bryant
Chief Firearms
Officer of Alberta*



*Jean Lauzon
Alberta Aviation
Museum*



*Hans Brink
Valour Park*



*Capt Lauren
Skibinsky
41 Combat
Engineers*



*Matt Ostapchuk
Royal Alberta
Museum*



*Norman Leach
EUSI Director*

Upcoming Event

2026 Fall Symposium

Canada's Military Procurement and the Impact for Edmonton

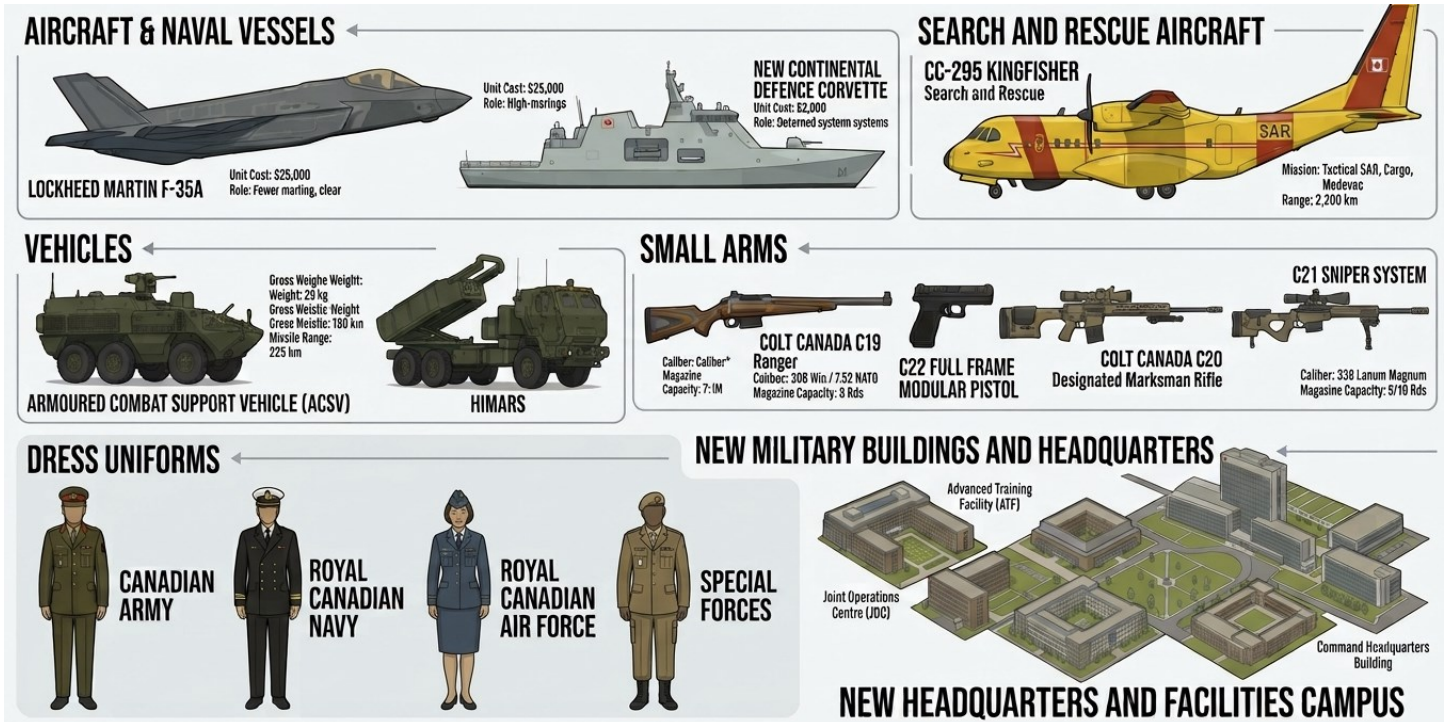


Illustration: Google Gemini

Saturday, November 14, 2026

St. Michael Room

Chateau Louis Conference Centre

0830h for 0900h until 1500h

Continental breakfast and lunch included.

Open to the public— No Cost

(Suggested \$25 donation; tax receipts available)

RSVP to secretary@eusi.ca

Upcoming Event

2026 President's Mixed Dining-In



Illustration: Google Gemini

Saturday, November 14, 2026
St. Michael Room
Chateau Louis Conference Centre
1800h for 1900h

Tickets: \$150

(a \$50 donation tax receipt will be provided)

RSVP to: secretary@eusi.ca

CHARITY MACHINE GUN SHOOT

FULLY AUTOMATIC FIREARMS

IN SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING MUSEUMS









SHOOT HISTORIC
MILITARY FIREARMS



SUPPORT VETERAN
& MILITARY MUSEUMS



PAL NOT
REQUIRED



LIMITED SPOTS
REGISTER EARLY!

