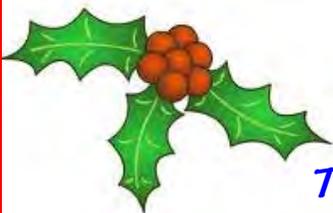




**The Golden Spur  
The Newsletter of the Canadian Association of Forces Linemen  
December 2016**



*Merry Christmas  
And A Very Happy  
New Year  
To All Members and Their Families*





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

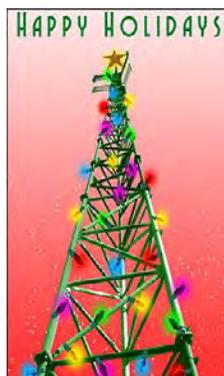
Best wishes, Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all serving and retired Linemen their friends and families and all friends of the Line Trade.

It's been a busy year for the Canadian Association of Forces Linemen and an excellent year for the Line Trade. Without a doubt the biggest news in a generation for the Line Trade is the stand up of 77 Line Regiment. The work for the new Regiment is daunting, everything from, moving supply accounts, funding, vehicles being transferred, and actually getting down to the tasks of cable and antenna construction and maintenance has all members of the new regiment digging in and getting down to work. I'm sure they will rapidly move forward in the tradition of the Line Trade, once again, under a unified Chain of Command for the strategic side of the house. We have included in this addition of the Golden Spur the first two articles from the new 77 Line Regiment newsletter, "The Cable" I'm sure you will enjoy reading them as much as I did.

This year was a great year for the Association with the return of Arnie Murray to the National Executive in the role of Retired Linemen Liaison Officer, Jeff Bulach as our Membership Rep, and Julien Gunville-Vachon as our new web master. All our new National Executive members have done outstanding work and in particular Julien continues to upgrade our website which can be seen at <http://cafl.org/>. A membership drive for our association (led by Arnie and Jeff) has seen many retired members that had lost touch with the association coming back to the fold. In the New Year there will be the reinitiation of the CAFL Membership Card and Pin that should be in the mail shortly after our next Annual General Meeting, (AGM), which will be our 29<sup>th</sup>. The Annual General Meeting will be held in Cornwall On, Feb 06<sup>th</sup> 2017. At this Annual General Meeting we will be holding elections for a few new National Executive members including a new president. I am actually one year over my term in accordance with the constitutional mandate of two years, but was extended by a vote at last year's Annual General Meeting. I would like to thank everyone for their support in my time as President and I am extremely positive the new President with fresh ideas will continue to move the Association into the future.

Enjoy the Christmas season with friends and family and I hope to see many of you in the upcoming year. I thank you all greatly for the contributions to this newsletter the association and the Trade. Good luck and all the best over the holidays and in the upcoming year.

Owen Crabbe  
President  
Canadian Association of Forces Linemen



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**77 LINE REGT 5 LINE SQN DET Greenwood**

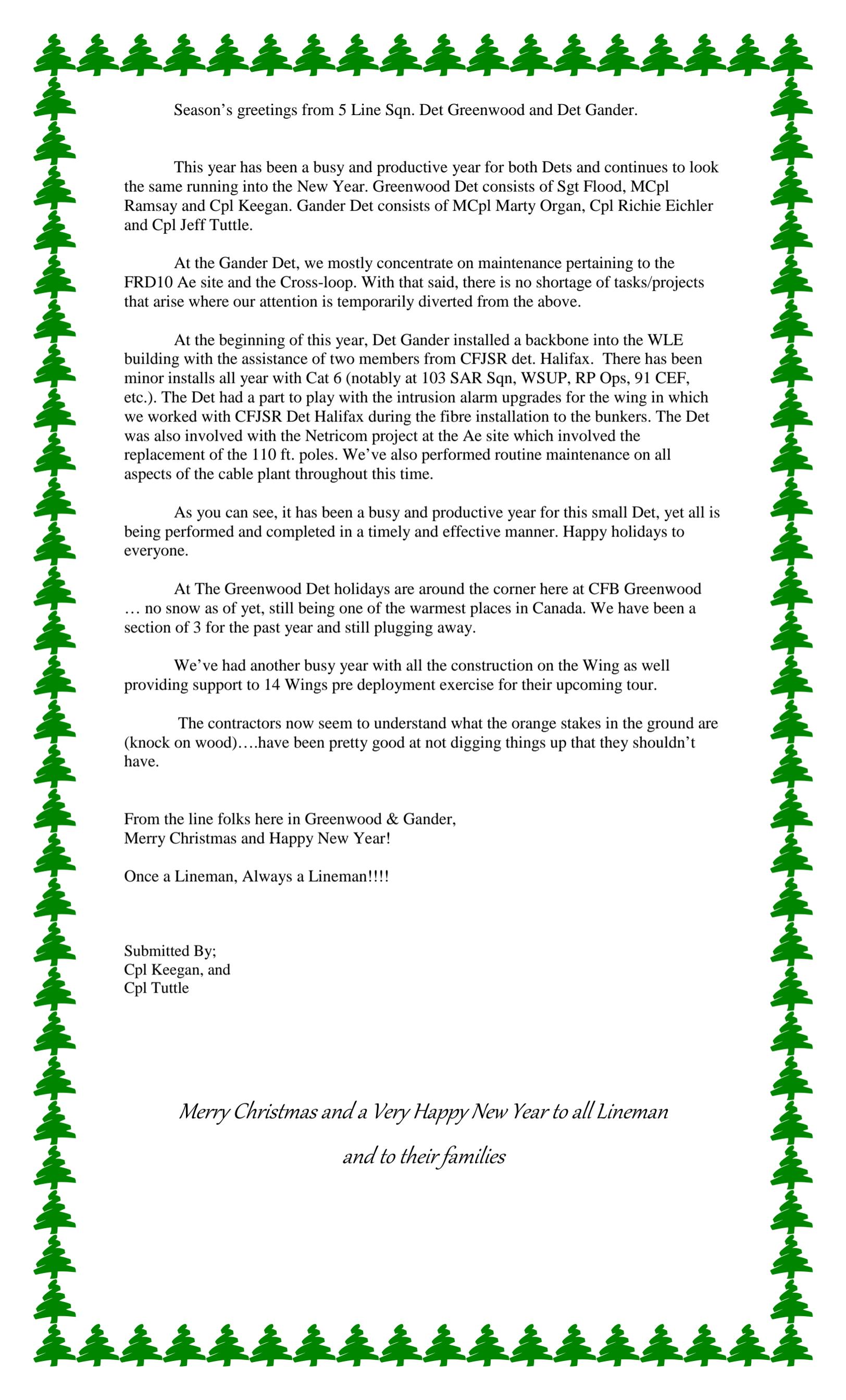


Left to right: Cpl Keegan, MCpl Ramsay, and Sgt Flood.

**77 LINE REGT 5 LINE SQN DET GANDER**



Left to right: Cpl Jeff Tuttle, MCpl Marty Organ and Cpl Richie Eichler



Season's greetings from 5 Line Sqn. Det Greenwood and Det Gander.

This year has been a busy and productive year for both Dets and continues to look the same running into the New Year. Greenwood Det consists of Sgt Flood, MCpl Ramsay and Cpl Keegan. Gander Det consists of MCpl Marty Organ, Cpl Richie Eichler and Cpl Jeff Tuttle.

At the Gander Det, we mostly concentrate on maintenance pertaining to the FRD10 Ae site and the Cross-loop. With that said, there is no shortage of tasks/projects that arise where our attention is temporarily diverted from the above.

At the beginning of this year, Det Gander installed a backbone into the WLE building with the assistance of two members from CFJSR det. Halifax. There has been minor installs all year with Cat 6 (notably at 103 SAR Sqn, WSUP, RP Ops, 91 CEF, etc.). The Det had a part to play with the intrusion alarm upgrades for the wing in which we worked with CFJSR Det Halifax during the fibre installation to the bunkers. The Det was also involved with the Netricom project at the Ae site which involved the replacement of the 110 ft. poles. We've also performed routine maintenance on all aspects of the cable plant throughout this time.

As you can see, it has been a busy and productive year for this small Det, yet all is being performed and completed in a timely and effective manner. Happy holidays to everyone.

At The Greenwood Det holidays are around the corner here at CFB Greenwood ... no snow as of yet, still being one of the warmest places in Canada. We have been a section of 3 for the past year and still plugging away.

We've had another busy year with all the construction on the Wing as well providing support to 14 Wings pre deployment exercise for their upcoming tour.

The contractors now seem to understand what the orange stakes in the ground are (knock on wood)...have been pretty good at not digging things up that they shouldn't have.

From the line folks here in Greenwood & Gander,  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Once a Lineman, Always a Lineman!!!!

Submitted By;  
Cpl Keegan, and  
Cpl Tuttle

*Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year to all Lineman  
and to their families*

## CFJSR DETACHMENT HALIFAX



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from CFJSR Det Halifax / Shearwater. Another year has quickly gone by with an extremely busy work tempo. Projects all over our AOR have kept us on the road and partying hard. We are settling in quite well at our new digs here in Hanger 4 Shearwater with the expected hiccups' along the way. For those of you who know our Storesman, Mr. John Hunt, he is retiring in the New Year. Mr. Hunt has devoted 35 years in support of the CF and 22 years of that has been in direct support to Det Halifax. Mr. Hunt has been a huge asset to the detachment over the years. We can all agree it will not feel the same without him here. From all of us past and present lineman, we thank you for all your hard work and patience.

We have said good bye to some great friends and lineman this year. Cpl McAtamney and Cpl Mackinnon both have been selected to CANSOFCOM and we wish them all the best. Welcoming into the Det we have Cpl Carr, Cpl Beckingham and Pte Cook. Sgt Jackman and Cpl soon to be MCpl Armitage are catching rays by the pool in Kuwait on OP Impact (Dennis be extra generous with the sun screen on Armi's back he burns easy). On a serious note wish you guys all the best being deployed over the holidays. MCpl Isaacs and Cpl Desruisseaux are now back in town after a 7 month tour on OP Impact just in time to enjoy a nice East Coast Winter, great to have you both home safe and for the holidays.

In closing, the years seem to fly by faster and faster year after year. From all of us here at Det Halifax, we hope you are able to take some time over the holiday season to slow things down and enjoy family and friends. Take a moment if you can and send a Merry Christmas to a friend or fellow lineman overseas, cheers everyone and have a safe an happy holiday.

Cpl LaPointe  
Det Halifax.

## **Happy Holidays from 77 Line Regt 5 Line Sqn Det Gagetown**

Season's Greetings from all of us here at 5 Line Sqn Det Gagetown. It has been another exciting year gone by with its multiple challenges and changes. Most notably the stand-up of 77 Line Regt which brought in TE Maint Sect, LCF Sean Silver, and our fearless Det Commander MWO G.O. White (who gets cranky if he doesn't get his sprinkle doughnut!) to join our team.

In the past year the section has seen a few movements, retirements, lots of exercises, new buildings to wire, and a fibre upgrade to the base hospital courtesy of JSR (you know who you are!!).

MCpl Philippe Burney and his wife Natalie packed up and headed north as they were excited to be posted to ASU Yellowknife. We only hope he leaves time for some work between the hunting, fishing and 4 wheeling. Cpl Patrick Cena put on his big boy pants and accepted his CT to the Regular force moving him and his dog to Kingston to join CFJSR.

Newly promoted MCpl Andre Berube went on a 6 month English course leaving Cpls Matt London, Logan Blaquiere and Dan Arbeau, who was recently posted in from 4 GS, to fend for themselves in the training area. Pte "Kraft Dinner" Harvey successfully completed his 1.1 and was posted to 5 Line Sqn. Also posted in this past summer from Winnipeg was Cpl Malcolm Gallant. They joined the ranks of Cpls Jessica Shatford and Mat Parks on the base crew and spend most of their time underground maintaining Gagetown's' steam tunnels (time to come up for some sunlight...they are looking a little pasty!). Cpl Andrew Bordage was brought up from Saint John to assist Cpl Kyle Patriquin with his steady stream of never ending work orders. Cpls Mat Parks and Mitch Savoy managed to bribe the staff at CFSCE and successfully completed their 2.1 to become fully qualified journeymen!

This past year we have unfortunately seen more people move out than in, however the crews are working hard and keeping the boat afloat while Sgt Cory Galbraith and MCpl Randy "Bo-bandy" Finlayson work hard at putting out fires, maintaining a smooth transition from SSU, and trying to keep the "targets off our backs".

