



The Golden Spur

The Newsletter of the Canadian Association of Forces Linemen

December 2009



*Merry Christmas
And A Very Happy
New Year*

To All Members and Their Families



Warmest Seasons Greetings to you all from your President!

As the holiday season approaches, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. It is linemen like you who make our jobs a pleasure and keep our association alive and successful.

It is that time of year again to share with you our adventures in this journey we call life. 2009 has been another year of magic and wonder. Firstly we are wondering who made all the money magically disappear, secondly we are wondering if the money will ever return so we can all get back to work. So since we don't seem to have any TD money left, we find ourselves doing things like, baking, shopping, wrapping gifts, finding and decorating the tree and writing Christmas letters and hearing from friends and relatives from all over Canada and in other parts of the world. Other than the money woes everything else has been great and glorious, and we will strive to do more with less next year.

As 2010 is quickly coming around the corner, we will have new challenges ahead of us, but I'm sure that I will be able to count on you and you're unit's support as we did in the past years. I'm sure that together we will be able to face those challenges and get the job done.

May your holiday season and the New Year be filled with much joy, happiness and success. I look forward to working with some you in the coming year and hope our association continues for many years to come.

Happy holidays!

Your President

Wayne Babcock



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Greetings from 9 Wing Gander **By Cpl Philpott**

Well it's the end of an extremely busy year and getting close to a much needed break here in 9 Wing Gander. We are finishing up the year with a structure wiring job as part of our huge Op Relocate project that has been going on for some time now. But first I will let you know about some of the changes our Line Sect went through this past summer.

The summer of 2009, 9 Wing Line Sect underwent a few personnel changes. We had to say good-bye to the LCF (Greg Snook) who was posted to CFB Petawawa and a farewell to Cpl John Brown who was posted to CFB Halifax. John, you are very much missed at the Thursday night dart league. WTIS wishes the best of luck to the both of you.

Following their departure, the new LCF, (MCpl Todd Young) completed his PLQ. During this time the Line shop was empty for the month of July due to posting date changes. The work just piled up. Next to join the shop was myself, Cpl Philpott followed by Cpl Fleet both posted in from CFB Kingston. We will just say life here at 9 Wing is much different, but we are settling in.

The big talk at 9 Wing this year as been, Op Relocate!!! This involved the shut down of our HQ/Kitchen/Mess/Training building due to Health concerns. Since February of this year we have been wiring multiple temporary and permanent work places for all these sections. Because of this the work orders quickly started piling up and things got very busy. I myself came here with the idea of taking some summer leave. Just moving here, there were a few things I wanted to take care of around the house. My first day I showed up with a leave pass and MCpl Young said "No way, get your tools and get out there working, there is too much around here to do other than taking leave!" Well that was a good first impression I thought and left not really knowing what to expect over the next few weeks.

Our first tasking as a new Line Section was the structure wiring of the "Old Navy Site". A structure wiring job involved transforming 3 duplex PMQ houses into one work location for the ever expanding Canadian Rangers. There were 180 cat 6 cables installed to give every Ranger a workstation. Since then we have moved onto the "Sullivan Project" which will be approx 200 cat 6 cables to create work stations for the GMFRC. WTIS also played a big role in the national SAREX this past September. We set up a mobile command post and pretended to act like our counterparts in the field detachments. The exercise was about a week long and was somewhat uneventful other than learning a valuable lesson. Do not throw batteries into the fire! Trust me.

Then there is always regular maintenance. Here at 9 Wing our number one priority is the FRD-10. CFJSR Det Halifax was just here for several weeks doing maintenance. It was great to have other linemen around, great times had by all. But now with the bad weather approaching I am sure the antenna will keep us busy in the New Year.

In the foreseeable future for 9 Wing there are plans for many new buildings. This is all part of a five year strategy to rebuild most of the Wing. This entails a lot of structure wiring, the movement and relocation of some manhole systems, relocation of some of the Wings pole line and possibly a new MDF. All and all this is going to keep many of 9 Wings sections very busy for the next several years to come.

To all deployed, domestic and retired Linemen, have a safe and happy holiday from 9 Wing Gander Line Section

Pictures, left to right:

Cpl Fleet, MCpl Young, Cpl Philpott and Sgt Skinner



Season's Greetings from 14 Wing Greenwood & Camp Mirage Line Crew

Well it's that time of the year already and it looks like I will be writing a small "sit rep" from the Line section here in Greenwood NS for the Golden Spur again this Christmas. We've been pretty busy again this year, but I'm sure that's the same across the country. There are a couple big projects going on that will hopefully bring some of the boys (or girls) down from the mother ship, we have a new fire hall and a new IDF going up and they should be ready for wire/cable in 2010, if so it will be nice to share some beverages with some Linemen. That's not implying there are no "linemen" here but there won't be, as were losing Mcpl Al Carrier and Cpl Brad Saunders for six to nine months leaving just Sgt Casey Worth and myself here to hold down the fort. Well that's the situation here at 14 Wing; this has been Cpl Steve Cleveland wishing everybody around the world a happy and safe holiday season on behalf of 14 Wing LLWC Line Crew.



(MCpl Carrier trying to get his picture in the Safety Digest any way he can)

14 Wing Linemen deployed

I am Cpl Brad Saunders from 14 Wing Greenwood. MCpl Al Carrier and I are currently deployed to Camp Mirage (enjoying the horrible weather). This has been a productive year for the Mission Support Squadron (MSS), as there has been a lot of training which has led up to our deployment. From the C7 range to the gas hut, and all the courses that were required for our deployment. Then we were off to Wainwright, Alberta for Maple Guardian. This (Air Force) exercise lasted 2 long months. The exercise was a great experience and we learned a lot from it. And yes the Linemen tradition was carried on in Maple Guardian again this year as PANDORA'S BOX was still open. Once the exercise was complete, we made our way back to Greenwood to do the BFT and for some well deserved summer leave. On behalf of the line crew in Camp Mirage I would like to wish all the fellow Linemen and their families a safe and merry Christmas and best of luck in the New Year.

P.S. Oh I almost forgot... in between all the hard work and training I did manage to play some hockey for the base team. We received the silver medal at the CF Nationals for ice hockey last year. OVIL.





