



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE
PRESIDENT'S ENEWS
MARCH 2023

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President's Comment

Our March Newsletter has been published a week early in order that you have ample notice about our upcoming symposium and mess dinner. Like many other organizations, we are just recovering from the restrictions imposed due to Covid-19. The EUSI is doing reasonably well comparing to many other organizations which have closed down. To continue to recover and do better, we need support from our members and friends to maintain their membership and come to our scheduled functions. Our symposiums have actually influenced governmental policies. For example, our symposium on UAV or drones supported helps extended to Ukraine and helped in balance the air power against Russia. However, Canada needs to do more research, especially in matter of anti-drone air defense system. Currently, laser and electronic jamming seem to be the preferred anti-drone defense system. However, I was led to believe that Laser or electronic jamming are not effective against low flying drones. The Isreal Defence Force have been quietly developing a archaic system that shoots out nets to catch low flying drones undetected by laser or electronic device. The Iranian army have reluctant to attack Isreal using drone for fear of defea and demoralizing the army. Great deterring, if you ask me.



In the Middle-east and Africa, the Syrian civil war have resulted in more than a million refugees. The recent earthquake just added salt to the wound. While the world is focused on the war in Ukraine, the situation in the Middle-east and Africa must continue to be monitored.

All of these world conflicts bring into the question, "can Canada have the resources or capability to intervene?" Our CDS, General Wayne Eyre recently lamented that Canada is unable to amass enough resources to be involved in a major operation/. The EUSI 2023 symposium will focus on a small piece of the total picture, that is, should Canada's military continue in the budgetary, strategic and operational planning continue to set aside resources and manpower in anticipation to aide in natural disasters? The symposium will examine this issue and hopefully we can arrive at an informed opinion and bring it to Ottawa.



Commonwealth Day



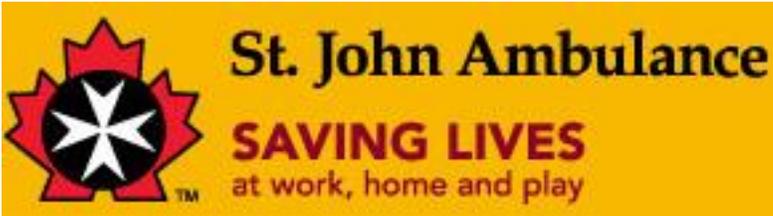
Commonwealth Day is celebrated on the second Monday of March. It is the day when Commonwealth countries, which represent a quarter of all humanity, acknowledge their common bonds and the contribution of the Commonwealth of Nations to the creation of a harmonious global environment. The Commonwealth does not have the power as United Nations and certainly do not have the might as NATO to enforce any conditions or sanctions. It is effective in its own way to promote respect for diversity, democracy, religious freedom, and cultural values. This year, the theme of the Commonwealth is human and its environmental harmony. Unfortunately, many Nations are governed by their emotions for their distaste over the British Royal behaviours and forget that the Commonwealth as an international body, served a much greater purpose for humanity. With the Queen's passing, I expect it will be years, even never, that the Commonwealth will someday return to its past greatness.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvrXsRQU0Ng>



They ask me where I've been,
And what I've done and seen.
But what can I reply
Who know it wasn't I,
But someone just like me,
Who went across the sea
And with my head and hands
Killed men in foreign lands...
Though I must bear the blame,
Because he bore my name.

St. Julien Memorial



Get trained!



HUMOR

The Chinese Balloon floating XXROSS usa AND Canada certainly attracted a lot of attentions. However, Canadians were watched by a US balloon.

In Sarnia, in Ontario, an estimated 200 people took a stand in favor of personal privacy and against public surveillance with a mass dropping of their drawers. In the summer of 2009, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, carrying a \$1 million surveillance camera on the border, tested a spy balloon outside of Sarnia, Ontario. The camera was sensitive enough to read the name of a ship from about 14 kilometers (almost 9 miles) away. The 15-meter-long (about 49 feet) Aerostat balloon and camera were being tested on Sarnia's waterfront, where it would scan many homes and private businesses. Sarnia Mayor Mike Bradley and many citizens called the balloon an invasion of Canadian privacy. In protest 200 people gathered in Centennial Park on August 15 on the St. Clair River. At about 5 p.m., protesters lined up, and upon the announcer's count of three, they all mooned the balloon. Unfortunately, the balloon wasn't in the sky that day, much to the dismay of the cheeky protesters. Protesters still hoped their message came across. Bradley said he wanted to make it clear to the United States that Sarnia residents do not like being watched.