Leaving us this year to move on to bigger and better things were MCpl Pat Goral, Cpls Alex Harvey, Mireille Robichaud, and Brian Rimpilainen. We send our best to all and remind them once a lineman always a lineman.

My friends enjoy this holiday season spending time with family and loved ones. Stay safe and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Cpl Matt London



Back row: Mike Patterson, Cpl London, Cpl Gallant, Cpl Arbeau, Cpl Blaquiere, MCpl Finlayson  
Middle row: Cpl Patriquin, Pte Harvey, Cpl Shatford, MCpl Mejia, Cpl Bordage, Cpl Parks  
Front row: Sgt Arpin, MWO White, WO Silver, Sgt Galbraith  
Missing: MCpl Berube, Cpl Savoy



# Les poseurs de lignes du QGET année 2016

Ouf! Nous voilà en fin d'année! Une fois de plus, celle-là a encore été remplie. Afin de vous faire plonger dans cette magnifique année un bilan s'impose :

## Janvier - février 2016

Dès le début de l'année, nos poseurs de lignes de la garnison Valcartier ont démontrés leurs savoir-faire tant au point de vue de la spécialité de poseurs de lignes qu'au niveau de soldat lors de l'exercice Rafale Blanche. Cet exercice se tenait au sein de la garnison dans un environnement hivernal. Les membres de la section des lignes ont dû agir avec beaucoup d'ingéniosité afin d'établir un réseau filaire alors que la température oscillait entre -35°C et -40°C.

## Avril- mai 2016

Nous sommes de nouveau confrontés à deux exercices majeurs : MERCURE DÉROUILLEUR (MD) ET MERCURE ASSURÉ (MA).

Ces deux exercices avaient pour but de valider le plan de contingence et de mobilité du QGET et maintenir les connaissances et expertises acquises durant les exercices passés. Durant ces exercices, les poseurs de lignes ont partagés leurs connaissances avec des agences extérieures comme Bell Canada, la Gendarmerie Royale du Canada et Hydro Québec.

De plus, nos membres ont participé à une campagne de rayonnement dans la région de Saint-Bruno et de Joliette afin de montrer à la population le travail quotidien d'un poseur de lignes, les différents équipements utilisés et surtout de mettre en valeur notre spécialité qui joue un rôle très important au sein des Forces armées canadiennes.

## Mai-juin

Une équipe s'est détachée en Alberta dans la région de Wainwright pour supporter l'exercice Maple Resolve.

Pendant ce temps, plusieurs membres ont été en mesure de suivre leurs formations de poseurs de lignes à l'école de Kingston. Les membres restants à l'unité ont profités de ce moment pour faire du débroussaillage et de l'émondage afin d'entretenir les lignes dans les secteurs de la base.

### Septembre – novembre 2016

Dans le cadre de l'exercice Army Warfighting Assessment (AWA), l'un des plus grands exercices opérationnels de l'armée américaine. Une douzaine de membres de la section des lignes s'est déployée à Fort Bliss au Texas. Encore une fois de plus, ils ont démontrés leurs professionnalismes et leur savoir-faire dans un environnement multinational.

De la part de l'équipe de poseurs de lignes du QGET, nous souhaitons à tous un bon temps des fêtes et une bonne année 2017. Profitez-en pour passer du temps de qualité en famille et entre amis.



## 2 LINE SQN DET OTTAWA

### Recapitulation of the events of the year

We remain a small but proficient Det at Uplands after the transition from SSU (C) to 7 Comm Grp, 77 Line Regt, 2 line Sqn. Our main job consisting of daily maintenance and DIMEUS produced projects in the NCR. From fixing or installing either phone, data lines or fibre optic cables the goal is always the same, to keep our systems for priority clients operational while facing the many challenges and surprises the NCR has to offer, we do not shy away from them.

With an average of 90 yearly projects and well over 100 buildings in the NCR, we have also shifted our routine to encompass the new reemphasis on maintenance. One of the first tasks was the removal and installation of several antenna at NDHQ to comply with EMSEC requirements and add a much needed capability for the SEARS proj. We also replaced a few lighting kits with the assistance of 2Lt Youssef from RHQ, who tagged along with our crews for a week, learning just how much work a Line Sect manages and acquiring a greater appreciation for the trade.



NCR from NDHQ rooftop

We also began the tedious but necessary building audits at Startup and other locations, concentrating our efforts on post Carling Campus buildings to remain DND occupied with the clean-up of our TR's, correcting discrepancies in our cable records and updating building drawing files. We are somewhat eager to finally see occupancy at "Pentagon North" and the reduction in our travel time within our AOR and the many obstacles in maintaining services in so many locations.

This year saw Cpl Justin Raycraft retiring from service after 17 years of both Reg and Res time, travelling to Regina (RCMP Trg Depot) to fulfill a lifelong ambition. We wish him the best of luck and happiness in his new career. Also leaving the Hgr this past year were MWO Mike Walsh, relocated nearby to the Cumberland building in Ottawa as 77 Line Regt Ops WO and WO Mike Barrington who relocated to an RSS position in Regina with 38 Signals Regt, who finally after twelve years of long weekend drives had the chance to move into his own house with his fiancé and is actually looking forward to clearing the snow from his own driveway.

Yes, we can say we've had a busy year yet again and undoubtedly it will be as intense next year with new challenges, we look forward to another productive year after a well-earned leave period to recoup. From our shop to your shop we wish Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Happy Holidays, or Happy Festivus and stamina during the feats of strength challenge to you all. To all our Line brothers and sisters, military and civilian, best wishes during the holiday season.

*Cpl François Paquette  
2 Line Sqn Det Ottawa*

## 2 LINE SQN DET MONTREAL/ST-JEAN

Line section Saint-Jean and line section Montreal work closely together, Cpl Jean-Paul Marta CD is now part of the Saint-Jean's line section. He had to let go of the door frame and leave Montreal. So a lot of work for a reduced crew. Yes! We are doing miracles. Jokes aside, for the Montreal line section crew: we have MCpl Daniel Ward, who still looks like he's a young 20 year old with his shiny gelled Faux Hawk haircut; Cpl Jason Hervieux, who is a happy father of a new baby girl named Mila. We have the chance to work with M. Robert Lepage CD, Warrant Officer Bob like we call him. Bob took his retirement from the army a few years ago, but the army never left him. For the Saint-Jean line section crew: we have MCpl Nicholas Girard CD who is on his ACISS 3B.1 course, Cpl Donald Mathurin who will soon know the enjoyments of a PLQ-L course. We wish them the best of luck and I am positively sure they'll find a way to enjoy themselves like trough Linemen! Last but not the least, Sgt Jean-François Comeau CD, who's keeping both line detachments in a straight line. If he's interfering with our work, we just give him a mirror and he's entertained for hours!



*Détachement Mtl/St-Jean*

*MERRY CHRISTMAS / HAPPY HOLIDAYS!*



## 2 LINE SQN DET VALCARTIER

2016, aura été une année particulièrement mouvementée avec la fin de USP et la création du 77e Régiment des lignes qui, nous le croyons, augmentera le sentiment d'appartenance à notre métier.

Une année de changement à Valcartier qui mérite de rendre un hommage à ceux qui quittent les FAC, pour une secondaire carrière au civil ou un nouvel emploi au sein de SP

Le Cplc Lebel retourne à l'école pour préparer sa seconde carrière comme estimateur en bâtiment. Il aura été un chef exemplaire, respecté de tous pour ses connaissances et son professionnalisme. Tout le monde se souviendra de son standard élevé en matière d'identification (des kilomètres de ruban autocollant ont été utilisés). Le Cpl Careau-Hamel nous quitte après 13 années de service. Premièrement, il prendra un congé parental pour s'occuper de son nouveau garçon Justin, par la suite il débutera son stage comme frigoriste. Le Cpl Careau-Hamel s'est grandement démarqué par son professionnalisme et son dévouement. Il a apporté beaucoup à la section, tel que la création d'une base de données (CMDDB) détaillée de la base de Valcartier, qui peut-être, dans un avenir rapproché sera utilisée par toutes les sections du régiment. M. Régis Pilote a accepté une offre d'emploi avec SPC en tant que EL-5 à Valcartier. Durant ces années passées à la section, il a été un pilier important et a agi en tant que mentor pour plusieurs soldats et caporaux. Nombreux militaires ont eu la chance de profiter de son expérience. Patient avec chacun, il est de ceux dont on se souviendra toujours.



Autre que les départs, la section des lignes a effectué une grande maintenance dans les secteurs d'entraînement, supporté la brigade dans leurs nombreux exercices, effectué bon nombre de demandes de réparation et d'ajout de câble intérieur et plusieurs projets. Tel que, le projet DNS 14002 pour le nouveau centre Castor. Ce tout nouveau bâtiment a été un beau défi, tant sur la planification qu'une bonne gestion coopérative entre civile et militaire. Tous les membres ont augmenté leurs connaissances grâce à la diversité du projet. Construction Défense Canada (CDC) nous ont donné bon nombre de maux de tête avec leurs grands nombres de projets de démolition et rénovation de bât, mais la réfection de la moitié du système d'aqueduc sur la base a apporté grand nombre de bris de câble. La cerise sur le Sundae est sans aucun doute la prise de contrôle du Centre de recherche de Valcartier (CRDV) où les standards des années 70 et 2016 se côtoient régulièrement. L'année 2017 s'annonce intéressante!

*Détachement Valcartier  
Joyeux temps des fêtes*

## 2 LINE SQN DET BAGOTVILLE



L'année 2016 fut une année assez mouvementée pour notre section avec la création du 77<sup>e</sup> Régiment des Lignes / 2<sup>e</sup> Esc des Lignes, le départ du Cplc Larouche au 5e GBMC et l'ADJ Poirier au RITFC et de nos nouveaux venus dont le Sgt Morneau et le Cpl Plourde-Larouche. Nous avons reçu beaucoup de permis de creusage et avons fait la maintenance de plusieurs salles de communication partout sur la base.

Le Cpl Plourde-Larouche, Sgt Morneau ainsi que Le Cpl Gibson du détachement de Valcartier, ont dû se rendre au Forward Operating Location (FOL) Iqaluit, Nunavut pour deux semaines pour travailler sur une visite de maintenance qu'ils ont remplis avec professionnalisme. Nous allons reprendre nos activités et travaux de maintenance à notre retour de vacances des fêtes au mois de janvier 2017. Malgré tous les changements que nous avons eu et les défis que nous avons accomplis tout au long de l'année je crois qu'on a eu une très belle année 2016.

Nous, membres du 2<sup>e</sup> escadron des lignes détachement Bagotville, souhaitons à tous les autres poseurs de lignes des Forces Armées Canadiennes ainsi qu'à leurs familles un très joyeux Noël et une très belle et heureuse année 2017.

*Sgt Morneau, Cplc Deschamps, Cpl Plourde-Larouche, Cpl Dion*

Once a Lineman, always a lineman



## 2 LINE SQN HQ

As with most things at any HQ level, life at 2 Line Sqn SHQ has been circular in nature. Although this type of movement doesn't usually lead to productivity and sanity, 2 Line SHQ has been making some sense out of it all.

We have been training and organizing our procedures to better assist the members of the Sqn. We have had many members on courses at CFSCE in Kingston, all with great success. With one round of Line refresher training, IBTS, force generation, and an ARV completed we are settling into the fall/winter seasons with our sights securely focused on the New Year. As most are looking forward to holidays, SHQ keeps its shoulder to the grind stone to ensure that we have the best possible round two training in the upcoming month and practice makes for perfection.

We have welcomed new members and said goodbye to some as well. With WO Thibault out the door on Op IMPACT, and the training of 3 other members for the same deployment, the continuation of change persists.

*Sgt C. Dupree*  
*2 Line Sqn Trg Cell*



*All of us here at 2 Line Sqn wish all a happy and safe holiday  
Charge the HUB and spend the time with family and friends*



## **CFJSR Det Petawawa** **“The Det of Choice”**

It's been another stellar year for CFJSR Det Pet on and off the road, there's been minimal time to slow down and take it all in. The demanding work schedule saw deployments all over Ontario, Quebec, to the far outreaches of Northern Canada and internationally. 2016 was a year unlike any other in the sense that it was non-stop projects, tasking, deployments, and training. That being said, we extended our responsibilities frequently, transforming from a 2<sup>nd</sup> line crew to a 3<sup>rd</sup> line crew, taking as much work as we can away from Kingston, haha. We were reduced to one crew for most of the year which added extra responsibilities to our daily routine, but we managed. Whether it was conducting inside or outside cable plant installations for SSC, 2<sup>nd</sup> line pole line repair in the Petawawa/Broden trg area, supporting operations to the North, or the “sandbox”, Det Petawawa had mbrs that were deployed most of the time.

