



“Take Post”

The Journal of the Toronto Gunner Community

Edition 21, 15 October 2018

THIS EDITION

- Promotions and Awards
- Regimental Calendar
- RST Courses
- The Huyke Sword
- John McDermott Concert
- Limber Gunners Summer

This journal, “Take Post” is published under the authority of the Honorary Colonel, 7th Toronto Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery. Take Post reaches out to all Gunners and those interested in being part of the Regimental Artillery Family of the Greater Toronto Area. The purpose is to share information and strengthen the ties between serving members, retired Gunners, Gunner families, friends of the Artillery, and the Greater Toronto Community.

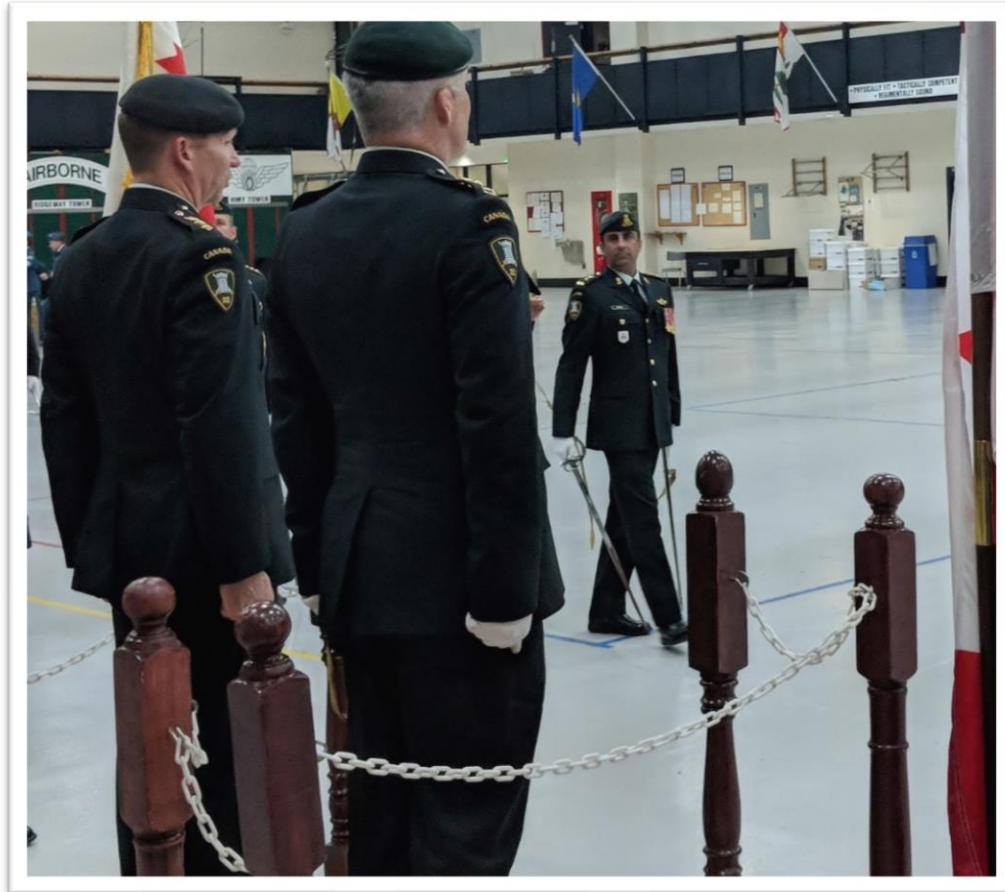
Notes and Letters to the “Editor” can be sent to barry@partnersindemnity.com



Regimental Orders Part II

Honours, Awards, Promotions & Appointments

Appointments



LCol N.S. Grewal calling the General Salute as he leads the Regiment as it marches past 32 CBG Cmnnd Colonel Dan Stepaniuk (L) and outgoing CO LCol Ryan Smid (R).

With the promotion of LCol Grewal the Regiment has appointed Major John Dean as Deputy Commanding Officer, Major John Stewart as Regimental Major, Major Miguel Ortiz-Sosa as BC 130 and Capt Eric Laxton as BC15.