It's that time of year again for us here at CFJSR Det Halifax to gear down and get ready for a season of high blood pressure, fat bellies and the consumption of Canada's finest. After a long year of running around the Maritimes installing new fibre optic means, for more folks to check their inbox's for the latest funnies, it's time to start planning on what we are going to be up to in the next year. The Det's presence was felt in Goose Bay, Gander, Greenwood, Gagetown, Yarmouth, Great Village, Mass town, Mill Cove, Newport and Charlottetown, constantly on the move taking on projects no matter the size.

MWO Phil Ferguson and MCpl Sheldon Gillis made their way back from 6 months in the sand box, their families and friends were more than happy to have them back safe from Afghanistan. We also have two more of our brothers, Sgt Billy Neville and Cpl Brodie Saunders, after a quick stop in Kingston, off to get things done in Afghanistan and perhaps provide a little entertainment from the infamous squeezebox.

During posting season we changed our roster having Cpl Tom Boyce leave the Lineman fold to join the RCMP, Cpl Jimmy Coughlin heading to Ottawa to become an "Elite", and Sgt Dave Burgess as the WO in Gagetown. Our newest members of the Det made up for our departing brothers. Sgt Brian Murray is happy to show off his expertise coming from Petawawa. Having escaped the Rock, Cpl John Brown made his way here to the big city from Gander. Kingston suffered a great loss in having Cpl's J.F Comeau and Jason Stoneham flee to the Maritimes.

WO John Perry was pleased to have the shop to himself and Wenda Watson for a couple months while the boys ramped up to head north for yearly maintenance. Sgt Brian Murray took his crew all the way up to Goose Bay. MCpl Glen Duff ran a tight ship over Cpl's Randy Finlayson, John Brown, Gary Merritt and Pte Jerome Cormier-Poisson. They did what they do best, work hard and play hard. While anxiously waiting on the next days work, Cpl John Brown launched his new computer game character striving for level 70. Sgt Billy Neville once again brought his crew to Gander having MCpl Sheldon Gillis lead his exceptional team including Cpl's Brodie Saunders, Yan Fullwood, J.F. Comeau and Jason Stoneham. After a couple weeks into the project, Sgt Neville and Cpl Saunders left to trade their greens in for tans. MCpl Gillis ran the remaining three Cpl's to work their "glutes" off, climbing all 80 of the 110ft poles to finish maintenance on the FRD-10V.

Our own Cpl Yan Fullwood is a Proud Papa, having welcomed his Baby Girl (Jade) into the world on November 29th. The excitement of his new baby is sure to keep his attention off the Holiday hustle and bustle. From all of us at the CFJSR Det Halifax, have a fantastic holiday season and a very Merry Christmas.

Submitted by Cpl Jason Stoneham



Halifax Local Line Work Centre

It's hard to believe but yes we are heading into 2010, and what a year 2009 has been for the Local Line Work Centre (LLWC) in Halifax. I can remember when I came to this place back in 2005, we were a really small crew. In fact there were only five military personnel and two civilian linemen. Now with the changes in technology and the military striving to stay on top of the game, we now have three crews; one for maintenance, one for projects and a Cabling Services crew for 'adds moves and changes'. This now makes us 11 military and 8 civilian strong.

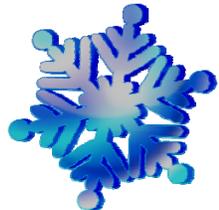
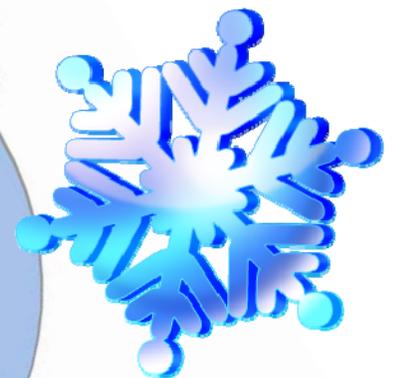
Over the past year there have been many changes to the face of the LLWC and many endless work orders. However, outside of the work orders, and projects, there is also the continuing maintenance of all the Tower/ Antenna sites within the Halifax area of responsibility. These sites consist of Mill Cove, Great Village, Newport Corner, Osborne Head and, Masstown.

This past year, I completed my PLQ and Corporal Snook was posted to the 'mother ship' in Kingston. Corporal Crane will be heading, once again, to Newport Corner to fill in for Corporal Daigle who will be heading to Afghanistan on a tour in the spring. New members, but not new to Halifax or the trade, are Sgt Flood as the new LCF replacing WO Savory, who was posted to Cold Lake in 2008. Master Corporal Chaisson has taken over for the recently retired Master Corporal Bungay. Mr Bungay has found his way into a less stressful job as a civilian with Cabling Services. Both MCpl Chaisson and Sgt Flood were part of CFJSR Det Halifax some years back when they were Corporals. There are some new faces to LLWC fresh out of CFSCE; Privates Doucette, McFarlane-Hurst and Lapointe. Corporal Ilutko, who will be posted from 742 Comm SQN Det Wainwright this December, will also be joining the team in 2009. The new crewmembers adapted to the high tempo of the section and have quickly become part of the team. They and everyone here at the LLWC are always there with both feet in, working to get the job done.

On behalf of all of us here at the Local Line Work Centre, we wish all serving and retired Linemen Family members, Seasons Greetings and Happy Holidays from our Line Family to all of yours.

Remember, "Once a Lineman, Always a Lineman".

Submitted by Cpl Pelton



3 ASG GAGETOWN Christmas 2009

By Cpl James Fahie

It's been a busy year that has seen a lot of change with the linemen of 3 ASG Signals Squadron in good ole Gagetown. Shortly after Christmas 2008, Cpl Phil Seville finally got his re-muster and "went postal" successfully completing his QL3's. The first effects of IT/IM Rationalization have been felt here as Cpl's Rick Parent and Richard Eichler were posted this summer "up the road" to 4 Air Defence Regt. Cpl Ian Nearing was posted from 2 RCR to Halifax and was quickly replaced by Cpl Brian Rimpilainen, while MCpl's Tony Ferguson and Eric "Chico" Tremblay swapped spots.

WO Tim Stevens was posted/ promoted out in the summer and has handed the reigns over to our new LCF, WO Dave Burgess. Sgt Larry Gaudet, the LMS, can be found trying to keep on top of the paperwork generated by the squadron.

The only Lineman in Gagetown outside of ASG Sigs who hasn't been affected by anything is Cpl Ben Robinson. Still at the 2 RCR line section, he has his hands full trying to keep "the new guys" in line.