Greek vs Irish

Over a double Latte, the Greek mentions "We built the Parthenon you may recall, along with the Temple of Apollo.

"Aye, and it was the Irish that discovered the Summer and Winter solstices."

"But it was the Greeks who gave birth to mathematics."

"Granted, but it was the Irish who built the first timepieces."

Knowing that he's about to deliver the coup de grace, the son of Athens points out with a note of finality: "Keep in mind that it was the ancient Greeks who invented the notion of sex as a pleasurable activity!"

"Aye! True enough, but it was the Irish who got women involved."



War in Ukraine – updates

Cyber-Intelligence Report This cyber-intelligence product is produced by David Swan. Collection of information is in accordance with guidelines provided by clients. It contains 'observations', meaning headlines and links to

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Cyberwarfare: Russia vs Ukraine (24) Updates and Sanctions This report contains selected cyber-security information from 3rd to 17th February 2023. Synopsis 1. Russia got very close to hacking a dozen U.S. energy providers as it launched it's war with Ukraine. Russia launched two new cyber attacks against Ukraine. The UK and U.S. have begun 'sanctioning' Russia's criminal hackers. Russia's parliament is considering recognizing cyber-criminals contributions to the defense of its interests, potentially formalizing immunity from foreign prosecution. Anonymous claims they hacked a Russian ISP providing surveillance information on Russian citizens. Vmware servers get hacked and rehacked. Canada's bookseller, Indigo, remains partially closed. 2. Russian 'Courses of Action' for cyber forces, including allies such as 'patriotic', mercenary, and domestic criminal hackers are assessed as: Ongoing: Russian cyber forces, including allied forces, have launched a series of cyber campaigns against both strategic targets and general targets as well as vulnerable governments. Worst Case Scenario: President Putin decides to focus Russia's cyber attacks on one country (such as Canada) or a small group of vulnerable countries. Assessed as UNLIKELY. Best Case Scenario: Russia agrees to cease or is forced to cease offensive cyber operations. Assessed as VERY UNLIKELY. Russia 3. Hackers linked to Russia got very close to being able to take a dozen U.S. electric and gas facilities offline in the first weeks of the war in Ukraine, ... "It [PIPEDREAM] wasn't employed on one of its targets, they weren't ready to pull the trigger, they were getting very close." The U.S. government disclosed last year that the new malware — called PIPEDREAM — was capable of infiltrating U.S. industrial control systems across multiple key sectors, Robert M. Lee, the founder and CEO of Dragos, which helps companies respond to cyberattacks, comments suggested that the danger was more acute than officials had disclosed. Lee described the malware as a "state-level, wartime capability." PIPEDREAM malware is the "first ever" type that can be used across a variety of industrial control systems, and that was not designed to disrupt one specific 1 / 4
2023-02-15 © David Swan Co

Editor's Note: Present day warfare is vastly different from what our father, grandfather ever experienced. Canada's military must modify it's recruitment to admit tech savvy into its ranks, Fit and strong and able to march 25 miles in a day is no longer the main recruiting criteria.