Promotions



LCol Grewal, CD (from Maj) 17 Sept 18



Bdr Bidal (from Gnr) 26 May 2018



Grn Kirupairajah (from private recruit) 4 June 2018



MCpl Marshal, from Cpl , 10 Sept 18



Cpl Sitek, from Pte , 10 Sept 18



Gnr Scott (from pte untrained), 10 Sept 18

Decorations



MWO Bankasingh,, GSM Expeditionary Ribbon, 10 Sept 2018



Cpl Murphy, CD1, 10 Sept 2018



Sgt D'Cruz, CD, 10 Sept 2018



Sgt (ret'd) Gawley, CD, 10 Sept 18

REGIMENTAL CALENDAR	
12-14 Oct	FTX HOGTOWN GUNNER 1
15 Oct	TAF AGM – 7 Tor Officers Mess 1900
4 Nov	Temple Parade for Remembrance Day
5 Nov	John McDermott Concert in support of Toronto Artillery Foundation
11 Nov	Remembrance Day Salute and Service at St. Clements
23-25 Nov	FTX HOGTOWN GUNNER 2
2 Dec	Children's Christmas Party
8 Dec	St.Barbara's Day Dinner – RCMI
15 Dec	Soldier's Holiday Dinner
1 Jan 2019	New Year's Day Levee – Officers Mess

The Regiment visits Petawawa for the Iron Warrior and the White Horse Rededication

This year's Iron Warrior (previously called Ironman) 7th Toronto Regiment had an impressive 9-member team lead by competition veteran Capt Aliberti. The other members were LCol Smid, Lt. Proner, Capt Laxton, Capt Roach, Lt Luis-Orellano, MBdr Waterman, Bdr Wight and Bdr Chipala with the latter 6 members being rookies to the competition.

The Iron Warrior is an annual Canadian Forces competition where participants race a gruelling 50km including a 32km load bearing march (with 40lbs rucksack), 4.5km portage, 8km canoe, and finishing with a final 5.5km load bearing march. The competition can take just under 7 hours, for the very fit and well trained, and around 9-10 hours for the average person. Most of the participants are from 32 CMBG and other Petawawa Units with participation from other 4th Canadian Division and Ontario Units.

The majority of the training was done on an individual basis but was aided by members occasionally training together, which was facilitated by a team WhatsApp group. Individually organized training generally involved weight lifting, running, cross-fit, load bearing marches, portages, dieting and in some cases teetotalism. Mandatory portage training was held during RST in Meaford and at Cherry beach in Toronto. This training involved learning how to rig and carry the canoe along with a mini portage (2km) and some lessons on canoe rowing technique.



Figure 1: Iron Warrior rigging and portage training, Cherry Beach, August 2018

On Tuesday, September 4th the 7th Toronto team embarked on their journey to Petawawa for the competition. On the Wednesday, the day before the competition, the team participated in briefings regarding, rucksack weighing, rigging of the canoes, a reconnaissance of the route, followed by a team dinner and early bed.

7th Toronto's Iron Warrior team and band also had the honour of attending the rededication of the "White Horse" gifted by 7th Toronto to 2 RCHA 30 years ago. We look forward to many

more years of cooperation and soldering alongside 2 RCHA in the years to come. Thank you to former 7th Toronto RSM, CWO Robinson, for organized the refurbishment of the statue.



Figure 2: 7th Toronto Regiment Iron Warrior Team and Band participation in the rededication of the “White Horse”. A gift given to 2 RCHA 30 years ago. Wednesday, September 5th, 2018.

On Thursday, competition day, the 7th Toronto team woke up at 0230hrs to start the competition at 0400. Weather conditions were ideal with little sun, moderate temperatures and no rain.