★ **SEPTEMBER 26, 2026**

CFB WAINWRIGHT

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT
www.valourpark.org/event/charity-machine-gun-shoot/




Canadian History: HMCS Warrior

HMCS Warrior was the 1st aircraft carrier commissioned to our Navy in 1946; pictured here arriving in Halifax, March 1946. Warrior served the Royal Canadian Navy from 1946 until 1948.

Photo: Royal Canadian Navy

EUSI Website

Join us on our website for the latest EUSI news and events!

<https://eusi.ca>



EUSI Youtube

Check out our Youtube Page to see videos from our events.

<https://www.youtube.com/@edmontonunitedservicesinst831>



EUSI Board of Directors

President: Andrew Gordey
Vice-President: David Jackson
Secretary: Mary Hunt
Treasurer: Dane Findlay

Directors
 Brian Andrus
 Grant Cree
 Jon Dziadyk
 Dane Finlay
 George Kuhse
 Norman Leach
 Ken Pilip
 Joseph Zasada

EUSI 2026 Sponsors & Partners

Royal Commonwealth Society of Edmonton
<https://rcsedmonton.com>

Military Collectors Club of Canada
<https://mccoofc.ca>

Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans in Canada
<https://anavets.ca>

Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, Northern Alberta, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut Division
<https://commissionaires.ab.ca>

Edmonton Salutes Committee
https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/city_organization/edmonton-salutes-committee

NATO Association of Canada
<https://natoassociation.ca>

700 Wing RCAF Association
<https://700wing.com>

International Order of Old Bastards
<https://samiesioob.com>

Last Post Fund
<https://lastpostfund.ca>

EUSI E-Mail Addresses

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president@eusi.ca
vice-president@eusi.ca
secretary@eusi.ca
treasurer@eusi.ca
membership@eusi.ca
web@eusi.ca
newsletter@eusi.ca

The Alberta Order of Excellence

is proud to announce eight remarkable Albertans to be invested into the Alberta Order of Excellence in 2026.

Jodi Abbott	Edmonton
Clive Beddoe	Calgary
Bruce Bentley	Edmonton
Heather Culbert	Calgary
Ian Holloway	Calgary
Kim McConnell	Foothills
Ron Triffo	Edmonton
Paul Wynnnyk	Sherwood Park

Congratulations to these exceptional Albertans whose leadership, innovation and service make our province stronger.



Advocating for a well equipped RCAF, honouring air force history & heritage, and supporting youth and veterans.

<http://700wing.com>

2026 EUSI Membership Application Form

Salutation: _____ Rank: _____ Name: _____
First Middle Last

Email: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

Address: _____
Street City Province Postal Code

Enclose a cheque for **\$25** and mail to:
Edmonton United Services Institute
202 Westerra Blvd.
Stony Plain, Alberta T7X 2W9

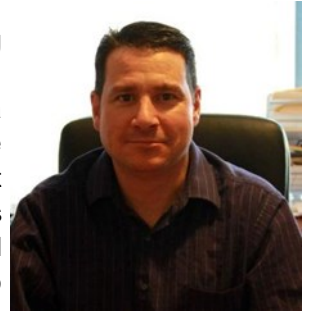
Post-nominals: _____

Privacy and Consent: By including your E-mail address, you agree to receive future notifications regarding institute activities. Please note, all E-mail messages sent to the membership are sent under the use of the Blind carbon copy (Bcc) tool which means that individual recipients do not see the entire list of addressees. There is no fear of being added to additional mailing lists, etc.

President's Message — Fall 2026

Greetings!

We conducted another Symposium in February which explored several topics based on making a case toward why Edmonton should have a military museum to house historical artifacts from an aging population who still hold many items from WWI and WWII which truly don't have a home. We were not as involved with other events as an organization as we have been in the past, however, we sent several representatives to several defence associated events. Last year's AGM made huge advances by generating a new and updated set of by-laws which was followed by another meeting which changed the by-laws to provide the EUSI with renewed access to the Alberta Societies Act and the AGLC. Sadly, this summer, we lost Leo Boyd to cancer, one of our dedicated directors.