Some new "old faces" have arrived as our new civilian contractors with the section. Mr. Kenny Howe, Mr. Jim Penney, and Mr. Bob Turner have all swapped combats for civies and their berets for ball caps. Jim and Bob are often seen putting out fires around the base, while Kenny has his hands full trying to keep the field crew from getting lost. (Check your spurs Tung)

Mr. Bernie Currie is still going strong with the Line Section, but with an added twist. He has been filling the role of Section Stores man for the past several months and now has his customers coming to him to chat instead of the other way around. Mr. George Nicholson had some medical complications due to low blood pressure earlier on this year, and while he is fine, is taking some well deserved time to rest up before coming back into action. Mr. Mike Patterson can still be found under a pile of drawings, trying to update them, but you have to be fast to catch him. Mr Kevin Lingley has also been seen from time to time, never in the same place twice, planning new projects for the linemen to complete

When not on the road, MCpl Jamie Hammond is I/C of the RTA crew, Cpl Tung Danh, when not checking over his shoulder to see what Kenny's doing, fills the role of 2I/C. Cpl Ron Malley, who seems to be going for the longest posting record here, has once again been allowed to run wild in the ranges. Cpl John Anthony has finally completed his QL3's, was posted back, and promptly found himself in the RTA Crew. Cpl Matt London has his hands full trying to keep everyone in line, while Pte Steven Armitage is working hard to re-learn all of the bad habits he gained on OJT.

Five seconds after his arrival from 2RCR MCpl Tony "crash" Ferguson was placed in the role of I/C of the base crew. Cpl Jamie Fahie, has his hands full as 2I/C, dealing with the various "surprises" that show up from time to time. Cpl Craig Larsen and Cpl Jessie Byrne can be found shaking their heads at the mysteries of the steam tunnels on a regular basis. While Cpl Andre Carrier (who's not allowed to drive anything larger than a ¼ ton truck ... ever) can regularly be seen with Cpl Kaylee Shea, going from building to building, trying to keep the work orders from overwhelming the system.

Once again I can't close out this newsletter without thanking CFJSR Kingston as well as Det Halifax. They have spent a lot of time on project here, from the steam tunnels on base to the pole line routes in the range, completing some much needed upgrades to the cable plant.

In closing, all of the members of 3 ASG Line Sect would like to wish the rest of the line trade and their families across Canada and abroad a Merry Christmas and best wishes in the New Year.

"THROUGH"



Christmas greetings from Ottawa Line Troop

This year has seen a lot of changes, good and bad. The good, MCpl Holloway came back to work with us from somewhere on the hill. He retired a few months later. MCpl Boosey went back to school to further his education. Maybe he won't break another leg doing that. Sgt Asselin left for the design cell at the Constitution bldg. She then decided to retire and settle in Gatineau beach. She is doing the same job as a civilian. As for Sgt Cooper, he left the design cell to take her spot as LCF/CPC. The bad, Sgt Cooper scared us. I guess he wanted to celebrate Halloween early this year or was it the sight of all those pretty girls downtown that gave him a stroke.

We gladly welcomed four new members to the line troop. WO Kilback, and Sgt Leblanc are both working out of the Constitution bldg. Pte Mcatamney is learning French (3 half days a week). We all wish we could learn a second language like that. As for Pte Ryan hopefully he won't give us a call to come and save him downtown. A not so new member is Sgt Snow (reserve) felt bad for leaving us so he came back to our QM. What wonderful things pity can do!

Sgt Dinelle got promoted to WO. I guess we did an awesome job. Sgt Leblanc came from Petawawa to improve our standards at the design cell. Cpl Ward got his advance promotion in recognition of his expertises. Cpl Gauthier-Brousseau, accomplished with a lot of tears, blood and sweat his PLQ course. Cpl Nault finished is QL5 and is now a fully trained lineman. WOOT

Here in Ottawa we are constantly dancing the tango of the add, move and change. It is a good thing that we've got contractors to help us out in those hardships, as it takes two to tango.

We've been lucky to be tasked on several occasions with PCO (Privy Council Office) who is in short, the prime minister's office. We are now playing in the big league. As once in a lifetime opportunities were offered to the following: Cpl Gauthier-Brousseau went to Peru. Cpl Ward went to Pittsburgh. Cpl Giroux went to India and South Korea. Pte Mcatamney went to Iqaluit.



We are bidding farewell and good luck to MWO Mackie who is on his way to Afghanistan. He is presently training in Kingston.

Sadly 76 Comm GP is no more. We lost our military appellation and are now called DIMEUS. For those who don't know it is, Director Information Management End-User Services. Could've been worst!

From all of us, Merry Christmas and happy New Year. May our thoughts and prayers be with all Canadian soldiers at home or abroad. Don't forget, once a lineman always a lineman.

From Cpl Julien Gunville-Vachon
and DIMEUS 5-3 Line Section





CFJSR Det. Petawawa The Det Of Choice



This year at CFSJR Detachment Petawawa has been a fast and furious one! As a new member, I have seen a lot of changes in a short period of time. Warrant Officer Bill Hewitt (from Westport, NL) was promoted to Master Warrant Officer in early August, and took over as Detachment Commander shortly thereafter. Master Corporal Richard Townsend (another down Easterner), received another stripe and became a Sergeant in October. Sgt Townsend is rumoured to be actively pursuing his retirement this coming summer and then joining his loved ones in Cape Breton. Corporals Weekes and Perron left on a Line TAV to Afghanistan in early October and will be gone until at least May. We were also missing Corporal Mark Hendry and Sergeant Stephane Langevin for most of the fall, as they were completing (or holidaying) their QL5A and QL6B courses respectively in the resort town of Kingston.

With every APS, we had some new faces posted to the shop this year. Corporal Ryan Demeurichy left 1 RCR to come work with his bearded buddy Corporal George Lavers, who joined us from 3 RCR. Myself, (clean shaven) Private Jason Morris left HQ & Sigs in July and took up a new locker here at the Detachment. With new faces arriving in, some were on their way out. Corporal Chris Hancock departed for CFB Borden, and from talking to him, he is certainly enjoying his new posting. Corporal Mike Hunter left for his posting to 8 Wing Trenton and is now apparently desert bound, again. Corporal Iris Marceau jumped at the opportunity to go back to her mother land at 5ASG CFB Valcartier, and is still being missed by her mates here at the Detachment. Outgoing Detachment Commander, Master Warrant Officer Jeff Szach was posted (along with his fishing rods) to LFDTC in Kingston.