Though the competition was very difficult both mentally and physically all team members were able to complete it. 7th Toronto’s team finished first in the brigade with the top five members, LCol Smid (07:34:15), Capt Aliberti (07:49:18), MBdr Waterman (08:22:13), Capt Roach (08:40:27) and Lt Proner (09:12:26) comprising the teams overall score of 41:38:43. Results of the team were:

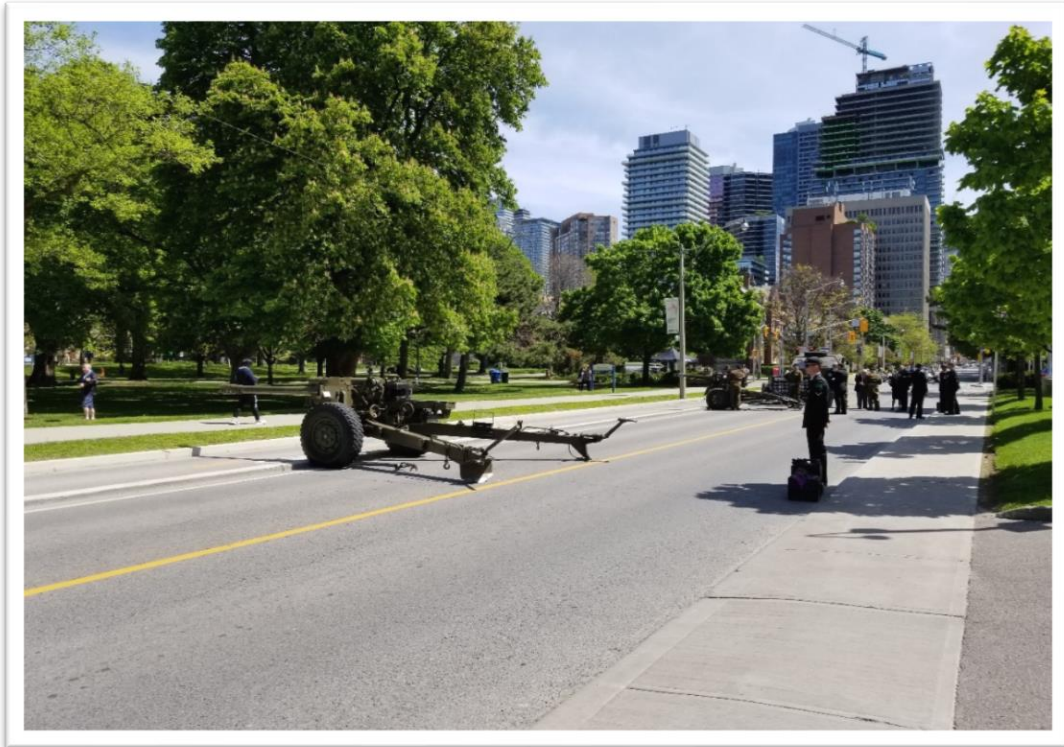
- | | |
|---------------------|----------|
| 1. LCol Smid | 07:34:15 |
| 2. Capt Aliberti | 07:49:18 |
| 3. MBdr Waterman | 08:22:13 |
| 4. Capt Roach | 08:40:27 |
| 5. Lt Proner | 09:12:26 |
| 6. Capt Laxton | 09:21:45 |
| 7. Bdr Wight | 09:25:34 |
| 8. Bdr Chipala | 09:33:57 |
| 9. Lt Luis-Orellano | 12:46:33 |



Figure 3: 7th Toronto Iron Warrior 2018 team 0330hrs competition day. From left to right: MBdr Waterman, Lt Luis-Orellano, Capt Laxton, LCol Smid, Bdr Wight, Capt Aliberti, Capt Roach, Bdr Chipala, Lt Proner. Thursday, September 6th, 2018.

Well done to all members of the team. We look forward to training together with new and returning members for the Iron Warrior 2019! UBIQUE.

No Stand-down Indeed: Salutes, Taskings Come Thick and Fast in June and July



7 Toronto Regiment and the Limber Gunners (rear) make preparations for the salute at Queen's Park on Victoria Day, 2018.

Victoria Day and Canada Day arrive every year on the same day (well, Canada Day does, at least), and so do the 21-Gun Salutes performed by the gunners of 7th Toronto Regiment, RCA. However, this year, our soldiers are busier than ever. What makes this summer any different?

Unlike summers past, 7 Tor Regt has not stood down during the summer trimester, which begins immediately following the Victoria Day long weekend and ends the first Monday after Labour Day.

The salutes for Victoria Day and Canada Day ran more or less identically, by design. Captain Roach was the OPI for both events and the success of the first salute meant little would change for the one in July. The Limber Gunners, under command of Maj (ret'd.) Patterson, supported both, providing the two flanking guns of the four-gun battery.

