

**EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE**  
**PRESIDENT'S ENEWS**  
**JANUARY 2017**



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**President's Comment**

Happy New Year, Bonne Annee, and Kung Hai Fat Choy.

Hope everyone had a satisfactory 2016. Given the state of Alberta's economy and we will all have to dole out more for carbon tax, which became effective January 01, 2017. I just hope the ripple effect would be minimal. When I see some people in Ontario had to make a choice between buying food or paying utility bills, I just wonder what is happening to our country. The Bank of America had announced an increased in interest in the Prime rate for borrowing, with another three more increases expected in the coming year, A new year resolution, especially to the younger Canadians, is to be mindful of the economy and do not over extend your liabilities for the coming year.

On the positive side, EUSI has had a remarkable year. The Symposium and commemorative mess dinner were well attended. Thanks to Grant Cree, Hans Brink, and Joe Zasada, all symposium presentations are now available in YouTube. In addition, The EUSI YouTube video design has our distinctive logo and music precede all EUSI Youtube programs. For a view of the video, go to [EUSI.ca](http://EUSI.ca). EUSI lost five members in 2016. RIP, brothers and sister. We gain a number of new members however, if you have friends who are interested to become an EUSI member, please let me or Capt Pinsent know and we will be glad to contact the person with a membership application form.

In the next few weeks, Capt Pinsent, Membership Director, will be sending out your membership renewal. Annual fee is still at \$25.00. Thank you for your continuous support.

For the year 2017, there will be many activities occurring throughout Canada to celebrate Canada 150. In order not to compete with other organization, EUSI will be suspending the annual symposium. Instead, we will host a gala/town hall to celebrate contributions made by the military toward the Dominion of Canada to what is our great country today. This event is to be light humored and celebratory in nature. It will be held between end of September and beginning of October time frame. A good chance Commander of the Army, LGen Paul Wynnyk would accept our invitation as keynote speaker. If you know a veteran who is a good speaker and who can comment on military contributions, please let the president know as a possible guest speaker. Just be aware,



EUSI do not pay speaking fees. We are also seeking out WWII and Korean veterans to attend this gala. We hope to have them and their care giver to attend as EUSI guest. If you have a nominee, please advise the President EUSI.

For the coming year, EUSI hope to host a businessmen's lunch monthly. We are in the process of developing on this and more information will follow.

### **A Review of Department of National Defence performance for 2016**

The decision to acquire F-35 fighter jet is now back in the back burner. Any consideration for the F-35 acquisition will be tabled well after the next federal election. The F-18 replacement project will be an addition of several Super Hornet. Critics believe that any F-18 replacement will not be in place until the late 20120s or early 2030s,

Earlier in 2016, the Minister of Defence proposed to strengthen the Royal Canadian Navy and move ahead with the ship building strategies. Today, there is no new initiative or additional funding for the RCN.

A defence review got underway in 2016 and a report was to be released end of 2016. So far, no report has been released.

Retired military personnel continue to wait for unacceptable long period of time to receive their pension and those personnel dealing with PTSD are getting little help through the military system.

The Minister of Defence continues to blame the previous government for the shortfall. It has been more than a year the current government has been in power. Please no more blaming the previous government. Suck it up and fix the problems.

On the positive side, measures appear to be underway to improve the recruiting process for 2017 and more funding are recommended by Canada's Auditor General. The following is an excerpt of the **December 12, 2016 Auditor General's Fall Reports on CAF Recruiting**

*We found that the Canadian Armed Forces recruiting process fit its own needs and not those of applicants. On average, it took 200 days to enrol a recruit. In some cases, the recruiting group closed the file of an applicant who was still interested in enrolling. This meant that the Canadian Armed Forces lost some qualified candidates. We found these same problems in 2002 and 2006. We believe that without significant changes to recruiting, it is unlikely the Regular Force will reach its target of 68,000 members by 2018–2019. (Source: [Committee Evidence - PACP-38, 1 December 2016](#))*

Reserves 2000 supporters will recognize the Auditor general, Mr. Ferguson's words about the Canadian Forces Recruiting Group (CFRG) looking after itself first and the needs of applicants second -- evidence of which we have reported to the Chain of Command many times, usually to no avail.