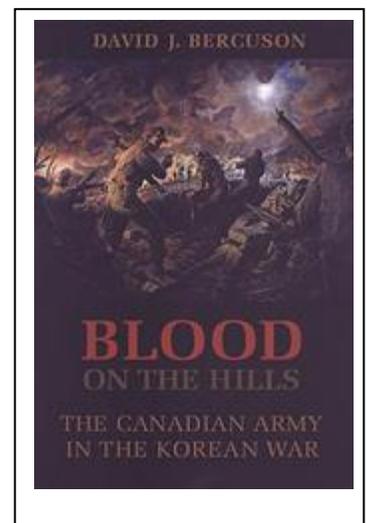


CANADIAN MILITARY READING

Blood on the Hills: The Canadian Army in the Korean War

David Jay Bercuson

Nothing tests a nation's preparedness for war better than war itself. This truism is notably apparent in David J. Bercuson's *Blood on the Hills: The Canadian Army in the Korean War*. Both Britain and Canada marched to war in 1950 either arrogant or ignorant—or both—and their ill-prepared armies were forced to learn hard lessons about the new ways of armed conflict.





CANADIAN GEAR

C2 105-MM HOWITZER

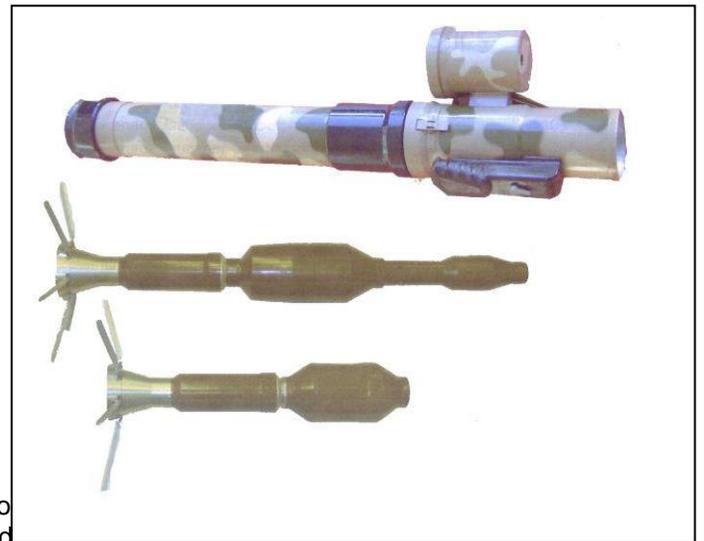


This howitzer is a mobile, general purpose, towed field artillery weapon. The C2 is manually operated, single loaded, air cooled, and uses semi-fixed ammunition. It can be employed for direct or indirect fire and, in the latter case, is very effective against most types of ground targets. The C2 is towed by a truck that carries both the crew and ammunition.

What's Out There?

RPG-32 (Russia)

The RPG-32 is a modular weapon that inherited proven and successful solutions in design of the weapon and rockets from earlier Russian grenade launchers, and it can be used to successfully engage and destroy a wide variety of battlefield targets, from modern main battle tanks and armored personnel carriers to bunkers, military equipment and troops in defilade or in the open. This versatility is achieved by using as much as four types of ammunition in one weapon - two types of 105mm rockets and two types of smaller and lighter 72mm rockets. In each caliber, there's a HEAT rocket (with tandem warhead in 105mm caliber, or thermobaric rocket with enhanced fragmentation effect, optimized



EUSI 2023 Symposium

The annual EUSI symposium will held on Saturday, March 25, 2023. A copy of the Symposium program, Invitation and RSVP is attached herein. Information is also available through our web EUSI.ca. This year, we have made it possible for a wider audience with Zoom broadcast. Also, payment can also be made via Etransfer. However, for seating plans, meal plans and marches, a RSVP is still required to be received by post or Email No Later Than March 19, 2023.

Securitas

Alexander Tsang CD

MAJOR (RETIRED)

PRESIDENT

EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

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



Edmonton United Services Institute



INVITATION To the Annual EUSI Symposium and its Mess Dinner

Major (ret) Alexander H. Tsang, CD, President, and the Board of Governors of
The Edmonton United Services Institute

Request the Pleasure of Your Company at the 2023 Annual EUSI Symposium

The symposium examines natural disaster management and mitigation. It offers presentations with Q & A sessions from experts in e.g., science, crisis communications, provincial government policy, Federal Government's Aid to the Civil Power, insurance industry's use of artificial intelligence in forecasting disasters, and the Canadian Humanitarian Workforce program.