There was also a significant recruiting effort at the two salutes, featuring a weapons display just north of where the salutes took place.

Really, one could say the only difference between the two events - besides the passage of time - was the temperature. While the May long weekend boasted seasonally appropriate conditions, Canada Day found the gunners dealing with temperature exceeding 40 degrees, with humidity. It was so hot, in fact, that dress was relaxed to combats, and Capt Roach brought a cooler with bottled water to hand out.

I was the GPO for Victoria Day, while my 9 Bty colleague Lt Fry took the reins on Canada Day.

On top of the ceremonies to observe the day which commemorates the signing of the Constitution Act, and the date honouring Queen Victoria, 7 Tor Regt has recently supported a myriad of small recruiting and public image tasks across the GTA.

And, yesterday, we fired a third salute in as many months for the Opening of Legislature – which, with less than a week’s notice, was manned and coordinated by Maj Dean, then conducted by RSM Cooke and me, with indispensable and commendable support from 56 Fd Regt, 48 Bty in Meaford and 4 Div HQ.

On 19 June, a gun detachment was sent to Brampton for the Canada Company Golf Tournament, where they opened the day’s events with the firing of one blank round. Four days later, another gun was sent to Queen’s Park for the 4th Canadian Division Change of Command Parade. The day after, soldiers participated in the Pride Parade on 24 June. All of these tasks were supported despite most of the regiment being employed on RST.

Oh, right – and there was a recruiting event at Humber College between all that on 22 June.

The recruiting team, led by Capt Lum, was also sent to the North York Sheridan Mall earlier this week, and will participate in the Youth Day Recruiting Event at Dundas Square on the 22nd of July.

Before too long, Ex STEADFAST WARRIOR will be underway; preliminary planning and recces have already been done.

And they say the summer is slow.

Observation Post Detachment 2 i/c Course



This course can almost be summed up as the course that didn't happen. Due to a nationwide shortage of trained instructors and qualified personnel, this course was opened up nationally. Welcome to Ontario some fine troops from Alberta and BC! Luckily 7th Toronto RCA stepped up and provided the instructors for this course. The course ran from 25 Jun 18 until 19 Jul 18. As with previous years, we knew we had a more than capable staff with WO Sylvester, Sgt's Fleet and Hall, and Capt. Aliberti as Course O. It's always a benefit to have instructors with years of in country and operational war time experience to draw on! Our out of province guests were very interested in how this course was going to be run. The candidates who were familiar with the cadre, knew that it would be a solid course.

As with all courses, the training and teaching was at a pace that afforded maximum learning within the time frames allotted. The first few days were theory lectures aimed at a better understanding of the duties of an Op Det 2i/c. It was interesting to learn the different ammunition/fuse choices based on target type. By the end of the first week, we began to feel the importance of the job that we were going to be tasked with doing!

Next up was many hours in the IFT. It was at this time that we were going to start practicing the skills that were being taught. Of course we started at baseline Area Neutralization (AN) missions to work out the cobwebs. The course then proceeded to linear missions, Registration, Laser Point

and Quick Smoke missions. The week ended with Illumination and Diamond Illumination missions. The instructors were doing a great job with various situations to better hone our skills in the IFT prior to firing live. The course was able to see different fall of shots based on the Op's zone (the position of the Op in relation to the guns and the target. This effects how corrections are seen in the fall of shot of the rounds). The week was long and very hot and Meaford was not disappointing! If it isn't raining, Meaford was able to offer up mind melting heat that made the mod tents nothing short of a sauna. Luckily the course was able to cool off with some interesting JR's events like wrestling and Pig Roast.

Up comes the week we've been waiting for- the live shoot exercise! Luckily for us and the DP1 course, not only were we able to rely on each other to get our qualifications, we were able to combine our ammunition allotments for a modest shoot. To start, candidates were graded on their tactical occupation of the Op and setting up of the position. From here the shooting began. The two Op parties set up and different locations which afforded the other to watch the various fall of shots. We were all able to observe some interesting patterns and work out some errors that were found (which translated to some very good learning for the Op's, Recce and CP). After a few moves we conducted registration missions and were able to clearly see the benefits of how the corrections worked out various errors. On the first day, we fired off a decent amount of rounds and got rid of some of the nerves. If there is one thing I've learned, it was that we were going to do a night nav or two. WO Sylvester did not disappoint! Our Op party was led off into the darkness and it was during this nav that our out of province learned of the denseness of the Meaford woods. The approximate 1 km march turned into a 4 km deviation that led us partly down Warriner Hill, around Alpha range and back to Finger Op. This was a very joyous and enjoyable stroll with the radio and ruck!

