

EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

APRIL 2016



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President's Comment

In this ever changing world, there are three things in life that do not change, at least not in Canada. That is Herpes, death, and paying taxes. Yes, folks, April 30 is the deadline to file your income tax. if only if I am one of the lucky chosen ones. In the January 2016 Enews, I have published a helpful tip on recapturing your medical and dental premiums. It is being re-published again for those who needed a reminder:



If you are receiving Federal Pension, chances are you are also subscribing to the Federal health and dental plan. You may be getting a tax break, if you are not already aware of this. You can claim your Public Service Health Care Plan (PSHCP) & Pensioners' Dental Services Plan (PDSP) on your taxes.

CF Pensioners receive a T4 from Specialized Services Division (Cdn Forces Pension Forces Cdn); however, the T4 DOES NOT include the premium paid to PSHCP or PDSP. Both premium payments ARE CLAIMABLE, therefore:

to learn how much you can claim, and to obtain a copy of the letter you will need in order to make a claim, please consider calling:

PSHCP, for health care plan details, call [1-800-267-6542](tel:1-800-267-6542); or,

PDSP/Dental, for dental plan details, call [1-800-267-0350](tel:1-800-267-0350)

The person answering will place your name in a database and send you a letter which is for use with your tax submission.

You can request it be back-dated if you've paid for years but have not claimed in the past

This will also ensure in future years you automatically receive the letter without having to call again.

The call, once connected, takes about four minutes.

I requested the letters sometime in October, 2015 and received confirmation letters for both dental and medical premiums paid sometime in February, this year.

If you file your income tax by paper format, please attach a letter to explain you are claiming the accumulative sum for all the years(up to ten years) that you have not made a claim.

If you file your tax electronically, you will need to do the following:

The CRA process is not so easy as submitting the receipt with your taxes. You must write to CRA and request an Adjustment to Line 3-30 of your income tax return for the last ten years. Include your SI number, your full name and phone number. Attach the tax receipt you received from the pension offices. Sign and date the letter and mail to Canada Revenue Agency, 4695 12th Ave Shawinigan, Quebec G9P 5H9

2016 Annual General Meeting The 2016 AGM will be held at the Ramada Hotel in Kingsway Avenue, Edmonton, 2016 from 1145 hrs. Agenda will include election of officers, the upcoming symposium and mess dinner.

Highlights of the Federal Budget affecting National Security and National Defence

Security watchdogs and the RCMP

One of the first questions posed to Finance Minister Bill Morneau by reporters on Tuesday touched on the lack of any new spending on the bodies that monitor Canada's national security agencies. There is also virtually no new money for the RCMP. Morneau said that Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale is still "working together with provinces and territories" and "we expect to make a real difference in this area over the course of the next year." The government is, however, funneling more money to counter cyber-security threats, and dedicating an additional \$35 million over five years to the Community Outreach and Counter-Radicalization Coordinator to help counter extremism.

The Department of National Defence

Sorry, Canadian Forces. No new planes, ships or vehicles for you — at least not within the next five years. As it continues to draft an overall strategy for equipping the Forces in the coming decades, the government has taken \$3.7 billion in defence procurement spending and pushed it to some undetermined time after 2020.

This isn't a cut to the defence budget, the finance minister argued on Tuesday, but that may come as small consolation to the mechanics trying to keep our CF-18s flying into their [fourth decade of service](#).

The EUSI Enews warned of a significant defence budget cut in the March and February issues. We have yet to hear in detail of the Canadian military operation in Syria and Iraq. I expect our soldiers will be doing more with fewer resources. Rumor has it that once the advance party done their job, the first rotation on the ground will be drawn mostly from troops in Edmonton. Lets hope they are well prepared and has the equipment needed to do their part.



HUMOUR

All the good knights were leaving for the Crusades. One knight told his best friend " My bride is without doubt one of the most beautiful women in the world. It would be a terrible waste if no man could have her. Therefore, as my best and most trusted friend, I am leaving you the key to her chastity belt to use should I not return from the Crusade." The company of knights were only a mile or so out of town when they noticed a cloud of dust approaching. Thinking it might be an important message from the town the column halted. A horseman approached. It was the knight's best friend. He said " Hey, you gave me the wrong key!!"



The Soldier's Wife by Robert Southey

Weary way-wanderer languid and sick at heart
travelling painfully over the rugged road,
Wild-visag'd Wanderer! ah for thy heavy chance!
Sorely thy little one drags by thee bare-footed,
Cold is the baby that hangs at thy bending back
Meagre and livid and screaming its wretchedness
Woe-begone mother, half anger, half agony,
shoulder thou lookest to hush the babe,
Bleakly the blinding snow beats in thy hagg'd face.
Thy husband will never return from the war again,
Cold is thy hopeless heart even as Charity--
Cold are thy famish'd babes--God help thee, widow'd One!

Coaldale Cenotaph



CANADIAN GEAR

C3 105-MM HOWITZER



The C3 105-mm Howitzer is the replacement for the C1 105-mm Howitzer. It is towed by a truck that carries both the crew and ammunition. It has the capability to fire extended range ammunitions that can deliver rounds up to 18 km down range.