- Saturday, 25 March, 2023, symposium starts at 0820; ends at 1620.
- The Edmonton Inn & Convention Centre, 11843, Kingsway, Edmonton, AB.
- The cost is free; Coffee/tea/muffins, buffet lunch are provided.



Evening Mess / Semi formal Dinner

Reception at 1830 Hours and Dinner at 1900 Hours.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Steven Ellis, Conservative MP, Cumberland-Colchester, Former Director of Health Services, Nova Scotia, during Covid Restrictions.

Music provided by the band of the Loyal Edmonton Regiment

Cost - \$100.00 per person.

The Edmonton Inn and Convention Centre, 11843, Kingsway, Edmonton, AB.

RSVP to Maj(ret'd) Alexander Tsang,

alexanderhtsang@hotmail.com or Telephone: 780-456-3392

The courtesy of a reply is requested to enable meal planning for both events.

RSVP for Symposium

Name: _____ Rank/Title: _____ Organization _____

will attend ___ regret I cannot attend **THE 2023 EUSI SYMPOSIUM** _____

Number of Party(if attending) _____

RSVP for Mess Dinner

Name _____ Rank/Title _____

Will attend _____ Will not attend _____

Number in the party attending _____

Name of Guest _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Regimental March Preference _____

Cheque of \$100.00 per person payable to EUSI,

c/o EUSI, 11035 -163 Ave., NW, Edmonton, AB. T5X 2A2 is enclosed

Please remember that RSVP must be received before March 19, 2023.

Natural Disaster Management and Mitigation;" ***Non-partisan dialogue in Fact, Science, Policy and Practice***

25 March 2023, [Edmonton Inn and Convention Centre, T5G 3J5](#)

with generous support from the [Royal Alberta United Services Institute \(RAUSI\)](#) (Calgary)

Select references:

1. [Communiqué posting 16 December 2023, Meeting of Federal, provincial and territorial \(FPT\) ministers responsible for emergency management.](#)
2. [M. Binding, *What Threats Does Climate Change Pose to Canada and How Are We Situated to Face Those Threats?* \(Vimy Paper CDAI March 2022\).](#)

<u>ser</u>	<u>start</u>	<u>Event / topic / presenter.</u>
1.	0820	Continental Breakfast, meet and greet.
2.	0850	<p>Opening remarks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major (ret) Alex Tsang, CD, MHSA, BSW is President, Edmonton United Services Institute that has sponsored annual symposium since 2013. Alex has extensive civilian and military experience in international peace and security operations, and held several command appointments in the Canadian Armed Forces including 15 Edmonton Service Battalion. He remains very active in community development, including the Last Post Fund and the Edmonton Salutes Committee.



3.	0855	<p>Welcome from the Moderator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lieutenant Colonel Brian Venables currently serves The Salvation Army in the Alberta and Northern Territories division as the Public Relations and Public Affairs Secretary. He has served in this role previously from 1998 through to 2007 before being transferred to Vancouver in the same role for the British Columbia Division. From there, despite linguistic challenges he was posted to the Quebec division as Divisional Commander for four years and then returned to BC as the new Divisional Commander. April 2018 saw a new appointment to International Headquarters of The Salvation Army in London UK as Communications Secretary for the International Salvation Army. Different roles, diverse issues and different locations but the same need, communicating the truth.. • Brian's remarks concern the purpose of the symposium, sequencing and roster of speakers. <p>Technical Support Team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nate Blackmore, CD, MA is a member of the Royal Alberta United Services Institute and most recently General Manager of the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry's Museum & Archives at The Military Museums, Calgary. 	 
4.	0900	<p>Factual evidence: contexts of recent natural disasters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norm Leach, MBA, is a historian, award winning freelance writer, professional speaker, adventurer and educator. He is the bestselling author of eight books on military history and an advisor to film producers on Canadian military history. • Norm overviews the impact of recent natural disasters, including e.g., BC floods (November 2021), Lytton BC fire (June 2021), BC wildfire (August 2018, July 2017), Quebec floods (May 2017), Fort MacMurray fire (June 2016), Calgary floods (June 2013), and / or Slave Lake fire (May 2011). 	
5.	0920	<p>Questions and answers.</p>	