Firing continued into the next day and evening. Everyone passed their assessments as both the 2ic and Tech. Our last week was Fire Planning. It was rewarding to learn this skill and be able to translate this into a fire mission. There was no live firing for this portion. This course was very rewarding as the skills that were learned over the last 4 weeks would make us better contributing members to our Regiment and to the Canadian Forces. It was an honour to be awarded the Top Candidate for this course.



MBdr Litwin gets a little rest between rounds in adjustment.



GUN AREA TECHNICAL SUPERVISOR MOD 1

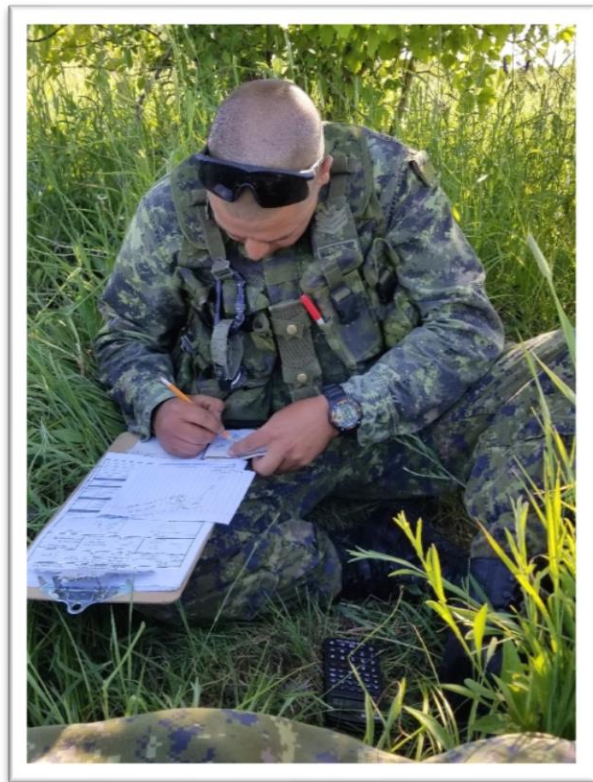
This summer I returned to Meaford in order to complete my final portion of the Gun Area Technical Supervisor Course. The course is 3 weeks long and focuses on the technical aspects of a reconnaissance party. By the end of the course all graduates are qualified as Recce Sgts.

It began with teaching student mutuals on the drills and equipment of the T-16 and GLPS. This was followed up with planning and calculating a battery survey plan. Throughout the weeks the we refreshed on our drills and learned about the theory of survey in more detail. There was also a professional development portion in which we were tested on our abilities to plan a course acting as a Course Warrant. Although I felt that this didn't coincide with the focus of the course, it was still useful information. The course concluded with multiple field exercises that tested our abilities to recce a gun position and solve battery survey as required.

Overall it was an excellent course where I met new friends and rekindle with some old. There were two instructors who switched during the course from 7th Toronto who assisted in the success of all candidates; MWO Bankasingh and WO Lombara.



MBdr Matt Jean



Sgt Jason Long

-By MBdr Allen Noh, 130 Battery Reciting Cell

DP1 Artillery Serial 1

After completing my GATS 1 course I was moved over to join in teaching the DP1 Artillery. This course is a month long and is the first artillery course the candidates will encounter. Different from most reserve Artillery DP1s, this course added in the Carl Gustav, Force Protection and AFV/Aircraft Recognition supplementals.