We have had some new additions to several Detachment members' families this year. Corporal Junior Louis enjoyed his parental leave with the arrival on August 21st of his new baby boy Nathanael, and already has him practising on the soccer field with his new ball. Master Corporal Basil Slaney as well celebrated the birth of a new baby boy Liam, who came into the world on the 25th of March. A spitting image of Baz, this was definitely no milk man's baby!

As per CFJSR standard, we have been travelling to and working all over hell's half acre. With visits to Borden, Montreal, Toronto, Valcartier (more times than I have fingers), Ottawa, North Bay, and St. Jean, we have accumulated quite the number of air miles. With cable and antenna maintenance, pole line construction, aerial installations, and various copper and fibre optic installations, our experience has been well-rounded and our trade knowledge enhanced immensely.

Being on the road with a seasoned group of Lineman, I have learned much as a new Private. The day always starts with a contribution to hockey legend Tim Horton, and when travelling through Quebec, you keep your eye out for Costco to take advantage of the 55 pack! It never hurts to utilize a ground guide in a parking lot, and always keep a chef happy, whether it's Baz making his renowned chilli or even my own pulled-pork sandwiches. That's a wrap for the news and changes from Petawawa, so from all of us here at CFJSR Detachment Petawawa, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Submitted By Private Jason Morris



Greetings, from your chilly friends in Winterpeg!

What have we been up to? Have there been many changes?

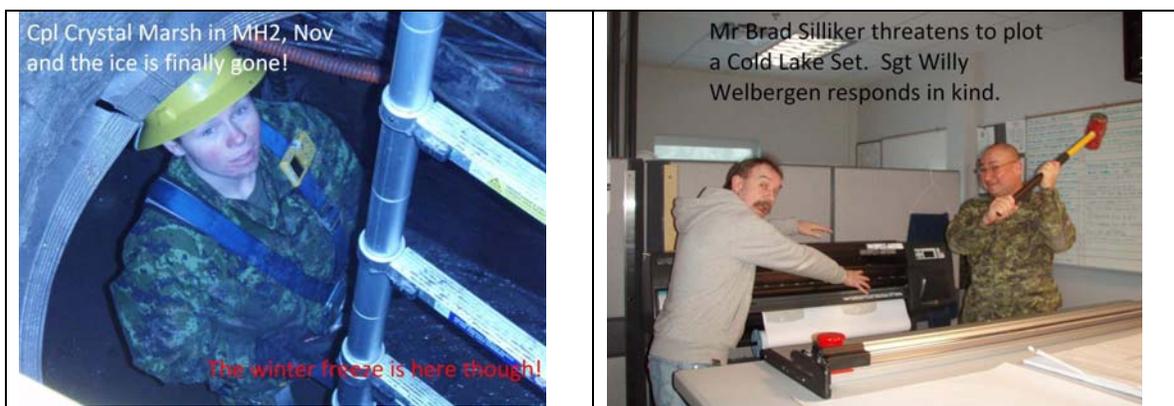
Not a hell of a lot. Just keeping busy like everyone else. Our crew of four has been separated by a trip to good old Camp Mirage. MCpl Snyder and Cpl Kaiswatum are fighting the good fight out there, with not even a two beer limit. I bet they will be glad to be back for all the holiday cheer. That leaves Sgt Welbergen and me, Cpl Marsh. And we can't forget Mr.Sillker. It just wouldn't be the same here, without hearing the odd chatter directed at the computer monitor from our friendly draughtsman.

The good Sgt has been a crazy hat wearing monkey, everything from the acting TMO to his new position as the TMS, to being a worker bee. Oddly enough, many cable repairs have been keeping us busy as well. How hard is it really, to call before you dig?

Luckily we did have a visit from Det Edmonton this summer, who were a huge help. They were surprised to see that one of our manholes was inaccessible for work; due to it still being 3/4 full of solid ice. Some would think it would be a little odd for June. Needless to say, one of our priorities is to have all cables pulled and maintenance done, before winter comes full force. Its no wonder Winnipeg has been crowned the Slurpee Capital of the World ten times in a row.

One of our highlights this year was scoring a road job. Just a short trip to Thunder Bay Armouries for a small pull and inspection, but even that was a great change of pace for some base lineman. Hopefully there will be another one in the works with our full crew back together.

On a final note, all of us here in Winnipeg would like to wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year.



742 Comm. Det. Wainwright Line Section

(By MCpl Gene Korosi)

Greetings from 742 Det Wainwright Line Section, It has been a very busy year here, with doing army training (BFT)as well as trying to maintain and upgrade the base and training area cable plant, and at the same time supporting the new Canadian Maneuvers Training Center (CMTC) exercises.

There have been plenty of changes here in the last number of years, old buildings have come down, for those who remember the old H hut buildings, there's only a hand full left on the base. There are also new buildings, like two Lav barns that have been completed and turned over and a number of small training villages have been built such as a WATC Forward Observation Base (FOB) out in the training area.

Talking about old and new, Sgt Andre (Moe) Morin retired and MCpl Sean Silver was promoted to the rank of Sgt and took over as the new LMF, the logical choice since no one else seems to want to come here, at least he knows what he is getting into. With the loss of Cpl Daryl Schaeffer to CFB Shilo, the re-arrival of MCpl Korosi is hoping to ease some of the load put on MCpl Jeff Nickerson's plate being thrown into the 2 1/c position. Fresh new faces just off their 3's all from the east posted in, Cpl Greg Ilutko from Halifax, Pte Wayne Davis from the ROCK and Pte Wayne Donovan from New Brunswick. Cpl Kevin Felts, just returning from the new ASIS DP-1 TPWB information session in Kingston for two weeks, sent on a swan to help him recover from another eventful Remembrance Day. With Al Cooper our Unit Stores man gone, stolen away by Range Control, we went out and did the same by persuading Roger Jenkins to come under our wing from Clothing stores. It's a very busy place to be a Lineman (especially a new one).

With upcoming course's and more training over the next year slated, exercises scheduled in the Spring/Fall 10, cable plant maintenance, mixed with adds moves and changes it's sure to be another busy year. Right now the Temperature is starting to fall and the snow on its way. Christmas is just around the corner, time for people to wind down and get together for a bit of cheer, ya right were Linemen that would mean a lot of cheer.