6.	0930	<p>Physical sciences; causal factors of natural disasters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Kehler, MSc, is a PhD candidate and Senior Research Associate in the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Lab, University of Alberta. Sarah has an MSc in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and BA with a double major in Human Geography and Design. Her supervisor is Jeff Birchall, PhD, RPP, MCIP, Associate Professor in Local-scale Climate Change Adaptation / Resilience and Associate Director of the School of Urban and Regional Planning, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, University of Alberta. • Their research is interdisciplinary in scope, and explores the broad theme of environmental resilience, with specific attention to local scale governance and decision dynamics around motivational factors and extent of planning for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. • Sarah assesses climate change impacts at the local scale, how this influences local planning / policy decision-making and how this translates into on-the-ground action for disaster risk reduction. 	
7.	0950	<p>Questions and answers.</p>	
8.	1000	<p>Coffee and muffins.</p>	

9.	1015	<p>Social sciences; impacts of natural disasters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Caroline McDonald-Harker, PhD, MA</u>, is a Sociologist and Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology & Anthropology, as well as the Director of the Centre for Community Disaster Research (CCDR) at Mount Royal University. • Her areas of expertise and research include: the sociology of disasters; families; parenthood/parenting; children & youth; trauma and resilience; mental health; resilience, and quantitative and qualitative research methods. Over the last five years, Dr. McDonald-Harker has led and conducted three large-scale disaster research studies in collaboration with co-researchers from 4 universities and 32 community partners which examine the social-ecological effects of disasters. • Caroline identifies the social, psychological, and economic impacts of disasters on individuals, families, and communities based on research she conducted on the 2013 Southern Alberta flood and the 2016 Fort McMurray wildfire. She discusses the implications for disaster response, recovery, and preparedness. 	
10.	1035	<p>Questions and answers.</p>	
11.	1045	<p>Social sciences; crisis communications during natural disasters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Benjamin Morgan, MA</u> is a principal and the managing director at the Centre for Crisis & Risk Communications. He is also associate faculty at Royal Roads University where he teaches crisis & risk communications. He has held communication leadership roles during some of Canada's recent disasters; 2013 Calgary Flood, 2016 Fort McMurray wildfire, 2020 Lilloett, BC wildfire and the 2021 BC atmospheric river flooding event. He has been called as a communications expert witness by the Government of Ontario during the public inquiry hearing of the Elliott Lake mall collapse and was a key contributor to a social media in emergency management research project conducted by the Department of National Defence. • In this session, he will highlight some of the core science-based principles of communicating in 	

		high stress, high concern situations.	
12.	1105	Questions and answers.	
13.	1115-1300	Buffet lunch concurrent with two presentations.	
14.	1135	<p>Policy; federal; <i>current</i> Canadian Armed Forces' Aid to the Civil Power.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Captain (ret) Ron Kuban, CD, PhD.</u> graduated from the Royal Military College (Kingston) to serve with the PPCLI regiment. His nearly 35 years in the field of emergency/disaster management, include 25 years as a consultant in China, Singapore, the Caribbean, and across Canada. Ron taught emergency and crisis management at the University of Alberta, NAIT, Royal Roads University and the Justice Institute of BC. He served as the President of the Canadian Risk and Hazards Network, was on the Advisory Committee for the Canadian National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and was a member of the Canadian Delegation to Geneva for the 2011 UN Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. • Ron overviews the current basic philosophy, protocols, benefits and limitations of CAF Aid to the Civil Power in natural disasters, with references to actual examples of practice. 	
15.	1155	Break	