Cpl's Lamoureux and Closs deployed and returned to Kuwait just in time for Thanksgiving. Cpl Pattinson had deployed to Haines Junction as a part of the annual Op NANOOK line surge team from August to Mid Sept. Finally Cpl Viau was part of OP MANHOE, sunny Jamaica in August. The rest of the Det project destinations included: Bagotville, Valcartier, North Bay, Kingston, Trenton, Ottawa, Leitrim, Borden, and Meaford. These projects ranged from 2<sup>nd</sup> line maintenance of outside cable plants, towers/antenna systems to new ISP/OSP copper, fibre optic installations.

To add to an already busy schedule, the Det made time to send members on numerous courses in order to upgrade their knowledge throughout the year. Early in the first quarter MCpl Hardy headed to CFSCE, where he successfully completed his 3.0. Shortly after being posted to the Det in July, Cpl Burton accompanied MCpl Hardy to meet the worlds grounding Guru Mr. Ken Michaels during a week long Bonding and Grounding crse in Kingston. Sgt McQuay had deployed in the early fall to CFB Kingston where she successfully completed the Complex Antenna System Maintainer/Installer Course (CASMIC). MCpl Crane deployed to sunny, hot Kuwait as part of Op IMPACT for the next 6 months and will return home early 2017.

This year the Det lost a couple members with valuable experience but we gained some new faces. Amongst the departing members was Cpl John Gagnon who left to pass on his experience and knowledge, to hone his field craft at 1RCR. MWO Mike Taylor returned to Edmonton and the new 77 Line regiment as 3 Sqn LCS. The Det welcomed some new faces: Cpl Josh Burton was posted in from 2 RCHA and WO Brian Beaton was welcomed from CANSOFCOM. A special congratulation goes out to Cpl Fraize and family with the youngest lineman addition of a healthy baby girl, Ms. Anna Fraize.

CFJSR Det Pet would like to wish all of the other linemen a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. This year has been an excellent example of how the Det can maintain a strong work ethic in an extremely fast paced environment. Although all members would love to keep working, we are looking forward to a much needed break and excited to spend quality time with family and friends over the holidays.



Submitted by MCpl Jamie Hardy  
CFJSR Det Petawawa  
"The Det of Choice"



## **2 HQ and Sig Line section Petawawa**

It's that time of year again with 2016 about to wrap up and the line section of 2 Sigs being extremely busy throughout the year. From operating at -50c in Pickle Lake to +50c in California or the multi season weather of CFB Wainwright, we have been able to make it through all the exercise's by working as a team, joking, drinking (always at the end of course), and getting the job done.

The faces in the section have changed, with the departure of Sgt Snook and MCpl Desjardins being replaced by Sgt Hunter, MCpl Laframboise and MCpl Mullins. These changes in personnel introduced new work procedures, organised our messy bays, and brought new stories and experiences as well. MWO Perry left his position at 2 Sig's to the newly promoted MWO Pelletier. We had a quite few other postings within the Bde; Cpl Lainey went to CFSCE Kingston where she will be enjoying time at the school I am sure, MCpl Clavet from Comox to 2RCHA, Cpl Monnin moved from 2 Svc to 3RCR, Cpl Spence 3RCR to 77 Line Regt to Base Line Sect Petawawa, Cpl Burton from 2RCHA to CFJSR Det Petawawa, Cpl Beckingham from 1RCR to CFJSR Det Halifax, Cpl Gagnon from CFJSR Det Petawawa to 1 RCR, Cpl Morris from 2 Sigs to CSOR, Cpl Vanegas from 2 Sigs to 2RCHA and Cpl Cahill released from the CF. We gained Cpl Teahen from CFSCE, Pte Haydari, Pte Guergis, Pte McNair and Pte Ells.

With so many Cpls gone on course and the shop heavy on the Pte side, the section, at times, has been chaos but all job's were completed to WO Mullet's standard who was also posted here this year as the Bde LCF. As we move towards the road to high readiness, the line section learned how to work together, share the knowledge and most importantly have fun doing it.

On behalf of the 2 HQ and Sig Line section Petawawa and myself, Merry Christmas to all of you and your family.

Cpl Belanger Landry









### 1 LINE SQN

With the holidays quickly approaching, CFJSR 1 Line Sqn again is going to end this year with a successful finish. Over the year, 1 Line Sqn and its regional Det's (Petawawa, Edmonton and Halifax) have participated and conducted multiple domestic Ops and overseas deployments, such as:

OP Calumet, Egypt; EX Rimpac, Hawaii; EX UFG, South Korea; OP Impact, Iraq; OP Nanook, Whitehorse; OP Steadfast Cobalt, Romania; EX Hermes Warrior, Kingston.



CFJSR 1 Line Sqn has had a very busy year doing many Ops and Ex's, and that's not to mention the many cable and tower projects the unit has completed in 2016. Here are a few places JSR has been:

TOWER PROJECTS: CFS Alert, NU; Great Village, N.S.; Matsqui, B.C.; Comox, B.C.; Esquimalt, B.C.; Kingston, ON

CABLE PROJECTS: Valcartier, QC; Toronto, ON; Goose bay, NL; Borden, ON; Kingston, ON; Trenton, ON

During 2016, 1 Line has had to say goodbye to some great lineman due to summer postings, retirements, and others who decided to ply their trade on the civilian side. We have also welcomed many good lineman into the fold. Over the next year we expect to have many good times as new friendships are made.

There also has been a number of births in the JSR family which has added to the line family. After such a busy year for all, spouses included, it is the time of year we all get to kick back and relax with our loved ones. Enjoy it now, because 2017 is sure to be busier. To all lineman everywhere, the ones at the mothership, the ones at the det's, the ones at the field units, even the ones not in anymore,

1 Line Sqn wishes you a happy holidays. Lineman forever.

Cpl Stencell



**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**  
**From**  
**4 Line Sqn HQ Petawawa**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all, from Maj George (OC 4 Line), MWO Hewitt (SSM) and all members of 4 Line Squadron. It has been another busy year, especially with the creation of 77 Line Regiment; there were a few challenges at first but everything worked out better than expected.

Myself (WO Steph Hache) and MWO Bill Hewitt are settling in nicely into our little Oasis or trailer in the parking lot of Bldg S-111, can't wait for the weather to hit -25 and wait for all of the water pipes to start freezing Lol....Anyway we are looking forward to the new year and all of the challenges it will bring, should be a great year for 77 Line Regiment.

On behalf of the 4 line Sqn, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all serving and retired Linemen and their families a very Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the holiday season.



**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**  
**From**  
**4 Line Sqn. Det. North Bay**

This year brought a lot of changes to the trade with the stand-up of 77 Line Regt. Becoming part of 77 Line Regiment, as 4 Line Sqn it has been a great achievement. A lot of changes have happened since last year and much has been accomplished.

Our new line shop is coming along with more renovations and hopefully we will be able to start moving in after the New Year. We also celebrated the grand re-opening of the new North Bay Military Family Resource Centre. With the 77 Line Regiment, there will be nothing but positive change for 22 Wing.

We have finally been able to get some actual maintenance completed on the base. There is more to be done but slowly moving in the right direction. We wish everyone a Happy Holidays, and all the best in the New Year.



**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**  
**From**  
**4 Line Sqn. Det. Trenton**

As the Christmas season rolls in on us we reflect on another year gone by. This past year, we were delivered into the hands of Lieutenant-Colonel Gillingham and 77 Line Regiment on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2016. While it may take some time to adjust to the new procurement methods and admin procedures, I for one am very happy now that the hand-cuffs are off and the Linemen here can get back to operating to our full capacity and not hampered by an in/out of scope matrix and peoples interpretations of it.

We've been further hampered by the loss of another member. Cpl Regnier has decided to throw in the towel and see what civilian life has in store for him. He was grumbling about being too old for this as he headed for the door; Best of luck to you Alain.

Despite being down to a crew of four we still stubbornly manage to push and plod ahead. Having done 1st line maintenance at the Trenton AORs receive site, Carrying place, we placed the transmit site on the backburner till next year and settled indoors with MTR-TC maintenance. Not before installing and splicing a new cable for the new ASR here.

We still have one SSC person working diligently alongside us here in Trenton; Bob Hupman looks after (move, add, changes) now called "MACS" around here and submits project requirements to GCS for contracting. He is an immense help even if he does have a terrible sense of humor and a grumpy disposition.

Hopefully in the New Year Santa will bring us some assistance in the form of civilian positions for Trenton. Not sure we stayed on the "Nice" list all year though so time will tell...

To all our brothers and sisters spread out across the beautiful country of ours; Cpls King and Marshall, MCpl Blaquiere and I (Sgt Slaney) wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Merry Kwanzaa, Season's Greetings and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

"THROUGH"



**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
From  
4 Line Sqn. Det. Kingston**



It's has been a great year here at 4 Line Squadron, Det Kingston. After the big change this year with the stand-up of 77 Line Regt, things have been moving in a good way with lots of new adventures and work to be done.

Sgt Ottenhiemer is firmly in control of the Det and running things from the Command center here at MD 29. Keeping the troops full of work and rolling every day, while working with SSC and CFB Petawawa CoC. MCpl St-Louis is right by his side advising, planning and ensuring that work is being done and on time. Cpl McDonald, who was posted in from 1 Line

sqn is fitting in quite well and remains as busy as ever. Cpl Reese has just retired and living the civilian life, enjoying a new career in the IT field while attending college in the London area. Congrats to now Mr. Neil Reese.

During the last year, we have been very busy keeping up with dig locates installs and completing 1st line maintenance. New buildings are popping up all over base including ILS, Peace Support Training Center, and other secret on-goings. We also had a few of the boys from 1 Line Sqn come on over to help fill some gaps with our MTR and TR inspections (Cpl Lyman, Cpl St-Arneault and Cpl Snook), in the absence of MCpl St-Louis, who is on his 3B.1 over at

CFSCE



Their help and knowledge was a great asset to the shop and helped us speed along our work here. While they were here, we had a few poles in the training area thunder-in, all of us together made quick work of that and installed new poles and got the

communications up and running again with minimal interruption to services. Yes, it looks like the future of the base line crew is going to be busy, with no let-up as we continue the great work. It's good that we get a little break to spend some time with family and friends for the holidays, so from all of us at CFB Kingston's Line Crew; Johnny, Marty and Eric we want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**  
**From**  
**4 Line Sqn. Det. Petawawa**

2016 was a year of transition for the Detachment. With the change of command from a Shared Services unit to 4 Line Sqn, the atmosphere and working environment has become even better than before. We were able to say a joyous farewell to recently commissioned Lt Darcy Brooks and Cpl Peter Goes, wishing them best of luck in their future endeavors. Unfortunately, they were not able to see the new focus and direction the detachment was taking.

With the 1st line maintenance tasks being brought forward and managed by the new additions of Sgt's Cory Daly and Sgt Paul Senechal, along with Cpl Jen Spence, 120 maintenance hole inspections have been completed to date. With the weather changing and the tasks shifting to indoor assignments, MCpl Simon Leblanc has taken the lead on the Garrison-wide MTR/TR inspections. This task has been driven from Ottawa to ensure the Petawawa will be the first base ready to roll out the VOIP telephony network. Sgt Shawn Keenan, Cpl Jason Kells and Mr. Dave Shillington are on board to ensure that a first rate product will be completed and that Petawawa, as always, will set the standard for other bases to follow. In closing, this message wouldn't be complete without an honorable mention of Sgt Taylor. As the Base LCF, he thinks that the most important thing to do is to accept any task that will get him back to Kingston with his family (he's currently teaching the LST 3B.1 as we speak). Happy Holidays from the entire Detachment of 4 Line Sqn Det Petawawa. Sgt Taylor M.D. sends."



**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
From  
4 Line Sqn. Det. Borden**



Well it's that time of year again when we mention what have been happening at CFB Borden over the past year. Like every year, we have had several changes in the shop with saying goodbye to old friends and welcoming new friends into the unit. Starting with Cpl Nick Benner, who was lucky enough to get posted out West, while Cpl Brian Rimpailainen was posted to CFB Gagetown and Cpl Valerie De Moss decided to take another direction and went back to school to become a nurse. In February 2017, MCpl Christopher Hancock will be leaving us after 20yrs of loyal and dedicated service to the CAF and the Line Trade. The new members that joined our team last APS have made a seamless transition and they are Cpl Shawn Page from HQ & sig Petawawa and Cpl Vivian Parker who came to us from CFJSR Kingston.