Left to Right

MCpl Korosi, Cpl Felts, Pte Donovan, Sgt Silver, Pte Davis, MCpl Nickerson.



A YEAR WITH THE EDMONTON DETACHMENT

As yet another year for the Edmonton Detachment comes to a close, it is the time of year where members of the detachment can reflect back on a busy year of projects, training and deployments.

2009 started with everyone returning from a much needed Christmas break only to be thrown right back into the swing of things with the Detachments first projects of the year. First up was a trip to beautiful Suffield, Alberta for antenna maintenance or a trip to sunny Wainwright, Alberta for a second line fiber maintenance project.

February brought with it the Western antenna swing which consisted of projects in Nanaimo, Comox, Esquimalt and Chilliwack. Both crews were kept very busy with these projects right up till mid March when they returned for a bit of down time and March break. Upon the crews return, members were greeted by Private Lafontaine the newest member of the Detachment and freshly graduated from CFSCE.

The spring proved to be one of our busier times of the year with both crews mounting up and spreading out across the vast AOR, making stops at C.F.B. Shilo, C.F.B. Dundurn and Vernon Cadet Camp as well as numerous locations in between.

And as the summer came into full swing, the Detachment welcomed back last year's deployed members. Sgt Scott Simpson and Cpl Jason Briggs. Soon after their return, the unit was treated to the Annual Golf Day. Some members came for a competitive round of golf; others came for the fast golf carts. No matter what the motivation a good time was had by all. And as the day began to wind down, MWO Hope announced that MCpl Eugene Korosi was to be posted to Wainwright and that Cpl John Leute was to be promoted to MCpl. A well deserved appointment. Also Sgt Simpson went to 742 Sigs Sqn in July.

The end of summer and the beginning of fall brought the Detachment a new Crew I/C in Sgt Jason Baines as we returned from summer block leave. And in quick succession we began work up training for the Battle Fitness Test (BFT). The BFT went well with all Detachment members finishing well under the required time with Sgt Baines at the front of the pack. Fall training became interesting when outside agencies were brought in to polish the Detachment member's skills on First Aid, Confined Spaces, Fall Arrest as well as the SAT Range.

This past October, Major Gillingham OC 1 Line Sqn as well as MWO Base and MWO MacKnight paid a visit to the Detachment and presented MCpl Smith with his CD1 and Cpl Briggs with his CD. Not long after, the members of the Detachment said their good byes to MCpl Steve Smith and Private Curtis Gavin as they begin their long journey to Kandahar, Afghanistan for a six month TAV deployment. We would like to welcome two new members to the Detachment Pte Coreas and Pte Price fresh from their QL3.

When both crews returned from fall projects, they prepared themselves for the Remembrance Day ceremony which was held in Evansburg, Ab. Guard OPI was Sgt Barrington, Guard Commander was MCpl Leute, 2 I/C was Cpl Desmond and Privates Griffin, Lafontaine, and new members Privates Coreas and Price were the Cenotaph Guards. A job well done to all involved.

There is one final pair of projects to be completed by the crews at CFS Masset and CFS Matsqui then we will be brought up to our greatly anticipated Christmas block leave. In the New Year the Detachment will be returning to a more normal routine in 2010 with the project load shifting away from the Olympics.

From MWO Hope and crew members of the Canadian Forces Joint Signals Regiment, Edmonton Detachment, we wish all serving, deployed and retired Linemen and their family's best wishes for the upcoming Holiday Season and New Year!

Private Adam Lafontaine



MCpl Smith receiving his CD1



Cpl Briggs receiving his CD

4 WING TIS LINE SECTION COLD LAKE

By Pte Collins

Hello from all of us in Cold Lake. As is well known to all near and far yes, it is cold here, but it does nothing to deter those who know where the true magic in Cold Lake originates...the Line section. With the majority of the Techs from the section deployed to BC in support of the Olympics (enjoy the rain while you can) with Cpl James Davenport at the Center of Excellence expanding his wealth of knowledge we have been feeling the pinch. With everyone returning in time for the Big Chill it should make for an interesting fall. With the arrival of Pte Collins fresh out of the CFSCE Line training, we will be looking forward to an extra set of hands.



This year has been busy with dig requests. So many requests in fact that this year alone has almost tripled what had been seen in the last 2 or 3. The base continues its Utilities Upgrade Project ensuring that our boots are a bright shade of orange and Kiwi polish is kept in business. With a few minor locates courtesy of the excavators we have managed to stay ahead of the game for the most part due to the hard work by the crew. CFJSR Det Edmonton made their annual pilgrimage(s) to the lovely land of the Grand Kinosoo for the annual Antenna inspection. It's good to see the Det. is keeping up with the modern technology, (That Dillon is the best kept secret in the trade) and more recently in the fall where the freshly minted Pte Collins was breach loaded the moment he stepped on ground to assist them in some pole line maintenance out on the Air Weapons Range. Early in August I'm told that our Cpl Thibodeau was left to fend for himself as MCpl Arsenault added a new addition to the family and Sgt Laquerre traveled somewhere topical to practice his Spanish and apply for refugee status. Cpl Thibodeau did an admirable job and is now even more qualified to do so if required to in the future. As we anxiously awaited the arrival of the new Sqn Chief Warrant Officer, WO Savory hung up his spurs to guide the ATIS Techs land of high fives and cake eating, getting a taste of life on the other side. Rumors continue to stir that soon Barbie will be short one little yellow truck as it gets a fresh coat of CADPAT paint and a Wainwright Training Area Map on the dash. As the wheels are hanging on with dental floss we anxiously await the arrival of "Mr." Tim Hope in the New Year as he settles into life as a Civi donning a cap in the Projects cell and bring with him his expansive knowledge of the trade and stories from the outside world. The flurry of activity and the new additions it seems that unfortunately we will say farewell Corky Furlotte as he focuses on his backswing and knee capping ability for the Dene Casino. Enjoy your much deserved break and your right...it's been "a hell of a ride", best of luck to you.

So another wonderful year in Cold Lake, the best kept secret on the map. Until next year, keep your heads up, keep busy, stay happy and keep pushing through.

Lineman's Jingle
(to the tune of Jingle Bells)

Dashing 'cross the field, backhoe with a blade
Driver missed his mark, Line section called to play

Fibre lines been cut, concrete bank destroyed,
Joel's hair has gone grey, where the hell's the Boys.