16.	1215	<p>Policy; federal; <i>future</i> Canadian Armed Forces' Aid to the Civil Power.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Bezan, MP, is currently Shadow Minister for National Defense and represents the federal riding of Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman, Manitoba. As Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence from 2013-2015, he was active on files dealing with military procurement, mental health issues in the Canadian Armed Forces, the war against ISIS, and Russia's aggression in Ukraine. He was the Conservative Shadow Minister for National Defence and the Vice-Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on National Defence from 2015-2021. • Mr. Bezan outlines critical re-thinking roles and jurisdiction for the military in natural disaster management and mitigation. 	
17.	1235	<p>Questions and answers.</p>	
18.	1245	<p>Break</p>	
19.	1300	<p>Policy; provincial.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keven Thomson, BAppBES (Emergency Services Management) has 30 years of experience in the Emergency Services industry. For the past five and a half years, his work has been at the Provincial level focusing on emergency management. He also works as an instructor in the fire service in Alberta, mentoring emergency service personnel. • Kevin overviews provincial capacities and limitations leading up to and during disaster events such as flooding, fires, and weather-related events. 	
20.	1320	<p>Questions and answers.</p>	

21.	1330	<p>Policy; municipal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erin Sieger, BA, Manager, Deputy Director Emergency Management, Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. • Erin reviews issues, successes and shortcomings in managing and mitigating the Fort McMurray Ice Jam Flood (2020). 	
22.	1350	<p>Questions and answers.</p>	
23.	1400	<p>Coffee and muffins.</p>	
24.	1410	<p>Practice; private sector; assessing losses in natural disasters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rob de Pruis, FCIP, CRM, National Director, Consumer and Industry Relations, Insurance Bureau of Canada. • Rob sets out a strategic analysis and assessment of the full spectrum of insurance claims arising in catastrophic natural disasters at the national level. 	
25.	1430	<p>Questions and answers.</p>	

26.	1440	<p>Practice; private sector; artificial intelligence to model risks of natural disasters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bojan Ilić, ACIP, CRM, Manager, Non-Standard Risk Underwriting, INTACT Insurance. • Bojan explains the leading-edge issues of how the insurance industry utilises artificial intelligence for financial risk modeling and risk mitigation in future natural disasters. 	
27.	1500	<p>Questions and answers.</p>	
28.	1510	<p>Coffee and muffins.</p>	
29.	1520	<p>Practice; humanitarian space; engage the public in disaster management planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Captain (ret) Ron Kuban, CD, PhD, graduated from the Royal Military College (Kingston) to serve with the PPCLI regiment, and has nearly 35 years in the field of emergency/disaster management, including 25 years as a consultant in China, Singapore the Caribbean, and across Canada. He taught emergency and crisis management in a variety of academic institutions and published on these topics. • Ron explores the under-researched question, “Why, despite tremendous encouragement, is the public not engaged in emergency planning or preparedness?” 	

30. 1540 Questions and answers.

31. 1550 Practice; humanitarian space; the Canadian Humanitarian Workforce Program and the Salvation Army.

- Major Ben Lippers, CD, BA, currently serves as the Divisional Director for Emergency Disaster Services for the Alberta and Northern Territories division of The Salvation Army. His role requires he not only manage response operations but also attend and respond on the front line, network and build relationships with government and other caring agencies, and, interact with supporters, volunteers and EDS teams across the country. He has been deployed across divisional and territorial boundaries in times of disasters. He has served in emergency management with The Salvation Army since 1999 and deploys his expertise in chaplaincy and logistical management.
- Ben explains the Salvation Army's role in the *Canadian Humanitarian Workforce Program* and highlights the Salvation Army's capacity in emergency and disaster services.



32. 1615 Closing remarks.

- Major (ret) Alex Tsang, CD, MHSA, BSW is President, Edmonton United Services Institute that has sponsored annual symposium since 2013. Alex has extensive civilian and military experience in international peace and security operations, and held several command appointments in the Canadian Armed Forces including 15 Edmonton Service Battalion. He remains very active in community development, including, the Last Post Fund and the Edmonton Salutes Committee.



33. 1620 Symposium adjourned.

34. 1800 (Semi) formal dinner, Edmonton Inn and Convention Centre.

- Guest speaker is [Dr Stephen Ellis, MP](#). He represents the federal riding of Cumberland-Colchester, Nova Scotia. Formerly, he entered the Canadian Armed Forces' Medical Officer Training program and retired from the RCAF at the rank of Captain, and served as Honorary Colonel of the North Nova Scotia Highlanders.