We have our Det divided into three sections; line, telephony and Network Svc. Line & TE sections are supervised by Sgt Horwood and are responsible to look after MAC's, cable network maintenance, and network programming. Project design was placed in the trusted hands of Sgt Letendre, who also coordinates all cabling requirement thru GCS and RP Ops. Sgt Leclaire network supervisor and his team, comprised of MCpl Keagan, M. Nelson Papel and M. Eric Claveau, work for Shared Services Canada and are the first point of contact for TIS IT requirements.

Finally, Capt Dolsen and WO Boucher are ensuring that everyone is working together for the greater good of 77 Line Regiment, while providing CFB Borden with unwavering support as the base continues to grow and expand.

Best Wishes to all.

## 3 Line Sqn Det Winnipeg

Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays from 3 Line Sqn. Det. Winnipeg. The shop here is under new leadership since the last time this letter was sent out and that new leader is the capable Sgt Young from CFB Shilo who arrived in July. Unfortunately we lost the steady hand of Cpl Gallant to a posting in Gagetown in May and we wish him all the best on his new adventure in New Brunswick. Attempting to fill his spot will be young Pte Lee-Jordan who returned from his DP 1.1 in early June. MCpl Larsen is still here and his knowledge of the base, its issues and how to solve them have played a key role in our ability to do our job. Brad Silliker is still filling the draftsman position and is making life easier for everyone here at the shop.

The tasks and projects on the Wing are numerous but we are completing many assignments including the maintenance of every manhole on base. Our next project is Closet Inspections across the entire Wing which has generally led to a lot of bonding and grounding issues. There seems to be a lot of construction going on around the Wing right now so we have had quite a few locates to do. With everyone in the shop and on the Wing working hard we hope to have more than what's expected accomplished. Have a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year from the Linemen and Draftsman here at 17 Wing.



MCpl Larsen, Sgt Young, Pte Lee-Jordan, missing Brad Silliker.



3 Line Squadron, 77 Line Regiment  
CFB Shilo

Another year has passed in CFB Shilo, and many, many changes came with it. Not only an almost complete turnover in people but a whole new name!

The mighty Troy Polack left Shilo for the beautiful Comox BC. He seemed quite happy when he was leaving as he ran to his car! Eddie Smith walked across the road to his new home at the Guns, sometimes the leaf isn't as great as it sounds! Yannik Perras-Salois also got to leave beautiful Shilo as he took over as the LMF of Dundurn, he seems to like the prairies.

Scottie Rideough got to take over CFB Shilo this summer, travelling from CFSCE to the flatlands and inheriting the base of Picklies and Herbies from Troy. Mike Buckley, fresh off being trained at CFSCE joins Scottie in making sure Manitoba doesn't collapse.

The next year seems to be upon us, and with it comes more maintenance, more time in the field helping the other 3 Lineman on base and more projects on the horizon from the Good Idea Fairies that have been trapped on the base for far too long. Hopefully some guys from CFJSR will come visit if a project comes up...we are very lonely!

Through!  
Sgt Scottie Rideough  
3 Line Squadron, 77 Line Regiment  
CFB Shilo



# 3 Line Sqn Det Dundurn

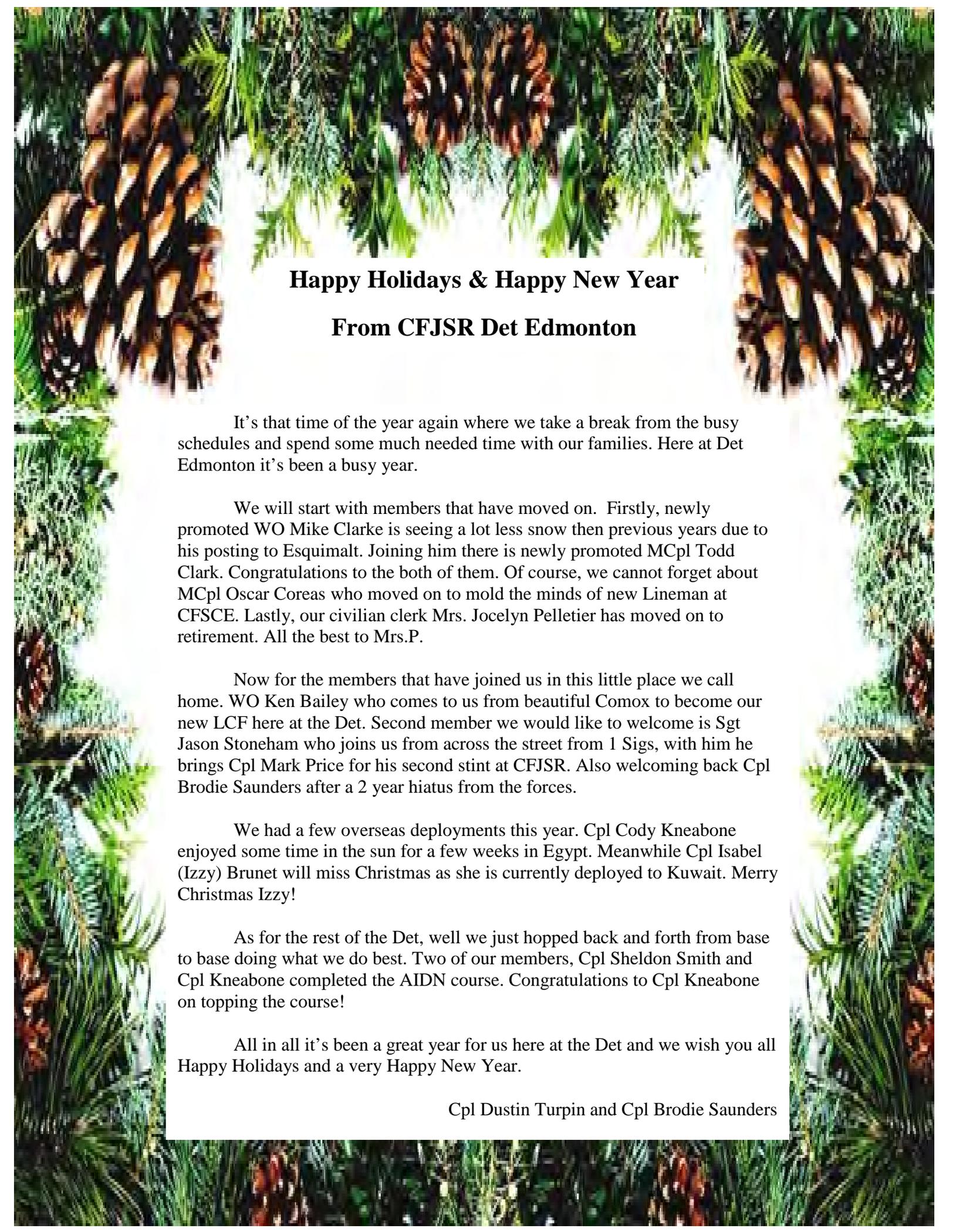


Good day to all the working elves,

Here in the beautiful land of Dundurn, we are keeping our time occupied by doing our first line maintenance and inspections. We are also keeping our customers, comprised of 17 Wing Winnipeg Det Dundurn, CFAD and Saskatchewan Armouries personnel all satisfied by responding to work orders in a timely fashion.

From MCpl Perras-Salois and Cpl Fullwood, we would like to take opportunity to wish you all a happy holidays and the very best for 2017.





**Happy Holidays & Happy New Year**  
**From CFJSR Det Edmonton**

It's that time of the year again where we take a break from the busy schedules and spend some much needed time with our families. Here at Det Edmonton it's been a busy year.

We will start with members that have moved on. Firstly, newly promoted WO Mike Clarke is seeing a lot less snow than previous years due to his posting to Esquimalt. Joining him there is newly promoted MCpl Todd Clark. Congratulations to the both of them. Of course, we cannot forget about MCpl Oscar Coreas who moved on to mold the minds of new Lineman at CFSCE. Lastly, our civilian clerk Mrs. Jocelyn Pelletier has moved on to retirement. All the best to Mrs.P.

Now for the members that have joined us in this little place we call home. WO Ken Bailey who comes to us from beautiful Comox to become our new LCF here at the Det. Second member we would like to welcome is Sgt Jason Stoneham who joins us from across the street from 1 Sigs, with him he brings Cpl Mark Price for his second stint at CFJSR. Also welcoming back Cpl Brodie Saunders after a 2 year hiatus from the forces.

We had a few overseas deployments this year. Cpl Cody Kneabone enjoyed some time in the sun for a few weeks in Egypt. Meanwhile Cpl Isabel (Izzy) Brunet will miss Christmas as she is currently deployed to Kuwait. Merry Christmas Izzy!

As for the rest of the Det, well we just hopped back and forth from base to base doing what we do best. Two of our members, Cpl Sheldon Smith and Cpl Kneabone completed the AIDN course. Congratulations to Cpl Kneabone on topping the course!

All in all it's been a great year for us here at the Det and we wish you all Happy Holidays and a very Happy New Year.

Cpl Dustin Turpin and Cpl Brodie Saunders

## **Season's greetings from 3 Line Sqn Det Wainwright**

It has been another busy year for the Line Section as we have had many changes to the cable plant including new installs, demolitions, MAC's and even renovations. We were also kept busy providing support to EX MAPLE RESOLVE 1601 and other exercises throughout the year. We have had a few changes to our shop with the amalgamation of pers into the Line Regiment; these changes were received with open arms. Leading the charge for the Det is Sgt Curtis Schneikart as the LMF, his 2 I/C MCpl Dave Harrison is acting as the store man for the section as Roger Jenkins 3 CDSG Sig Sqn Storeman was relocated once the amalgamation was completed. Also employed in the Det are MCpl Fred White, Cpl Wayne Davis, Cpl Wayne Donovan, and Cpl Ashley White.

As a Det, we have supported other areas such as CFB Shilo when Cpl Donovan was sent to be a temporary supervisor while members of their shop were on tasking's, and MCpl Harrison and Cpl Davis went to Resolute Bay to assist with the SEARS installation. Throughout the steady work tempo we also participated in valuable training throughout the year notably the high angle rescue, confined space, and copper/fiber training which took place in Edmonton over a one week period. Four members from the Det joined other members from various Det's throughout 3 Line Sqn for this invaluable training which was organized by 3 Line Sqn in Edmonton.

Things are slowly winding down, as Christmas leave draws closer we just want to say Merry Christmas to all Members of the 77 Line Regiment and their families. We hope you have a holiday full of happiness and cheer, and take full advantage of this time and enjoy with family and friends. To those who are deployed and cannot be with your families we are thinking of you, stay safe.

All the best to everyone this Holiday Season, see you in 2017.

Left to Right:

MCpl Harrison, Cpl Davis, Cpl White, Sgt Schneikart, MCpl White, Cpl Donovan.



Written by Cpl Donovan on behalf of 3 Line Sqn Det WX

## Season's Greetings from Alberta, Western Chapter, CAFL

Another year has passed and we all met in Spruce Groove, Alberta at the ranch of our camp out friend, Blaine. All the same bunch showed up with friends and families on Friday for our meet and greet. Saturday, our annual games tournament started in the afternoon which this year the competition was more challenging since the children, now older, were participating. Tim Brown and Tim Stevens and family came for a visit in the afternoon and enjoyed interacting with the boys (old).

This year we had ribeye steak supper with all trimmings and a Sunday morning brunch, all cooked by the retired linemen and prepared by their spouses. After breakfast and cleaned up completed, we did the games presentation for the winners and had our annual meeting.



From left to right; Gary Welch, Gord Heaton, Don McNair, Les Berkness "BJ", Moe Morin and William Escott "Bill"

Next year the annual camp out will be in Wainwright Alberta at Arm Lake. A group site is already booked with four power/water stall, playground, shelter, horse shoes pit and wood. If you are interested, mark your calendar for the 18-20 Aug 2017 and join us for some refreshment and supper. For more information you may contact Moe Morin at [moemorin52@gmail.com](mailto:moemorin52@gmail.com) or 780-261-0073.

Western Chapter wishes you all Merry X-mas and a Happy New Year.