MBdr Stewart, Gnr



Gnr Griffith-Primus

On the gunnery aspect the candidates start by learning the basics of fire discipline. This is followed up by learning about the 105mm ammunition and their ballistic properties. Once they have learned the language of fire control and understand the ammunition we teach them about the C3 Howitzer. They begin with the parts and ancillary equipment, then very quickly move into the drills. Heavy focus being placed on the drills of the number 3 for their layers test. By the end of their dry training “PREP FOR ACTION, HALT ACTION REAR, PREPARE TO MOVE, CEASE FIRING” were commands that they would never forget. Once all candidates passed all their tests the only thing left was to go into the field and use the drills they’ve learned to bring the guns into action and fire live rounds as a battery. Upon a successful final FTX the troops were greeted by dignitaries and earned their brand new artillery cap badge.

Although I may have been the only 7th Toronto instructor for this serial, we did have two new gunners graduate; Gnr Dahliwal and Gnr Griffith-Primus.





THE TORONTO ARTILLERY FOUNDATION (Established 1978)

The Toronto Artillery Foundation is very pleased to have renowned tenor John McDermott return for a 3rd year. In the past this growing event has benefitted the Foundation and allows us the funding to support the 7th Toronto Regiment and its soldiers in new ways. The TAF is committing to support the Regiment in spring 2019 by sending a contingent to France to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of D-Day. We will see you all at Yorkminster Baptist Church for the concert on 5 November.

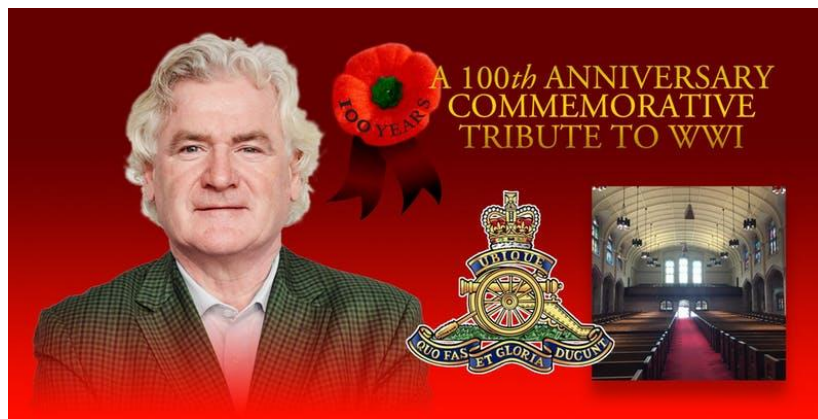
Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/lest-we-forget-2018-veterans-fundraising-event-tickets-49354589907>

DATE AND TIME

**Mon, 5 November 2018
7:00 PM – 10:00 PM EST**

LOCATION

**Yorkminster Park Baptist Church
1585 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4T 1Z9**



LCol (Ret'd) Arthur Huyke Donates 42nd Medium Regiment Sword

On May 4th at the Royal Canadian Military Institute (RCMI) we were honoured to have two special guests for the monthly Gunner Lunch. LCol Arthur Huyke, last CO of 42nd Medium Regiment before it was amalgamated into 7th Toronto Regiment in the 1960s, and his lovely wife Joan joined us at the lunch to pass on the sword that has been in his keeping for the last five decades or so.

At the time of the amalgamation, a result of the Suttie Commission, not all serving members of the artillery regiments of the time (29th Field Artillery Regiment, 42nd Medium Artillery Regiment and 1st Artillery Locating Regiment) could be amalgamated into the newly designated 7th Toronto Regiment. In particular, only one Commanding Officer from the three units was needed going forward. Faced with his retirement from the military, LCol Huyke was concerned about the memorabilia held by his unit. He did not want to see DND collect up everything and put it in storage somewhere, never to be seen again by the Gunners of Toronto. Prior to leaving the University Avenue Armouries for the last time he secured one of the unit swords.

The sword has been in LCol Huyke's safe keeping since 42nd Medium Regiment ceased to be. Now that the danger of the sword being grabbed by Ottawa has subsided he thought it was time to get it back into the hands of the active Gunners in Toronto. Despite it being a treasured decoration in his study, LCol Huyke passed it on to the unit via The President of the Toronto Gunners, Capt David Burnett.

LCol Huyke is 94 years old and is still sharp as a tack. Those attending the Gunner Lunch greatly enjoyed speaking to him and Joan and hearing their reminiscences of their days with The Regiment. He was pleased to see how many members of the Gunner Family come out for the monthly lunch and he accepted the invitation to fire the first round of the Victoria Day salute at Queen's Park later that month. As LCol Huyke aptly stated: "Once a Gunner, always a Gunner."