Call outs at all hours, 18's gotta fly,
Inuvik got lit up, were gonna fly stand-by,

Got on ground at six, flying home by nine,
Just in time catch a break, in the Timmies line.

(Chorus)

*Oh ... cell phone bells, cell phone bells
Ops Cen has gone nuts.
Panic mode has set in
And we're running for the trucks
(repeat if necessary)*

TMO just called, PDR's past due,
Kinda hard to write something, working in this zoo.

Contractors showed up, needing something new
Projects been delayed, you know its up to you.

The JSR's in town, Towers on their mind
A Grizzly needs a scratching post, try another time,

Troops are being deployed, Olympics on the way
Sarge's has had enough, Warrant's here to stay Ha ha ha...

(Repeat Chorus)

*Oh ... cell phone bells, cell phone bells
Ops Cen has gone nuts.
Panic mode has set in
And we're running for the trucks
(repeat if necessary)*



LINE JOURNEYMAN 2009
IT'S REALITY

I have been a qualified lineman for 5 years, and now I am back in lovely Kingston getting ready to start my Line Journeyman course. If you are wondering what a linemen do, we install and maintain communication cable. Our course started on the 3 of September and finished on the 23 of November. The course started out with 15 corporals from all around the country and now I am writing on behalf of all of us to share some of our experiences.

I guess like any course that one begins there is some uncertainty. The first thing you think about is who is going to live with you for the next 3 months and how long have they been in the trade. I have been out of the training system for 5 years and all the people I did my TQ 3's with have all done there 5's and moved on to bigger and better things.

Our first day started out like any other course the dreaded PLCC card; the signing for kit; books and a laptop. The level of confidence in linemen has definitely increased since I was last here. The school had never issued laptops to TQ 5's and especially the TQ 3's.

Since the ability to climb is essential to our trade, the first task on the agenda is a confirmation climb. We are tested to see if we are still able to climb the 30 foot poles with spurs and a Stop Fall climbing belt, the 70 foot pole and the 150 foot tower.

Once this is completed, we do our confirmation rescue. Being able to rescue people from the poles and tower is a very important part of our trade we have to maintain our skill and learn any new techniques that may have changed over the past few years.

Then we get into the theory of Construction and disassembly of towers which is a very interesting and technical part of our trade. Once the theory portion is completed, we go into the actual hands on construction and disassembling of the tower. This portion takes up about 1/3 of our time so it is about 1 month. Another significant and probably the most important part of our trade that we learned was copper splicing, which is the process of joining two multi-pair cables. With both of these subjects completed, we did some cable locating which is just that, locating cable that are in the ground and marking it so contractors or who ever is digging doesn't rip up our cable.

Now that the course is coming to a close, one of our last tasks is to take everything we have learned thus far and put it all together on one big project. This takes about 4 days to complete and involves things like fiber optic cables, copper splicing, termination of cat 6 cables and the list goes on.

Well that concludes our course now all that new knowledge we have obtained during these last 3 months will be applied at our units and where ever we end up next.

Submitted by Cpl Mac Lean



CFSCE Line Training **By Georges J Gaudet**

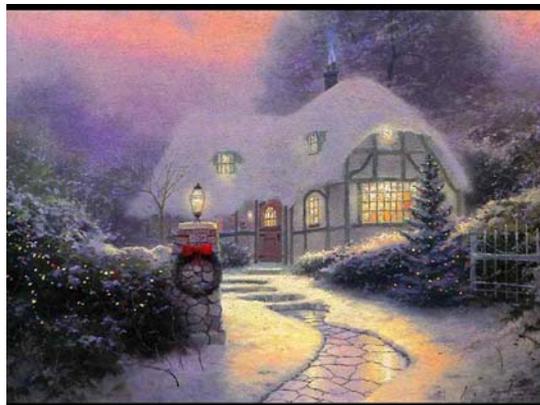
As a freshly posted staff member at CFSCE Line Training, it was time for all of the introduction briefings. This is where I realized there were a lot of things that had changed since my last time here at the school. There would take some getting accustomed to, such as the long training days. These long days are to ensure that everything the student needs to learn is covered and that we also include a good PT program. After the completion of PT, time for a quick shower and change into uniform to start the day training. Time management is critical due to the fact that not only the students have training but we as staff must attend training in order to keep up on are basic soldier skills. This is completed either through the DND Learn or by actual hands on training depending of the level of training specified by the Chain of Command and the standard set in order to achieve the required IBTS levels for staff posted here at the school.

Since my arrival, the school has done a variety of activity for the families of school personnel. The staff and students have also participated in fund raising for various charity events. The first activity that I was involved in was the family day. C Troop built a Junior Commando Course and a Zip Line for children. This was a chance for me to meet some of the fellow staff families. It was also lots of fun the see the joy on the kids faces as they were going down the zip line. There have also been some fundraising activities like the Terry Fox and the United Way Campaign.

The first course that I have had direct involvement with is the Line Apprentice 0026. So far I have seen all sorts of things that make you wonder “Was I like that when I started my QL3 course?” The good news is that the students move in strides. At the end of the day on Friday, you wonder if they will ever be able to get to the top of the 70 foot pole and by Monday they are able to climb to the top. No one knows what happen over the weekend but it worked. Maybe some day I will find out what happened.

Even though I am at the school to teach, I also have the chance to learn new and advanced training. I was lucky to get loaded on a High Angle Rescue Course. This is a course thought by Advanced Rescue Techniques School of Canada that show various techniques to perform an aerial rescue. This course shows various rigging, descent techniques and equipment that could be used to perform a rescue.

And that is just a small list of activities that have gone on since my arrival here a CFSCE.