This howitzer is a mobile, general purpose, towed field artillery weapon. The C3 is manually operated, single loaded, air cooled, and uses semi-fixed ammunition. It can be employed for direct or indirect fire and, in the latter case, is very effective against most types of ground targets.

The C3 is structurally similar to the C1 Howitzer, but is distinguished by its longer 33-caliber barrel. Other improvements allow the gun to fire all natures of NATO 105mm Howitzer ammunition. The C3 was manufactured by RDM Manufacturing of Rotterdam Netherlands and delivered to Canada's Army Reserve in late 1998.



Military History Tid-bits



No other family in American history has suffered a wartime loss like that of Waterloo's Sullivan family. The Sullivans gave up their five sons in a World War II tragedy that has never been forgotten. They all were serving on the same ship that was sunk. The Navy changed its policy, after that tragedy, about next of kin serving on the same ship.



Ileta Sullivan reads a letter from the U.S. Navy. She received two letters from F.D.R. in February of 1943. The first informed her of the death of her five sons in the line of duty, the second sent later requested her presence at the christening of the destroyer U.S.S. Sullivans named in their honor. Can you even start to imagine the grief this poor lady had?



This woman!! She cost many American servicemen their lives! Actress Jane Fonda sitting on a North Vietnamese anti-aircraft gun during her 1972 visit to the country, as a protest against the Vietnam War. POW handed her pieces of paper with SS# on it, she gave the list to the Vietnamese, the soldiers were executed later that same day!!

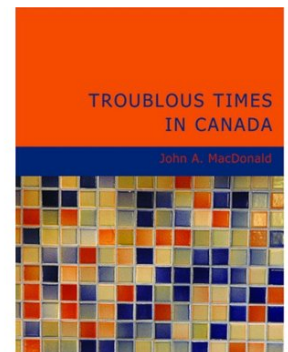
CANADIAN MILITARY READING

Troublous Times in Canada: A History of the Fenian Raids of 1866 and 1870

John A. MacDonald

Troublous Times in Canada describes the conditions and events that lead up to the first Fenian Raid in 1866, details of the raid itself, the results, and the subsequent invasion attempt in 1870. Author, John A. MacDonald, was a veteran of both conflicts. The account, originally published in 1910, is told from the Canadian perspective by a participant in the described events.

Few present-day Canadians are aware of the Fenian invasions of Canada from the USA. This book is an essential read for those who want to learn more about it.



Get trained!





EUSI COMMUNITY APPRECIATION AWARD

Do you know someone who has his or her feet planted firmly in both the military and civilian communities in Edmonton, someone who has made a difference in bringing these two cultures together. If so please nominate them for the EUSI Community Appreciation Award. Just get their contact information and a short citation explaining their contribution to any of the EUSI Directors.

What's Out There?

Type 051B (Luhai Class) Missile Destroyer (China)

The Type 051B is the multirole missile destroyer built by Dalian Shipyard for the PLA Navy in 1998. The construction of the first-of-class, Shenzhen (167), began at Dalian Shipyard in 1996. Western intelligence became aware of

the existence of the destroyer program in early 1998, when a Japanese magazine first revealed photos of the ship stationed at Dalian Shipyard waiting for system installation. The PLA aircraft carrier is set to be unveiled in 2015. Leaked snapshots of this aircraft carrier suggested state of the art technology and functionality.



EUSI 2016 Symposium

Will be held on Saturday, September 17 from 0800 hrs to 1230 hrs, at the Edmonton Kingsway Ramada Hotel and Conference Centre. Continental Breakfast will be served. There is no charge to the Symposium. However, it is a very expensive event to put on. **Financial donations can be sent to the undersigned, payable to Edmonton United Services Institute at 11035 – 163 Avenue NW, Edmonton, Alberta, T5X 2A2.**

Topic for the Symposium will be “ Role for the Canadian Military – Peace Keeping Vs Peace Making”

The historical evolution of the role of the Canadian military in its peace keeping role to peace making will be discussed. We will seek clarification for the future role of the Canadian Military and resources required to attain that role. The Minister of National Defence as well as the Chief of Defence Staff have been invited as panelist. The other guests include Dr. Rob Hubert and Dr. Christian Leuprecht, Mr. Joe Howard and Mr. Norm Leach.

Fall Mess Dinner

The Battle of Britain Dinner held last September was a great success. This year, following the Symposium on Saturday, September 17, 2016, the Mess Dinner in the evening will commemorate the Battle of Medal Pocket. Guest speakers include LCol Dan Drew and MWO Mike Spellen, who were combatants in the Battle of Medak Pocket. Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta and the Honorary Patron of EUSI, Lois Mitchell has also been invited, So, please spread the words about this exciting event. I am extending an open invitation to all veterans who were deployed in the former Yugoslavia, but especially those who took part in the Battle of Medak Pocket. A silent auction will be featured, with part of the proceeds goes to the Last Post Fund.

Securitas

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IT IS TOO LATE TO SHARPEN SWORDS, WHEN THE DRUMS OF WAR ARE BEATING