# 3 Line Sqn Det Cold Lake

With our team here in Cold Lake including Sgt Eugene Korosi (Mean Gene), MCpl Pascal Brisson just returning back from OP IMPACT in June, Cpl Rob Trylinski (Turtle) and Cpl Clifford Maynard (Reggie), we have been keeping very busy with numerous upgrades on the Wing, as well as maintaining and repairing. We have provided and still continue to provide assistance to JSR Det Edmonton each time they make the long drive to Cold Lake. Besides the normal locates, manhole maintenance, aerial splices, new installs and tear downs, we have also had to deal with several emergencies over the past six months.

This seemed to be the year of disasters. It started with a plane crash during the Cold Lake air show, Mr. Evens, who passed away, was flying a T-28 Trojan when something terrible happened, he managed to miss 4 buildings and crash between them. **(Our deepest condolences from the section to the pilot's family)** During the removal of the wreckage it was discovered that a duct bank containing fiber and copper was damaged feeding the PAR dome, which got repaired during the site clean-up.

*On the right: The site of the accident on 4 Wing Airfield just before we started our repairs.  
In Picture: MCpl Brisson and Cpl Trylinski.*



Next up was a dump truck in the PLER training area had his dump raised up and tore down a cable road crossing, knocking out all comm systems in the back of the training area. This job needed 5 bays of cabling replaced and two aerial splices added.

Following that, a contractor working on a utility upgrade cut into a conduit bank providing services to the Wing's heating plant, knocking down their services. Two weeks after this was repaired they once again hit another conduit bank with a back hoe only 25 ft away from the one we had just repaired. They cut 4 different fibers feeding 4 different building and the camera system to the affected portion of the Wing. With the help of 1 CMBG and WTIS OJTs we replaced and terminated over 3000m of fiber over a 3 day period and had all services restored. Thanks go out to Cpls: Leamon, Hatungimana, Hauck, and O'Halloran from 1 CMBG HQ and Sigs for driving from Edmonton with half a days' notice to assist us with the repair.

The Section has also taken part in some of the Wing's major venues, projects and exercises, such as setting up for EX MAPLE FLAG which required the section weeks before the EX to install all communication needs to all guest nations. Next was the setup of the air show, almost as time consuming as EX MAPLE FLAG. We also had to bring services across the airfield to the Wing's new ASR.

Here are some of the examples of minor projects we as a section took part in. Upgrading the cabling on the Localizer and Glide path systems, bringing cable to the Art Smith school, support the cadets during the summer, fixing fire alarm systems (Cpl Trylinski's favorite) across the Wing, etc.



On a good note, one of the calls we responded to was to fly to the west site remote tower to remove an eagle's nest on top of the 100ft structure. Once we had left on the helicopter to go on site, we had received a phone call from Sgt Korosi saying that we had to be in the office to do our APRVs. OOPs, the Chief Clerk forgave us. So being here in Cold Lake you can never come to work and complain about being bored, there is always something different or unexpected waiting for you to do.

*On the left: Cpl Maynard doing ground work at the west site remote tower, before climbing to remove the nest.*

With winter fast approaching us, we are now getting ready for the transition into the cold season. We hope all our brethren stay warm and stay safe!

Article Written By:  
Cpl C.W. Maynard  
Cpl R.J. Trylinski



3 Line Squadron Det. Suffield  
by Cpl Septimo

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Tis, the season once again... I'll be your host Cpl Sam Septimo. Currently in our shop we have; LMF Sgt, Jeff Nickerson our "COMMANDER & CHIEF", LMS MCpl Antony Yashuk our "BOSS", myself Cpl Sam Septimo, Cpl Dave Savoy "SUPER DAVE", Two Techs MCpl Anthony Rousseau and Cpl Brandon Scott, and last but not the least "THE CROW" Mr. Tony Crowley. Oh, I almost forgot about "YOUNG BLOOD" Cpl Alex Arsenault, who happens to be in Kingston finishing his ACISS MOD 1.1.

Here in CFB Suffield we're always busy. On top of the normal Canadian Troops we support we also support Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC), British Army Training Unit Suffield (BATUS), and the largest training area in the entire Commonwealth.



From left – right

Mr. Tony Crowley, MCpl Anthony Rousseau, myself Cpl Sam Septimo, Sgt Jeff Nickerson, MCpl Antony Yashuk, Cpl Brandon Scott, and Cpl Dave Savoy.

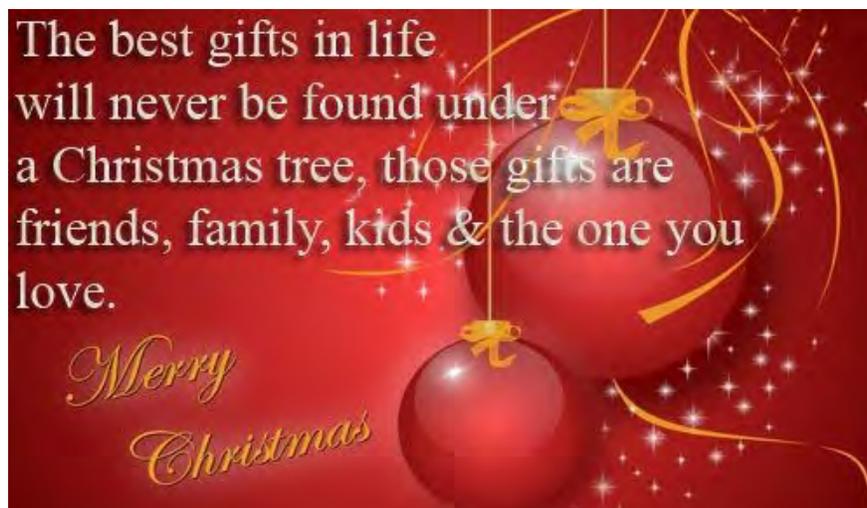
This year, during 1st Line maintenance, we have completed 1st Line pole-line inspections as we currently have 451 poles under our care. Last month we started our 1st Line tower inspections and soon after followed by maintenance-hole inspections. The Ammo compound has also required some TLC. We are also constantly taking care of the never ending ASSYST work orders that come along our way.

This past year I have been given an opportunity to take part in the CAFATC MAV/VHF upgrade fix at Resolute Bay, Nunavut along with some Det Wainwright Linemen, MCpl Harrison and Cpl Davis. Our main task was to install a 32 foot tall antenna on a 40 foot stick. It wasn't easy, but a good learning experience and I'll leave it as that.



The aim for 2017 should be no different, just continuing what we started in 2016.

In closing, 3 Line Sqn Det Suffield would like to wish everyone and their families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



# 2016 Det Esquimalt Christmas News Letter

Another year has quickly come and gone with many big changes happening here at the Line shop in Esquimalt. First of all, we are happy to say that we are no longer associated with SSC!! Yes, in May the new unit of 77 Line Regiment stood up and we happily hopped on the bus.



*(not the official logo)*

Leading from the top of the 77 Line Regt, 3 Sqn is Maj Leslie Doering (OC) and MWO Mike Taylor (SSM) who both hold a desk in Edmonton.

As 1 of the 9 Detachments in western Canada that belong to 3 Sqn, A Tp consists of CFB Comox and CFB Esquimalt. The man leading A Tp is newly promoted WO Mike Clarke. While most would think that he would be the Tp WO, they would be incorrect. He's been filling the Tp Comd position which he finds challenging and rewarding. (He's got no more hair to loose so it's ok)



Filling that Tp WO position is dual-hatted Sgt Ren Dyck who also sits as the LMF. Sgt Dyck has learned a lot of the networking side of things being the Tp WO with 7 Technicians falling under his command. Sgt Dyck has a longer drive than anyone in the shop when travelling to and from work. He gets to experience the "great" BC drivers, but exceptionally enjoys the time spent with his wife and 2 kids when he arrives home.



While the new Regt was being created, so was a new position for a MCpl Lineman. Coming from JSR Det Edmonton was I, MCpl Todd Clark where I spend most of my 5 years climbing towers across western Canada.



Continuing their posting here in Esquimalt are Cpl Jason Abel, Cpl Nick Benner, and Cpl Rick Panter.

Since Cpl Abel's posting from Suffield 4 years ago, he has been trying to enjoying the island life as anyone would, but his 4 children have been doing their best to keep him and his wife busy. Cpl Abel also received his CDI earlier this year.



*Cpl Benner just returned after taking a couple of months off from PATA leave so he and his wife could take care of their first child, a beautiful baby girl. Cpl Benner arrived in 2014 and this is his second posting where he previously spent 4 years at CFB Borden.*



*Cpl Panter was posted in from Kingston JSR in 2014 as well and has been loathing the traffic of the Colwood crawl ever since. Cpl Panter shares the same feeling as Sgt Dyck about the traffic. There isn't a day that goes by when he doesn't come into the shop thinking that someone else should have their licence taken away.*



*Cpl Terris Stordock is one of our newer members who also came from Kingston JSR where he was able to squeeze in 7 years at the mothership. Cpl Stordock (Panda) is a great addition to the Line shop and we look forward to the many years ahead with him.*



*Our 2 permanent civilians that have both been here since the 90's are Mr. Adam Miles and Mr. Kelly Dean. Adam first started working here in '91 and Kelly in '98. They both have a vast knowledge of trade skills and the comms within the base. These are the guys we go to whenever we have questions that cannot be answered anywhere else.*



*(Just like brothers)*

*A couple of blue wedge wearing techs were able to slide over from BIS (Base information systems) during the 77 Line stand-up with us. It sounds like they'll be with us at the Regt for another year or two before we let go of them, and it's unsure what unit they'll call home next. So in the meantime we'll just keep these little guys under our wing and show them the way of the Lineman. These mbrs are Sgt Kyril Cullen, MCpl Robert Powell, MCpl Jonathan White, Cpl Erik Ibsen, Cpl Oleksandr Serdyukov, and Avr Evan Ferris.*

*From 77 Line Regt, 3 Sqn, A Tp, Det Esquimalt to the entire Lineman trade across the country and around the world, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

*Written By MCpl Todd Clark*

## **GREETINGS FROM JTFN / ASU (North)TIS** **CFB Yellowknife Line Crew**

CFB Yellowknife has two main antenna sites. One is at Kam Lake and the other at Ingraham trail. Both are located on the out skirts of town and annually require 1<sup>st</sup> line antenna maintenance. On occasion during the winter months we are required to travel to these sites using an ATV or snowmobile. The Ingraham Trail (Ptarmigan RCVR) has one antenna (SPQ-330) and the Kam Lake site has three antennas (3065, 2001 and a beverage 750). The 3065 is currently quarantined from climbing due to a rusted out leg but I have no doubt the LCMM is actively seeking a replacement.



Kam Lake tower site



Kam Lake beverage antenna



Going out to one of the sites



Ingraham Trail tower site

Other than 1<sup>st</sup> level Ae maintenance we are also responsible for the Telecom Rooms and inside wiring of the JTFN Headquarters Building, Joe Tobi, 440, and the PAB. These bldgs. are within the city limits and outside infrastructure is done by NorthWest Tel (NWT).



JTFN HQ



FOL aerial view (air field that we maintain 3 small UHF/VHF antenna and 2 closets)



TR in Joe Tobi



Line support to EX Artic Ram (running a line from the FOL to Sand Pit)

On behalf of the TIS Line Section, I (Cpl Scott) would like to wish our Line Brothers and Sisters a Merry Christmas. I feel lucky to have such a dedicated CoC, I am proud to share that our section has completed significant work to all of buildings and antennas within our AOR.

Cpl / Caporal A.P Scott



## GREETINGS FROM THEATRE

Happy holiday's from the far away Lineman. At the moment our Line section family is controlled with the iron fist of dad (Sgt) and Mom (MCpl). Both of which have their hands full while raising kids together consisting of two newly member promoted to MCpl and Cpl. fighting the battles of planning our projects Grand Papa (WO). We assumed responsibilities of the cable plant maintenance and installation in early Nov 2016. Thank you to Sgt Fahie (JSR Kingston) and his crew for their very organized hand over thus making our family's transition into location painless.

While battling jetlag, the WO and Sgt began what looks like a battle that will not soon be over in the planning department. Their efforts have been successful to date thus resulting the kids have stopped fighting and quickly started working together performing routine maintenance, and getting ready for upcoming projects.