**Headquarters
Regional Command (South)
International Security Assistance Force
Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan**



Commandant and Signals Squadron
Line Construction Foreman
Regional Command (South) Headquarters
Operation ATHENA
PO Box 5058 Stn Forces
Belleville, ON K8N 5W6

1000-1 (LCF)

07 November 2009

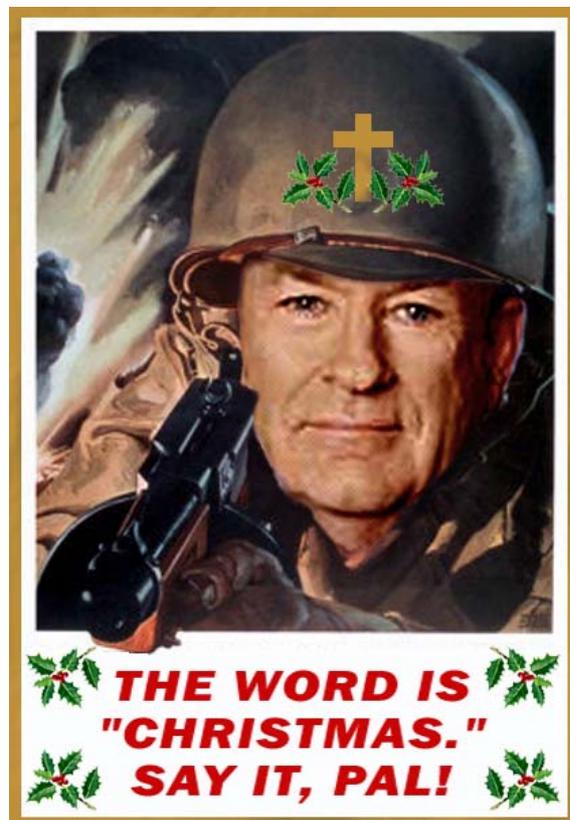
LINE CONSTRUCTION FOREMAN – SUBMISSION
FOR THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FORCES
LINEMEN CHRISTMAS NEWS LETTER

References: A. Email MWO Babcock / CAFL 2009 XMAS News Letter Request dated 04 Nov 09 at 1042 AM.

1. Hello from RC(S) HQ in KAF, there is plenty for me to pass on and I will try to keep within the boundaries set out within Ref A of this message. Lets start on the next paragraph.
2. Here in RC(S) I am a 1 of 1, I have nobody working directly for me but, there are 5 Brit and 5 Dutch Linemen work under my guidance. It's pretty busy for me over here with the planning and coordination of the ever increasing size of the HQ. I work along side Capt Marty Roy, WO Dave Elliott with their 19 Rad-Op's, they are a great support element for the lone Lineman in this unit.
3. Enough said about that stuff, lets talk about the TAV that just left and the one that just arrived. Steph Brisson, Mikey Clarke, Pascal Brisson, Marty Clavet, Adam Rowsell and Sebas Wauthier, done a fantastic job over here and made 1 Line, CFJSR and the trade look extremely good. They showed pride in every project they took on and it made me proud to be a Lineman, (and what I was missing by not having Canadian Linemen here in this HQ) when they took me around to show me their finished product. Billy Neville's crew will have a very large pair of shoes to fill.
4. Before they left, I was over with them and I mentioned that I was looking for some stuff to make a PPE stand, they ran with that and made me a one of a kind PPE stand like nothing else on earth; it has something from different parts of the trade in it, WD1 reel, conduit, the 052 emblem, a zip cord reel and the 1 Line Sqn crest made out of medal. Check out the pictures.



5. The new TAV just got on the ground and it consists of Billy Neville, Rob Smith, James (Sweaty) Saunders, Larry Weekes and Curt Gavin. They are busy with familiarizing themselves with the new tasks and they already got their feet wet on their first project. I know they are up to the task and will probably out do their predecessors.
6. I am headed down under at the end of Nov for my HLTA, Australia here I come; beer, beaches and hopefully some good looking women to keep me occupied while I'm there, whooo ahhhhh.
7. I take on a new responsibility the week, the RSM is leaving early and has no replacement, I take over as Sergeant Major for the Canadians in RC(S) HQ, I've already confronted a few officers about their dress standards, who'd a thought it, me crapping on officers and keeping them in line.



8. Although being over here is a good experience, I'm looking forward to getting back to Canada. As of the time of this message my replacement hasn't been officially named, but I've received a few e-mails. For all the MWO's that haven't been here yet, it ain't that bad, come on, put your name in the hat, you'll like it.

9. Well, enough babbling from me, I'll close out with wishing everybody a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. See ya's all in Feb..... maybe.

On behalf of me, myself and I, Les Henry Sends.

New Waterford's XMAS Tree



Please Note:
CHISTMAS IS CANCELLED

Apparently, YOU told Santa that
you have been GOOD this year ...



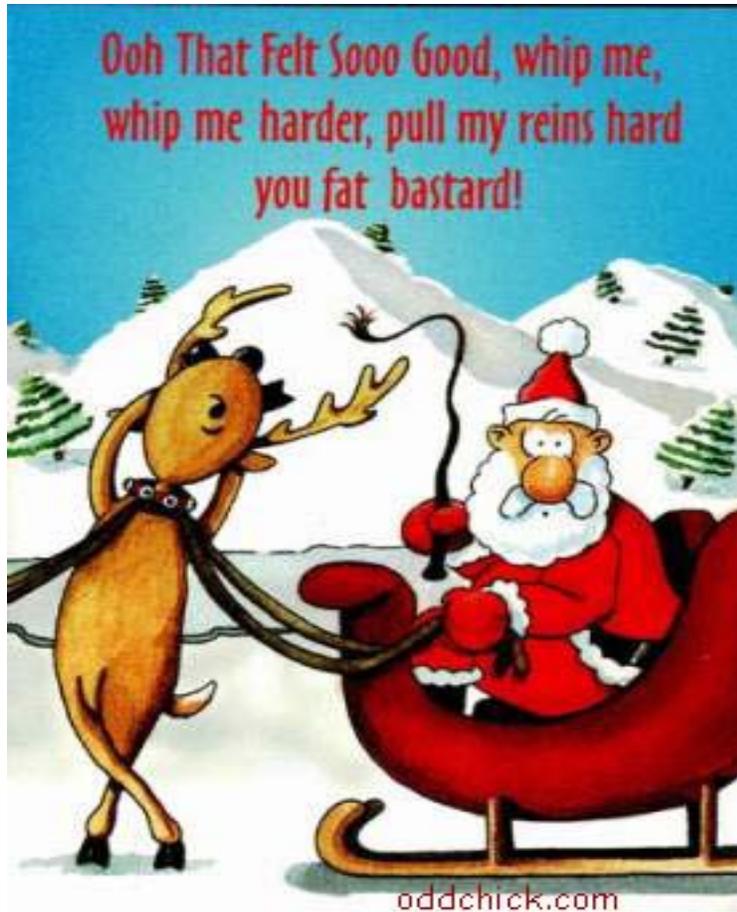
He died laughing





XMAS Funnies





Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl all year,
and the only thing I ask for is
peace and joy in the world for
everybody!
Love,
Sarah



Dear Sarah,

Your parents smoked pot when they had
you, didn't they?