The Policies & Procedures Manual is continuously being updated. This Manual formalizes and regulates how the EUSI conducts business. We don't yet have a "permanent" home however, several of us are in the initial planning stages to approach the Edmonton Garrison Officers' Mess to discuss making it our home for meetings, dinners, fundraising events and possibly the Symposium. If not the Annual one, then perhaps a military one more attended by soldiers. As you may recall, the EGOM is also part of our historical lineage. There are other venues that are under review as well.

Your board of directors is continuously working to develop relationships with the CAF RegF and PRes members, Cadets, and the RCMP. We are working on ways to improve our digital presence including direct deposit membership fees, a central registry for all EUSI documents, a new and improved website, and a more current and informative newsletter. Many directors throughout the year have attended the CFB Edmonton business luncheons to continuously network with the defense community and the CAF.

Our next Symposium is booked for this Fall, as well as a mixed dining-in dinner/buffet, which may have a fundraising component. This could be another opportunity to raise operating funds that will allow the EUSI to do more. Right now, we are relying mostly on membership fees.

It will continue to be important that we engage with other organizations to support each other and to ensure that we meet our Mission. Please remember that you are all salespeople, you are all recruiters, and you are all needed to endorse the EUSI and the Symposium(s). One day we will have enough membership to develop committees and sub-committees, however, until then, you are the committee.

Thank-you for your continued support of the EUSI and the Directors.

Captain Andrew Gordey, CD
President, EUSI



EUSI members' Pub Night, July 2026

Don't let the bastards grind you down.

S A M I E S



International Order of Old Bastards Canada

<https://samiesoob.com/>

In Memorium - MWO (Ret'd) Leo M. Boyd, CD

September 23, 1944 - July 28, 2026

Leo passed away peacefully at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Edmonton with the love of his life Margo and many others loved ones surrounding him on Tuesday, July 28th, 2026, at the age of 81 years.

Leo proudly served 27 years in the Canadian Military; he spent his first 13 years in the Infantry before reclassifying to Administrative Clerk. During this time, he was posted within Canada and served 10 years (3 tours) in Germany, he completed two UN tours of Cyprus, six months each and one six-month tour in the Golan Heights (Israel). Leo's last posting was with the Canadian Liaison Staff at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC as the Senior Administrative Staff Advisor to the Commander's Administrative Officer, CDLS Washington.

Leo retired from the Military in 1991 and returned to Canada after which he spent 29 years in the retail business, where he was employed with Acklands Grainger, Home Depot, Rona and Lowes.

Leo was a strong family man. He is survived by his wife and love of his life Margo; his children, Rhonda (Jeff) Adams, Jason (Ellie) Boyd, Scott (Josianne) Sullivan and Heidi (Paul) Andrews; grandchildren Wyatt, Hailey, Kurtis, Kady, Avery, Jakob & Mylo; great grandchildren Rhett, Addie & Sadie; brothers Barry (Ella) Boyd and Winston (Marie) Boyd and sister Goldie (Mitch) Funsten, along with many nieces, nephews and cousins. Leo was predeceased by his mom and dad Gladys and Hedley Boyd and son Darrin Boyd.

Upon his retirement from the military Leo kept very busy volunteering for a variety of charity organizations. He was President and National Director of the Royal Canadian Regiment Association (CWO Bobby Girouard Branch) in Edmonton for 5 years and 8 years as the Branch Treasurer. He was also a director with the Edmonton United Services Institute (EUSI); a long-standing member and Treasurer of the Canadian Peacekeepers Veterans Association; a director on the national board of the Veterans Association. He has volunteered with the Royal Canadian Legion #271 in the distribution of poppies every year since 2016; and is a member in good standing with the Canadian Airborne Social Club since 2002 as well as various positions with the Veterans Association Food Bank.

Leo also found time to complete 1st year university at the University of Manitoba through extension courses.

A celebration of life was held in Leo's remembrance at The St. Albert Legion on August 24. Leo was posthumously awarded The Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers for his dedication and volunteerism over the years.



Capt Andrew Gordey, President EUSI, with Capt (Ret'd) George Kuhse VP Last Post Fund, AB & NWT making presentation to Leo's wife Margo



The Loyal Edmonton Regiment Museum

HONOURS THE

BATTLE OF PASSCHENDAELE



★ OCTOBER 22, 2026 ★

4:30–6:30

GUEST SPEAKER

NORMAN LEACH

Award-winning author



Wine & Cheese

PRINCE OF WALES ARMOURIES

10440 108 Ave NW

FREE PARKING

ADMISSION BY DONATION
AT THE DOOR

DRESS: BUSINESS CASUAL

RSVP BY

OCTOBER 19TH, 2026

debbie@salh.ca