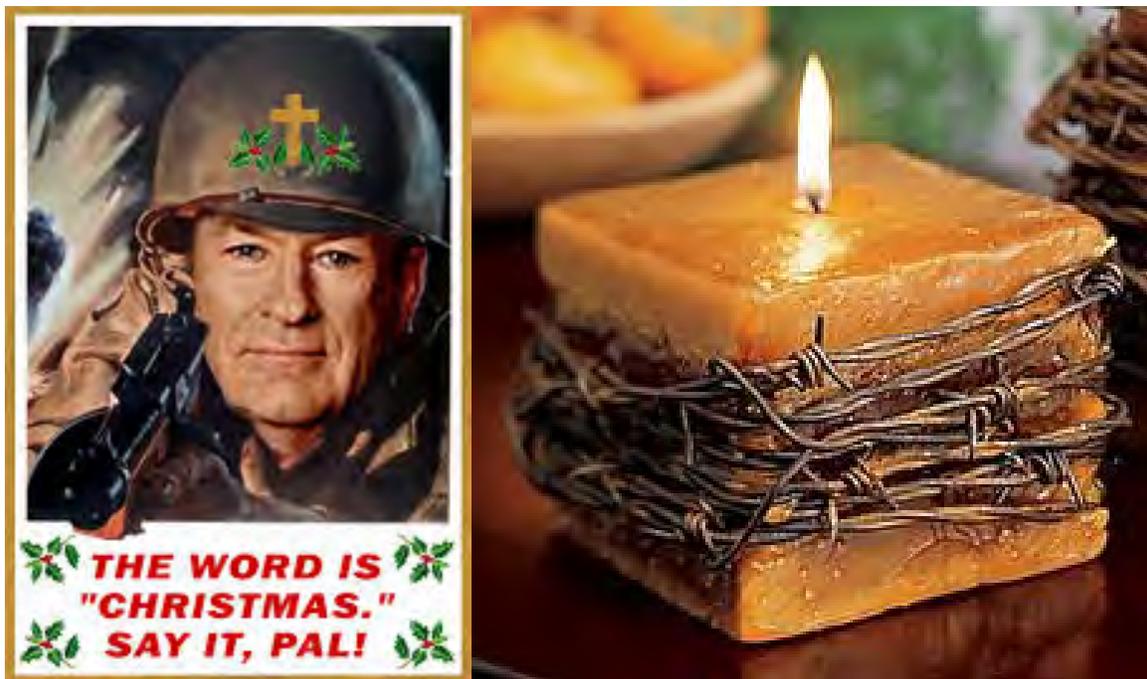
After sorting out the logistics of getting coffee to the shop, Mom's never ending memory bank of jokes is keeping morale at a very high level. We keep our family and friends on our minds while we check the weather and sympathize with the thought of all the sore backs from shoveling snow and braving the frigid temperature.

On a serious note, our Line family would like to extend our season greetings to our immediate family and all our trade brothers and sisters wishing nothing but peace and prosperity in the New Year.

Also if you read this please send cable tags!!

### Editor's note:

Due to security reasons and at the request of the senior Line Section Member, the names of the deployed member were withheld from this article.



## RETIRED LINEMAN'S LIAISON OFFICER - 2016 REPORT

This is my first article for THE GOLDEN SPUR since rejoining the National Executive Committee of the CAFL, in January 2016. My main function as the Retired Lineman's Liaison Officer (RLLO) is to assist the committee in updating and verifying our membership records. I am also the primary contact for the Retired Linemen Community.

During the past year we have tried our best to reach out to as many retired linemen as possible. We sent out information letters in May and July to as many retired linemen as we had email addresses for. In addition we mailed info packages to those who are not on the Internet and the only contact info we had was their postal address. If you didn't receive an information package please don't feel left out or that you have been forgotten. I still have a lot of names of Linemen but no contact info on where or how to get CAFL info to you. So if you would like to receive the info packages please forward your name, email address, postal address and telephone number to me at your earliest convenience. My contact info is as follows: email - [amurray0006@yahoo.ca](mailto:amurray0006@yahoo.ca), postal address - 7954 Decarie Drive, Ottawa, ON.K1C 2C3 and Tel # 613-837-7319. Once we have everyone's name and contact info on our Membership List, it will be a lot easier for all of us to contact each other. We will copy the list to all of our chapters and to individual members on request.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that we should be so proud that at least two of our CF Linemen will be participating in the 2017 Commemorative Battlefield Study Tour, Canadian Linemen Return to Vimy Ridge, in April. This is a Communications and Electronics Branch led tour consisting of approximately fifty members of the C & E Community in attendance. The CAFL is not a sponsor of this event but we are thrilled that CF Linemen are included.

On the 26th of January 2017, we will also be celebrating our 29th anniversary as our CAFL reaches this important milestone in its history. When our association was formed in 1988, our annual dues were set at \$10.00 per year. There has never been an increase in annual dues which amounts to 83.3 cents per month. There is no intention or reason for an increase unless our membership reaches a point where we can no longer support all of the good causes that our trade recognizes.

The purpose of our association is to provide support for Canadian Armed Forces retired and serving Linemen and their families, whenever there is a need. I know we can count on your continued support as we all work together to support one another. Let's all celebrate our 29th anniversary on the 26th of April with a National Toast across our great country.

I wish each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and all the best in health and happiness in the New Year.

Arnie





## CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FORCES LINEMEN



July 2016

### **CAFL MEMBERSHIP - RETIRED LINEMEN COMMUNITY**

Dear Fellow Lineman,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the National Executive of the Canadian Association of Forces Linemen (CAFL). The purpose of the letter is to update you on the current status of our association, provide some information on items of interest that have been happening within the association over the past few years and ask for your consideration and support in the renewal of your membership. Let me begin by stating that our association is in good health. The CAFL had its official beginning on the 26th of January 1988 and we just celebrated our 28th anniversary on the 26th of January 2016. This is quite an achievement. To have reached this milestone in our association's history is a testament to the "esprit de corps" that has always existed within the Canadian Armed Forces Lineman Trade.

Over the past few years, I know that many of our members (particularly those in the Retired Lineman Community) have assumed that the association no longer existed. Our association did experience a few glitches over the past few years. During this time the normal flow of information to our membership was substantially reduced. This would naturally lead some to conclude that the association had ended. However, as always, the Serving Linemen Community took charge and sorted out the issues. Our association is without a doubt, in a better place today as a result of this experience.

Over the past few years, some recipients of this letter may have had access to the Association's Annual Newsletter either in hard copy, via the Association's Website or on the CAFL Facebook site <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CF.LINEMEN>. If you had access to the newsletter, you are probably quite current on what has been going on within the CAFL, other Line Trade related issues and activities. For those who have not had access to the newsletter, I would like to take this opportunity to mention a few of the CAFL events that I am sure will be of interest to you.

**THE CAFL FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP** - Was established in 2005 to provide financial assistance to the dependents of CAFL members attending a full time program at a recognized post-secondary institution such as University, Community College or Technical Institute. The Scholarship is awarded annually in the amount of \$300.00 and the funding is provided from membership dues and/or private donations. The eligibility criteria and the application form are available on the association's website. For members, who are not connected to the Internet, a copy of the criteria and application form are provided with the annual association newsletter "THE GOLDEN SPUR". Copies are also available from your national, regional and local CAFL chapters.

The CAFL is also active in helping out Linemen and their families that have encountered a difficult time in their lives. This is exactly in accordance with the CAFL Constitution and the original founding intent of our association. In the interest of brevity, I will highlight just a few of the most recent undertakings. WO Frank Evans passed away in 2015. The CAFL responded with a fund raiser that raised \$2,500.00 in support of Frank's 17 year old son, Connor's future education.





## CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FORCES LINEMEN



In 2014 Matt Walsh, the son of MWO Mike Walsh, passed away with cancer. The CAFL assisted in the raising of over \$12,000.00 toward the future education of Mike's 5 year old grandson and his 8 months old granddaughter.

Jim Power, a well-known Lineman, was diagnosed with a Cerebrospinal Fluid Leak also known as CSF. CSF is a clear, colorless fluid that flows through the brain and spinal cord to cushion them from injury. Following years of diagnosis and treatment in Canada, it was determined that he required surgery. The surgery was not available in Canada and at first not covered by OHIP. He had to travel to California for the surgery. We can only imagine what this would cost. A funding campaign was set up and Jim's family, friends and the Lineman Community were able to contribute \$10,490.00 to help support Jim and his family during their time of need. The original surgery had seemed to repair any problems, but in January 2016 Jim had a second leak and was referred back to the USA for another operation. Again the community stood up to help Jim and he was sent for the second operation. As of the drafting of this letter, Jimmy is at home in Kingston and is doing well.

### THE JAKE LAPONSEE STORY

Jake was a CAF Lineman, who had taken his release from the CAF. In 2013, he was working in the Ottawa area with a local cable company supervising the installation, splicing, testing and maintenance of fiber optic cables. One day, he and some friends decided to go on a fishing trip. After a few days of fishing and enjoying their time together, Jake began to feel sick. At first, he thought it was just the normal cold or flu symptoms. As time went on, he felt worse and his friends drove him to the Ottawa General Hospital. He was diagnosed with pneumonia, but something else must have occurred that poisoned his bloodstream. Within hours of his arrival at the hospital, the doctors had decided that they would have to amputate both of his legs at knee level. Jake underwent a long recovery stage in the hospital and during that time the doctors also amputated all the fingers on one hand and one or two fingers of the other hand. He also lost his sight in one eye.

How much can one man take you ask? Well Jake wasn't just any man; he was and still is a LINEMAN. Jake did have a long period of recuperation but he never ever lost his determination, sense of humor and the typical "Lineman Esprit de Corps". When I visited him in hospital, he spoke freely about his situation and also told me that he would be going back to work with the cable company as soon as he was healed and released from the hospital. Jake was and is still proud of the portion of his life that he spent as a CAF Lineman. He had lots of hospital visits from Lineman and other friends that he met and worked with during his CAF journey. The Lineman Community along with family and friends raised over \$7,000.00 to help with his post-operative care. They also put a Lineman work team together and replaced the roof on his home, did some yard work, etc. Jake has been fitted with the necessary prosthetics and has maintained a positive attitude throughout this entire phase of his life. His Lineman friends still keep in contact with him and I know that this will always mean a lot to Jake as his journey through life continues. Recently Jake and his band even showed up at the Line Tasking Conference in Cornwall to play at a charity event.





## CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FORCES LINEMEN



### OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS SUPPORTED BY THE CAFL:

The 60th Anniversary of 1 Line Troop; in 2012;

The CAFL Petawawa Chapter Fishing Derby, the summer of 2016 will be this events 18<sup>th</sup> year running;

The Perry Porter Cairn Refurbishment was partially funded by the CAFL in 2015. The cairn is now a formal piece at the C & E Museum in Kingston and will be maintained by the museum in the future;

The "0 Pole Refurbishment" in Wainwright in 2015 by the Western CAFL Chapter; and

The 2017 Commemorative Battlefield Study Tour, Canadian Linemen Return to Vimy Ridge. During the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Line Tasking Conference in February 2016 the upcoming C&E Branch led tour was briefed and discussed. Within a short period of time six thousand dollars in funds were raised to send two young and deserving Linemen on this upcoming tour, which will have around 50 members of the C&E community in attendance.

I am sure there are many other Goodwill Events that occur in each of our Regional Association areas. They may not all be financially supported by the CAFL but they always have our moral support. One such event occurred a while back when the QL 5 Lineman Journeyman Course at CFSCE Kingston decided to support the Clothes for Kids Campaign. They were able to provide the funding to purchase five brand new snowsuits for needy children. Many of these events are initiated by our young Linemen and should make us all feel proud.

After reading the above, I know that you will agree with me that our association has done many good things in the past. With everyone's support, I know that our association will continue to grow and honor the purpose for which it was founded. That is, to provide support for CAF serving and retired Linemen and their families whenever there is a need.

I have recently rejoined the National Executive Committee as the Retired Lineman's Liaison Officer. The main part of my job description is to assist the committee in updating and verifying our membership records as well as being the contact person for the Retired Lineman Community.

As mentioned above, our association has been in existence for twenty eight (28) years. The Lineman Trade is the only trade within the C and E Branch to have its own association. The CAFL has no formal legal connection with the Canadian Armed Forces nor the C and E Branch. Our association has done quite well over the years being managed "by Linemen for Linemen". There is no intention to change that.