Fortunately, though, it was recognized by the new Commander of the Canadian Army, Lieutenant General Paul Wynnyk, that CFRG showed no signs of ever being able to serve the Army Reserve with any degree of suitability. As such, LGen Wynnyk sought the Chief of Defence Staff's (CDS) authority to return the recruiting and enrollment process for the Army Reserves to individual units. The CDS concurred and, [as were pleased to report to you on 29 September](#), Reserve units themselves will finally have authority to recruit and enroll new soldiers beginning on 1 April 2017.

**LGen Wynnyk must be given full credit for taking this initiative. Furthermore, we warmly commend General Jonathan Vance for supporting this effort. Reserves 2000 salutes Generals Vance and Wynnyk.**

For the full report, click on the following link:

[http://www.icontact-archive.com/rwABoKMM0SW\\_I6UfC3S5xAbjxr\\_QoBp3?w=1](http://www.icontact-archive.com/rwABoKMM0SW_I6UfC3S5xAbjxr_QoBp3?w=1)

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Red Deer Cenotaph

### **"The Casualties Were Small"**

When Winton Aerodrome was bombed  
The "Casualties were small"  
Just your son, and my son, and little widow Brown's son,  
The youngest of them all.  
And your son was your eldest lad,  
Handsome and straight and tall.  
A model for your younger sons,  
Beloved by you all.  
And Mrs Brown's, her youngest boy  
Her sole support, and stay.  
So like his father, all her joy  
Was quenched, on that dark day.  
And mine, my only son and pride  
So loved and dear to all.  
The blast of bombs spread far and wide  
Tho' "the casualties were small".



### **HUMOUR**

An infantry sergeant who was known as a marching-drill enthusiast was given as a New-Year present a calendar where every month was labeled March.

**The following were submitted by Capt John Pinsent, veteran of the Royal Newfoundland regiment:**

#### **FLORIDA OR MOON**

Two Newfies were sitting on a bench talking, and one says to the other, 'Which do you think is farther away... Florida or the moon?'

The other turns and says, 'Jezz bye, that's easy. Can you see Florida ?????'

#### **SPEEDING TICKET**

A police officer stops a Newfie for speeding and asks him if he could see his license. He replies in a huff, 'I wish you guys would get your act together. Just yesterday you take away my license and then today you expect me to show it to you!'

## THE NEWFIE JOKE TO END ALL NEWFIE JOKES!

A guy was visiting his Newfie friend, who had acquired two new dogs, and asked him what their names were. The Newfie replied that one was named Rolex and one was named Timex. His friend said, 'Whoever heard of someone naming dogs like that?' 'Dat's easy,' answered the Newfie. 'They're watch dogs!'

### I'd Like To Add Another Newfie Joke

A policeman pulls over a Newfie, in Ontario for speeding, while he's writing out the ticket a fly was bothering the Cop, so the Newfie says, 'That's a circle fly, sir.' The policeman asks, 'What's a circle fly?' The Newfie says, 'Them are the flies you find in the barn around a horse's ass.' The policeman says, 'You calling me a horse's ass?' 'Oh no, sir. I would never say a thing like that, but you can't fool them flies, sir.'



**What's Out There? These would be the tanks operating in Aleppo, Syria.**



Russia delivered a number of **T-90S** main battle tanks to the **Syrian** Armed Forces in late 2015 as part of the ongoing military assistance. The **T-90** is a third-generation Russian battle tank that entered service in 1993. In early February 2016, **Syrian** Army forces began using **T-90As** in combat.

Against the ISIS, T-90 is a formidable weapon, capable of operating effectively in urban environment. However, the US TOW Anti-tank missiles can accurately destroy a T-90.





Get trained!



## Canadian Gear

**SIG-Sauer Model P225 –Military Police issue side arm.**



9mm 8-shot semi-automatic pistol; 1,050 acquired in 1991, following a DND decision to standardize all Canadian military handguns in 9mm chambering. The role of this model is "non-standard issue", to personnel with small hands who cannot comfortably handle the Inglis, and to personnel carrying their pistol in a shoulder-holster. In service 1991-present

Securitas

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