Santa

(The Other Bubble)



XMAS Funnies





CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF
FORCES LINEMEN

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

NEW	
RENEWAL	

Given Name	Nickname	Surname	Rank
Street Address			
City	Province	Postal Code	
email address:			
Telephone : Home	Office		
Training: I completed my Group 1 or Lineman TQ 3 Training			
From:(date)		To: (date)	
Enclosed is a cheque/money order in the amount of \$ To cover membership dues for the period			
1 Apr 20 to 31 Mar 20 .			
Membership dues are \$10.00 per year and the membership year is from 1 April to 31 March.			

Signature:	Date:
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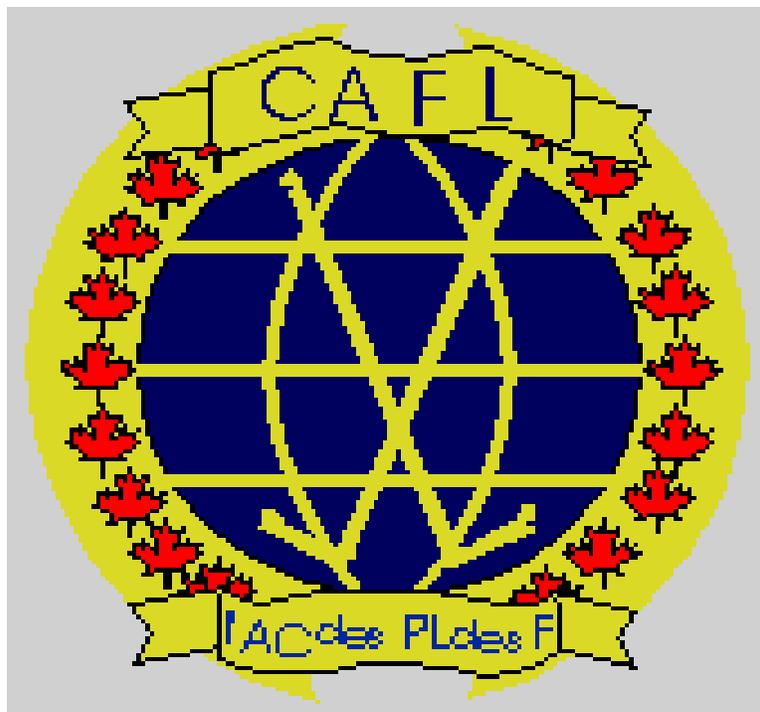
Forward application to: CAFL
Minto Place Postal Outlet
PO Box 56069,
407 Laurier Ave
Ottawa, ON, K1R 7Z1

NOTE: Some members find it convenient to pay for 2 or three years in advance.

CAFL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTIFICATION

**The sixteenth annual general meeting of the CAFL
Will be held at the NAVCAN Training Institute,
1950 Montreal Road, Cornwall, Ontario on Monday
the 22nd of February 2010, commencing at 1900 hours.**

All association members are encouraged to attend.



www.cafl.org

CAFL Family Scholarship



Approved during the sixteenth annual CAFL General Meeting held in Cornwall Ontario on 21 February 2005, the CAFL Family Scholarship was established to provide financial assistance to CAFL member's dependent attending a full time program at a recognized post secondary institution such as University, Community College or Technical Institutes.

The funding of this scholarship will originate from annual membership dues or private donations held and managed by the National CAFL executive. The awarding of the scholarship began in school year 2005- 2006 and will carry on at the wish of the membership and as funds remain available.

Amount:

A single \$300.00 scholarship will be awarded annually during the Annual CAFL meeting held in Cornwall Ontario.

Eligibility

Eligibility to the scholarship will be based on the following criteria:

a. applicant must be a sponsored dependant (child or spouse) of a CAFL member in good standing (paid up);

Note: For clarity, extended family such as nephew, niece and grand children are not to be considered as dependants.

b. must be enrolled and registered in a full time program at a post secondary studies institution for the year of application;

c. must apply, in writing, to the CAFL National Executive Committee **no later then 31 Jan** in the calendar year which schooling starts and include the following information (see attached form):

i. name and particulars of sponsor (CAFL member);

ii. name and particulars of applicant (CAFL member's dependent);

iii. a copy of high school diploma;

iv. a copy of post secondary institution's acceptance letter; and

iv. a copy of registration fee receipt of a post secondary institution.

d. the post secondary institution must provide full time programs which leads to a collegial or university degree;

CAFL Family Scholarship

- e. all eligible applications received by the National CAFL Executive Committee will be entered into a “simple draw from the hat”;
- f. the draw will be held annually during the National Line Tasking Conference “Semi Formal Dinner”; and
- g. the winner will receive the scholarship cheque by mail following the conference.

Duration:

Dependents can apply yearly as long as all criteria are met. Dependent can only be awarded the CAFL Family Scholarship one time.

Accessibility:

Only one application per family per year will be accepted.

Minimum entry:

As voted during the annual CAFL meeting held in Cornwall in February 2007, the scholarship awarding requires a minimum of three (3) nominations / applications from the membership. If the minimum nominations / applications are not received, the awarding of the scholarship will be deferred to the next year.

CAFL Family Scholarship



Application Form

DEPENDENT INFORMATION (STUDENT)		
First Name:		
Name:		
Date of Birth		
Address:		
Telephone Number:		
Secondary school graduated from:		
Secondary school address and phone number:		
Graduation date:		
Post-secondary institution attended:		
Post-secondary full time program attended:		
SPONSOR INFORMATION (CAFL MEMBER)		
First Name:		
Name:		
Address:		
Telephone Number Home:		
Telephone Number Work:		
For The Use OF The CAFL Executive Committee Only		
CAFL Membership paid up?	YES	NO
Application Date: (Refer to Post Mark on Letter)		
Copy of High School Diploma:	YES	NO
Copy of Post Secondary Institution's Acceptance Letter	YES	NO
Copy of post secondary institution's registration fee receipt	YES	NO

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the above information is accurate and complete. In the event that I receive the scholarship, I grant authority to publish my name as the recipient of the scholarship for publicity purposes.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of CAFL Member _____ Date _____

Forward application and supporting documents no later than 31 January of the current year to:
CAFL Family Scholarship, Minto Place Postal Outlet, PO Box 56069, 407 Laurier Ave Ottawa, ON,
K1R 7Z1