My last item is to discuss membership. Our membership dues were \$10.00 per year when the association started in 1988 and they have not changed. There is no reason to increase membership dues unless our membership decreases to a point where we are no longer able to support such worthy causes as detailed in the above paragraphs. In this regard, I am asking you to consider joining the CAFL, or renewing your membership if you are already a member or have been in the past.





## CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FORCES LINEMEN



For those who may wish to retain continuous membership, including the years when the information flow was reduced, you have the option to do so. For those who decide to pursue this option, you can contact me or any member of the National Executive Committee to verify when your previous membership expired. The other option is to renew your membership starting with the 1st of April 2016 or earlier if desired. The membership year runs from the 1st of April to the 31st of March each year. Membership may be renewed for as many years as you want.

A membership application/renewal form is attached for your use or you may do so through the CAFL website. If you are making your payment by cheque, please make it payable to the CAFL. The CAFL has designed a new membership card recently and it looks great.

During the CAFL General Meeting in Feb 2016 it was agreed by a majority vote that the new membership card would actually reflect the time you completed your original Lineman training which for me was 1957.

Should you require additional info or want to discuss anything about the CAFL, please give me a call at Tel: 613-837-7319, email me at: [amurray0006@yahoo.ca](mailto:amurray0006@yahoo.ca) or via Canada Post to: Arnie Murray 7954 Decarie Drive, Ottawa, ON K1C 2C3.

Thank you in advance for your time and I look forward to hearing from you in the future.

Best Regards,

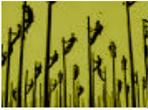
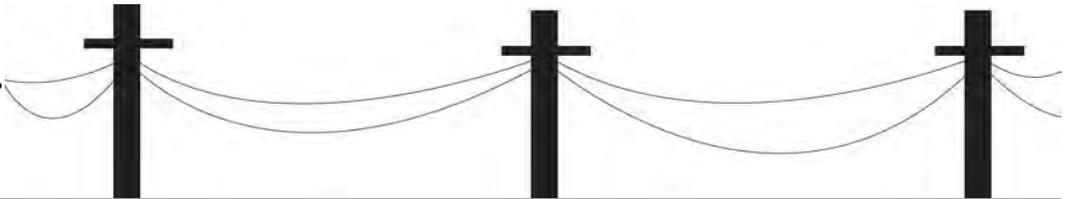
Arnie Murray

### CAFL National Executive Contact Info

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Vice President George Godin- [george.godin@forces.gc.ca](mailto:george.godin@forces.gc.ca)  
Secretary/Treasurer- Winston Hewlin- [winston.hewlin@forces.gc.ca](mailto:winston.hewlin@forces.gc.ca)  
Webmaster- Julien Gunville-Vachon, [gunvac@hotmail.com](mailto:gunvac@hotmail.com)  
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Fellowship- Claude Mathieu- [claudemathieu@ssc-spc.gc.ca](mailto:claudemathieu@ssc-spc.gc.ca)  
Retired Linemen Liaison Officer- Arnie Murray- [amurray0006@yahoo.ca](mailto:amurray0006@yahoo.ca)



# THE CABLE



## 77 LINE REGIMENT

Volume 1, Issue 1

30 September, 2016

### From the desk of the Commanding Officer:

I am very excited to present our first newsletter to members of 77 Line Regiment.

Given the fact 77 Line Regiment is spread out across 9 provinces and 6 time zones, the purpose of this newsletter is simply to provide an update of noteworthy items involving the regimental family. There are so many interesting experiences and op-

portunities, this newsletter is just one way to share that information. The news and activities involving the members of 77 Line Regiment (a unit spanning 28 bases / wings and garrisons) is an important part of family life.

My intent is that communication will continue to bring the family of 77 Line Regiment together by sharing stories and insights founded on the

work and play of the Regiment. The intent is to publish this newsletter quarterly.

The information in this newsletter spans the 122 days the Regiment has existed. While there are a myriad of challenges that lie ahead, I truly look forward to meeting those challenges with this incredible team !

- LCol Scott Gillingham, CO

#### Special points of interest:

- WELCOME TO 77 LINE REGIMENT !!
- SIGNIFICANT EVENTS



Leadership of 77 Line Regiment Inauguration day - 20 July, 2016

### 2 Line Squadron, ST JEAN

Le 16 août 2016 à 9h30, le Cplc Deschamps (Det Bagotville) fût appelé concernant un bris de fibre optique dans le secteur des pistes de vols. Malgré qu'il avait été localisé et marqué de drapeaux, le câble enfoui fût sectionné par une pelle mécanique.

Le Cplc Deschamps a informé sa chaîne de commandement, élaboré un plan de réparation, a demandé du support à son Escadron pour effectuer la réparation. Puisque le détachement de Valcartier est sous la même entité, les Ops d'Escadron furent en mesure de leur assigner cette

tâche prioritaire. Aussitôt, le Cpl Savard et Sdt Séguin (Det Valcartier) ont rejoint leurs confrères de Bagotville procédant aux travaux de remplacement de la fibre. Un rétablissement des services d'alarme intrusion a été fait en 24h.

- Maj Bayode Ajayi, OC

#### Inside this issue:

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 2 LINE SQN          | 1 |
| 3 LINE SQN          | 2 |
| 4 LINE SQN          | 2 |
| 5 LINE SQN          | 2 |
| REGT OPERATIONS     | 3 |
| REGT ADMINISTRATION | 3 |
| RSM'S CORNER        | 4 |

## THE CABLE

...AND IT WILL BE  
THAT MUCH  
MORE  
IMPORTANT FOR  
US TO WORK  
TOGETHER AS A  
SINGLE UNITED  
TEAM.  
- CAPT THOMAS

### 3 Line Squadron—EDMONTON

The new 3 Line Squadron was established to consolidate CAF infrastructure line capabilities, located in Western Canada (BC, AB, SK, MB), in order to centralize these capabilities. Since the signing of Ministerial Organization Order (MOO) on 31 May 2016 and the completion of the Annual Posting Season (APS) 2016, there has been more than just a change of faces within 3 Line Squadron. This is a very busy time for the Squadron members, not only with daily work requests, but also with gathering the necessary in-

formation and providing numerous briefings and returns back to the Regimental leadership. In addition, the Squadron continues to upgrade, repair and maintain the communications infrastructure (cable plants, pole lines, antenna and manhole systems), located throughout the Western Area of Responsibility (AOR). Although the Squadron is extremely busy during this period, this increased tempo has provided its personnel with multiple training opportunities for its junior technicians and line-



C Tp Comd (Capt Piper) re-qualifies on the C7 in Shilo, Manitoba.

men. In addition to technical training opportunities the Squadron is currently preparing to re-qualify its personnel on Individual Battle Task Standards (IBTS), in order to ensure its personnel remain highly trained and an essential part of the CAF.

- Capt Scot Johnston, 2IC

### 4 Line Squadron—PETAWAWA

The stand up of 77 Line Regt was recognized at the 4 Line Sqn change of command in Petawawa 22 June 2016. Since then, the Sqn has gone through some significant evolution. There were a number of key changes as the Sqn moved forward, the largest being the attach posting of linemen from RCAF Wing Technical Information Services to Dets Trenton and North Bay. Realizing the gain in

linemen, dets also said goodbye to departing members, sometimes (as in the case of OCdt de Moss, Det Borden) to entirely new challenges. Despite this, the Sqn has managed to keep an operational focus, a notable example being the support provided by Cpl Skipper in Det North Bay. 4 Line Sqn also set the bar for adventure training, with Det Petawawa being the first group in the Regt to

complete adventure training. Not to be outdone by their foray into sport yakking, 4 Line Sqn HQ joined Det Petawawa for a morning of wet weather golf.

As we move forward, facing challenges and opportunities, there is no doubt that 4 Line Sqn will rise to the challenge.

- Maj Neil George, OC

### 5 Line Squadron—HALIFAX

The 5 Line Sqn team are ready to hit the road and visit the armouries of Atlantic Canada. Our mandate is to provide 1st line maintenance and continued support to all DND installations across Atlantic Canada. There are a total of forty-six armouries spread across the AOR (four provinces) that require the

assistance of 5 Line Sqn. In order to create success, the 5 Line Sqn Ops team & LCS will meet with local Ops personnel to establish working relationships as well as view and discuss local infrastructure to get a better understanding of the current state of our armouries. One of the visits will include the newly built (2014)

Master Corporal Charles (Chuck) Michaud Armoury in Edmundston, NB (see Left).

- Capt Florian Ghita, Ops O



OCdt de Moss' husband appoints her from the rank of Cpl



Master Corporal Charles (Chuck) Michaud Armoury, Edmundston NB

## Regimental Operations

In order to build a capable and relevant CAF line capability and prepare for future high readiness tasks, it will be imperative that we establish an efficient and coordinated Regimental Operations. Now that the dust has settled from the stand up of the Regiment and the summer leave period has come to an end, operations will continue to ramp up and it will be that much more important for us to work together as a single united team. The preparation for

and conduct of operations will be accomplished within a mission-command framework, and it is expected that all levels of leadership will take advantage of opportunities within their AOR in order to further the 77 Line Regiment mission. Working together as a single team and ensuring a standardized approach across all Squadrons will form our main effort. Thus far, we've made excellent progress in the development of the Regimental Calendar,

improvements to our Share-Point site, and formalization of our tasking process. Yes, we will face many challenges as we work towards promoting the CAF infrastructure line capability, but we will also encounter many opportunities for us to ensure that CAF B/W/G's (as well as operations) are able to get the line support that they need.

-Capt Mark Thomas, ROpsO



Cpl Plourde-Larouche (2 Line Sqn) ouvre le boîtier d'épissure de fibre optique.

## Regimental Administration



Ensuring the resources (human, financial and material) is in the right place at the right time is essential to the operations of any organization. The challenges of transi-

tioning 4 regionally separated and diverse Sqns under a new HQ is daunting. Overcoming friction points in order to establish standardized processes that are in the best interest of the soldiers, sailors and aviators of the Regiment is a priority of the CO. The Regimental Admin guidance has been key in standardizing reports and returns and provides a single point of contact, RHQ, between the Line Sqns and the newly cre-

ated 7 Comm Gp.

On the horizon, writing the Unit Standing Orders has been the recent focus of RHQ in order to standardize activities such as honors and awards. The establishment of a unit fund has been an important part of ensuring that policies are applied equally across all 28 Bases, Wings and Garrisons and the creation of a cohesive unit.

- Maj Rob Stroud, DCO



Sous supervision du Cplc Deschamps, le Cpl Plourde-Larouche descend du matériel dans le puis d'accès

"MY LOGISTICIANS ARE A HUMORLESS LOT ... THEY KNOW IF MY CAMPAIGN FAILS, THEY ARE THE FIRST ONES I WILL SLAY."

- ALEXANDER

## Significant Events

### RETIREMENTS:

MWO Crabbe (4 Line) - 11 Sep'16  
WO Vezina (3 Line) - 3 Aug'16  
MCpl Cunningham (3 Line) - 14 Aug'16  
MCpl McGowan (4 Line) - 1 Aug '16

### AWARDS:

DGIMO Commendation:  
MCpl Meji (5 Line) - 22 Sep '16  
DGIMO Certificate of Exemplary Service:  
MCpl Irwin - 22 Sep '16  
7 Comm Group Commendation:  
MCpl Girard - 9 June '16



MWO Hewitt (SSM/LCS 4 Line Sqn) lines up his swing as MCpl Leblanc, Det Petawawa looks on.



## THROUGH

### 77 LINE REGIMENT

Regimental Headquarters  
c/o DIMEUS / DSUFGI  
101 Colonel By Drive  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K7  
R Ops Phone #: 613-996-1120



(L-R) Col Wood, CWO Lapointe, MGen Loos, BGen Rutherford, CWO MacKnight, LCol Gillingham, 20 July, 2016

77 Line Regiment was approved by the Minister of National Defence, The Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan 31 May, 2016. The Regiment is unique within 7 Comm Group, as it currently includes four regional squadrons, located in Edmonton, Petawawa, St

Jean and Halifax which provide responsive ops

and admin support to the 28 local line work cen-

ters across the country. The envisioned role of 77 Line Regiment is to force generate scalable 1st , 2nd and 3rd line cable and antenna design, installation, maintenance capabilities in order to enable command and control across Canadian Armed Forces installations domestically and abroad.

77 LINE REGIMENT SHAREPOINT CALENDAR: <http://collaboration-img.forces.mil.ca/sites/7CommGp/77LR/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Canadian Association of Forces Linemen Website : <http://cafl.org/>

## RSM's CORNER



I would like to welcome all readers to the first edition of our Regimental Newsletter, "The Cable". This is a great venue for us to share our stories, adventures, milestones and celebrations.