Lt (Retd) Terry Pich, Maj (Retd) Bob Sears, Kathryn Hope Langley, LCol (Retd) Arthur Huyke and Capt (Retd) David Burnett.

Limber Gunners

The Limber Gunners is a place for retired gunners to get together for camaraderie as well supporting the active Regiment with our historic 25 pound howitzers.

Schedule "B"

2018 Schedule of Completed Events & Members Participation

The following events were completed for 2018:

- Mar 24/18 - Limber Gunner First Aid Course at MPA - Dave Anderson, Dave Rae, Gord Kowalishen, Ian Farquharson, Jeannette Chau, Jeremy Cameron, Joe McCormack, Jim Brazill, James Kupresak, Larry Goucher, Otto Skerlan, Ron Paterson, Joanne Venturanza
- April 22/18 - Driver Training at MPA - Joe McCormack, Otto Skerlan, Jeremy Cameron and Erich Schmidt
- May 06/18 - 0PM Ceremony - Salute at Queens Park - Ron Paterson, Ken Foster, Paul Kernohan, Erich Schmidt, Jeremy Cameron, Brian Higgins and David Rea
- May 08/18 - 73rd Anniversary of VE Day Celebrations at Nathan Philips Square at Toronto City Hall - Ian Farquharson, Ron Paterson, David Rea, Ken Foster, and Joe McCormack
- May 21/18 - Victoria Day Salute at Queens Park - Larry Goucher, Ian Farquharson, Gord Kowalishen, Steve Singh, Ron Paterson, Ken Foster, Jeannette Chau, Otto Skerlan, Erich Schmidt, Jeremy Cameron, David Rea, Frank Moore, Brian Higgins and Paul Kernohan
- May 27/18 - Two Centuries of Fire Power at Old Fort York - Gord Kowalishen, Ken Foster, Otto Skerlan, Erich Schmidt, Dave Rea, Joe McCormack, Jeremy Cameron
- Jun 6/7/18 - Aquino Day Oshawa Museum - Ken Foster, Ian Farquharson, Otto Skerlan, Paul Kernohan, Frank Moore, Ron Paterson, Larry Goucher, Jeremy Cameron and Erich Schmidt
- Jun 16/18 - Highland Creek Parade & Display - Ron Paterson, Frank Moore, Jeremy Cameron, Erich Schmidt, Ken Foster, and Ian Farquharson
- Jul 1/18 - Canada Day Salute - Queens Park - Jeremy Cameron, Ian Farquharson, Otto Skerlan, Ron Paterson, Paul Kernohan, Frank Moore, Erich Schmidt, Dave Rea, Gord Kowalishen, Jeannette Chau and Larry Goucher
- Jul 06/18 - Queens Own Rifles Association Golf Tournament Shot Gun Start - Ron Paterson, Dave Rea, Erich Schmidt, Ian Farquharson, Otto Skerlan and Paul Kernohan
- Jul 21/18 - Static Display at Scarborough Toyota for the Foundation - Ron Paterson, Don MacGillivray, Jackie Coleman, Rich Bennett, Larry Goucher, Ian Farquharson, Otto Skerlan, Dave Rea and Paul Kernohan
- Aug 18/18 - CNE - Warriors' Day Parade - Joe McCormack, James Kupresak, Ian Farquharson, and Otto Skerlan
- Aug 25/18 - Oshawa Museum (Ferret Club) - Grand Opening of the Military Vehicle Conservation Centre - Jeremy Cameron, Otto Skerlan, Dave Rea, Paul Kernohan, Larry Goucher, Erich Schmidt, Ken Foster and Ian Farquharson

Sep 10/18 - Annual Regimental Bar-B-Que at MPA - David Burnett, Don MacGillivray, Miguel Ortiz-Sosa, Jackie Coleman, Brenda Lightfoot, Ron Paterson, Jim Brazill, Dave Robinson, Dave Anderson, Paul Kernohan, HCol Barry Downs, Gord Kowalishen, Dave Rea, Frank Moore, Steve Singh and Ian Farquharson