A couple of historic milestones which we achieved this year were of course the stand-up of 77 Line Regiment on 31 May 2016 followed shortly afterwards by the inaugural parade celebrating the creation of both 77 Line Regiment and the change of command of our parent organization, 7 Communication Group on 20 Jul 2016.

As you know, 77 Line Regi-

ment currently has 28 detachments dispersed throughout Canada so it is imperative that we utilize all means of information sharing to build and strengthen a unified Regiment and "The Cable" is one of those means. While linemen are well known for their "Esprit de Corps", this cannot be taken for granted, even within a Line Regiment. I envision a Line Regiment that fosters comradery, not only through a strong and professional work ethic and adherence to the highest standards, but one of respect and caring for one another and our families. Our seasoned members must take our new members under their

wings and mentor them, correct their shortcomings and teach them what they know.

As we embark together on building 77 Line Regiment we will rely on one another and face many obstacles but the journey and the accomplishments will be something we will all share and surely strengthen our "Esprit de Corps".

THROUGH

- CWO Blair MacKnight, RSM

# THE CABLE

## 77 LINE REGIMENT

Volume 1, Issue 2

12 December, 2016

### From the desk of the Commanding Officer:



Recently relocated to CFB Kingston

As the holiday season approaches, it brings with it the opportunity of reflection for all members of 77 Line Regiment. So, in the spirit of the holidays, I offer Volume 2 of **THE CABLE**. I trust it greets you with good energy as we bridge the geographic divide and establish what I am proud to call a Regimental Family.

The RSM and I have been fortunate to travel more than

24,000kms in 5 weeks in order to visit all 27 detachments of 77 Line Regiment. It is inspiring to witness the work you do (and the challenges that you all face) with unparalleled effort and focus.

As the Regiment approaches its 7-month anniversary, it is important to recognize all the efforts made by our CAF team and particularly those of 77 Line Regiment. Having one of our own recently deployed (November) on Op IMPACT, take a moment and reflect – we all wish WO Bruno Thibault, his spouse Sophie and their children Estelle and Olivier the very best.

You all form the best and most valued part of the Regi-

ment and it would not be the same without your involvement, support and commitment.

I would like to say thank you and send my best wishes to you and your families. May your New Year be filled with all the success and happiness you deserve.

Enjoy a safe and healthy break and return with enthusiasm and vigor to tackle 2017. Happy holidays!

  
- Scott Gillingham

Lieutenant-Colonel  
Commanding Officer



### Special points of interest:

- 'TIS THE SEASON !!
- SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
  - RETIREMENTS
  - AWARDS
- POETRY INSERT —AN ORIGINAL

### 2 Line Squadron, ST JEAN

As part of our contribution to educating Junior Officers on the line trade we were lucky enough to welcome 2Lt Nashed Youssef in Ottawa for some On the Job Education (OJE). Although he was lucky enough to stay with us for a week, he undoubtedly would've liked to remain longer. He participated in the daily work around the NCR, from completing trouble calls, to trying his hand terminating UTP and fibre. He even had a chance to

don spurs and gear for a leisurely climb on one of the few poles at Uplands, saying it was definitely a bit nerve racking at first. In order to obtain full bragging rights at the Mess, he tackled the 80 foot self-support and proved to be a natural. He took advantage of every opportunity to learn about and observe the line trade, giving him a greater appreciation what we do.

- Cpl Jordan Knaggs  
Det Ottawa



2Lt Youssef climbing an 80' tower near Bldg 475 in Uplands, Ottawa

### Inside this issue:

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 2 LINE SQN<br>DET OTTAWA      | 1 |
| 3 LINE SQN<br>DET WAINWRIGHT  | 2 |
| 4 LINE SQN<br>DET NORTH BAY   | 2 |
| 5 LINE SQN<br>DET GREENWOOD   | 3 |
| REGT OPERATIONS               | 3 |
| A 2LT'S PERSPECTIVE           | 4 |
| RSM'S CORNER                  | 4 |
| T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE<br>150 | 5 |

# THE CABLE

## 3 Line Squadron—EDMONTON



Crew working on SEARS project in Resolute Bay

Canadian Armed Forces Arctic Training Centre (CAFATC) is located near the Resolute Bay airport, 74° North. This fall, MCpl Harrison, Cpl Davis, and Cpl Septimo were tasked to install antennas for the new Safety, Emergency and Administrative Radio System (SEARS). They constructed six antennas on two newly installed telephone poles in extreme conditions with winds steadily blowing at 60km/h and moderate snowfall. The team adapted to the weather, using a Genie Boom to install the 32ft antenna on a 45ft pole. During

the testing phase a real life emergency situation arose. A vehicle broke down outside of town in what was previously a dead zone. The occupants were able to radio for assistance utilizing the system that had just been installed. Without this new system, the occupants would have been hours without assistance, posing a risk to their safety due to the extreme weather conditions.

MCpl Harrison  
Det Wainwright



Maj Doering presenting Deb and Scot Johnston Branch Spousal Appreciation Certificate.



Capt Piper and 2Lt Boulet cut the Sigs Birthday Cake

...LINEMEN, WE ARE CONSTANTLY LOOKING FOR WAYS TO IMPROVE AND ADVANCE OUR INFRASTRUCTURE TO KEEP CURRENT WITH TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES.

- CPL OLLIFFE

## 4 Line Squadron—PETAWAWA

The primary mission of 22 Wing North Bay is the defence of the aerospace of Canada. To accomplish this mission satellites and radars from all across North America are used to track the movement of any and all aircraft that pass within the North American Airspace. One of

the primary systems that are employed is the ASTERIX Radar system. ASTERIX, short for All-Purpose Structured Euro control Surveillance Information Exchange, is a state-of-the-art surveillance data format which is being adopted by the world community as the universal standard in this domain today.

Until now, the ASTERIX has been using analog modems to transmit data. 4 Line Sqn Det North Bay linemen installed the line infrastructure for this new capability and were instrumental in troubleshooting the system during the testing and verification phase. The system now runs,

for the first time ever, on MPLS IP (Multi-Protocol Label Switching). This represents a significant upgrade from the slower, antiquated technology of the past. The increased bandwidth enables the Operators to receive data at faster rates, reduces errors, and further enhances their capabilities in the defence of North American Airspace.

As Canadian Forces Linemen, we are constantly looking for ways to improve and advance our infrastructure to keep current with technological advances. This is just a small step forwards to the ever changing future.

Cpl Adam Olliffe  
Det North Bay



The first data stream received after switching to IP based transmission

## 5 Line Squadron— HALIFAX

Since the inception of 77 Line Regiment, it has been a busy transition for both Linemen and legacy ATIS Technicians in Greenwood. One of the most noteworthy happenings was the MSE Pre-Deployment Ex for Op IMPACT (ROTO 4). Things didn't really ramp up until mid to late September when the first of the many communication requirements started to roll in.

The steady stream of changing requirements and the lack

of materials available forced the Det to use 1st Line maintenance stock with WTISS replenishing the used supplies. With approximately 50 DVO locations comprising data, voice, and red drops mixed throughout the mocked up offices located in an empty hanger, the requirements increased, but the Linemen and ATIS Technicians rose to the occasion.

-Sgt Flood G.P., LLWC LCF  
Det Greenwood



5 Line Squadron Detachment Greenwood Line Section  
(From left to right) Cpl R.J. Keegan, MCpl M.R. Ramsay and Sgt G.P. Flood

## Regimental Operations

"So how'd you like to help set up a new Line Regiment with zero Ops experience, zero exposure to the line trade, and a HQ of 5 pers?" These may not have been the CO's exact words when we first met in May, but they might as well have been. I would have thought that my many years of experience pushing paper from one cubicle to another in Ottawa would have adequately prepared me to this task, but apparently there's this place called the

field" where you really earn your stripes. I've even heard rumours that it's outside! To say that it's been a challenge would be an understatement. Thankfully, I've been lucky enough to have the help of a grizzly old LCS who doesn't hesitate to pull me aside and let me know when I'm talking too much, an RSM who can bench me with one arm tied behind his back, a DCO who has more time-in than I am old, and a CO who can write briefing notes on

his BlackBerry while driving his son to hockey tournaments. All jokes aside, it has been a very eye-opening experience and I have been extremely fortunate to have a team of Sqn Ops personnel with a wealth of experience and a genuine desire to build a relevant and responsive Ops cell. I am very proud of what we have accomplished so far and am looking forward to all the new challenges that wait us in the New Year.

-Capt M. Thomas, R Ops O

IT HAS BEEN A BUSY TRANSITION FOR BOTH LINEMEN AND LEGACY TECHNICIANS... REQUIREMENTS INCREASED, BUT THE LINEMEN AND ATIS TECHNICIANS ROSE TO THE OCCASION.  
- SGT FLOOD

## Significant Events

### RETIREMENTS:

- Cpl Harvey (5 Line) - Oct '16
- Cpl Miller (3 Line) - Oct '16
- Cpl Murphy (4 Line) - Oct '16
- Cpl Reese (4 Line) - Nov '16
- Cpl Raycraft (2 Line) - Nov '16
- MCpl Forrest (5 Line) - Dec '16

### AWARDS / MEDALS:

#### Canadian Decoration 1 (CD1):

Cpl King (4 Line) - Sep '16

#### Canadian Decoration (CD):

- MCpl Organ (5 Line) - Oct '16
- Cpl London (5 Line) - Oct '16
- Cpl Lebel (2 Line) - Oct '16

#### 3 Line Sqn Soldier of the Quarter:

Cpl Mui - Nov '16



## THROUGH

### 77 LINE REGIMENT

77 Line Regiment  
B-37 (Sherman Hall)  
CFB Kingston  
PO Box 17000  
Stn Forces  
Kingston, ON  
K7K 7B4

R Ops Phone #: 613-996-1120

## A 2Lt's Perspective ...

I recently joined the CAF in January 2016 and I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to work at 77 Line Regt. I was posted to Regt HQ in October, and I have been mainly responsible for assisting with various administrative tasks and helping the Regt Ops section.

I was also very lucky to get a chance to spend a week with the 2 Line Sqn- Det Ottawa

Line Crew, during which time I learned about cable audits, pulling cable, fiber installs and, of course, climbing poles and towers!

I can't thank everyone at RHQ enough for their support over these past 2 months. Everyone took the time to teach me new skills that will be very beneficial for my next phase of training. I would like to also thank everyone at Det Ottawa Line

Crew for their support during the week I spent with them. I was really impressed by your work ethic and esprit de corps and I'm looking forward to more opportunities to work with the Line Trade in my future career as a Signals Officer.

- 2Lt Nashed Youssef

77 LINE REGIMENT SHAREPOINT CALENDAR: <http://collaboration-img.forces.mil.ca/sites/7CommGp/77LR/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Canadian Association of Forces Linemen Website : <http://cafl.org/>

## RSM's CORNER



Myself and the CO truly enjoyed our recent visits to your detachments over the last few weeks and we were very impressed with your level of determination and professionalism in the face of so many challenges; your high level of motivation and positive outlook were inspirational to us both and we came away even more convinced that we are on the right path. We thank you for your efforts. Change is never easy but in our case very necessary and with your patience and valuable input we will overcome all of our challenges together.

As we approach the holiday season, I would like to encourage everyone to enjoy your upcoming time off with families and friends. It has been a busy journey thus far standing up a new Regiment and you all deserve the break. Keep in mind that we have WO Bruno Thibault currently deployed to Op Impact along with other brothers in arms. Take the time to send off a holiday wish to them or a small something in the mail. Most of us know what it is to be separated from our families and it is especially difficult during the holidays.

There will be many celebrations over the next few weeks so please keep safety in mind and take care of one another. Remember to always work hard and play hard but don't drink and drive.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

THROUGH

- CWO Blair MacKnight, RSM

# THE CABLE

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## *T'Was the Year Before 150 ...*

*T'was the year before "One-Fifty"  
As Canada grows old  
When up from the Forces  
A new unit Arose*

*With pride in their History  
And a Swagger so Bold  
These Rough and Gruff soldiers  
Are the Best I've been told*

*Workshops convened  
Discussions were held  
Now leaders are chosen  
To Spearhead this Meld*

*Quick to the Task  
The HQ of Few  
In promoting the New Unit  
And what they can DO!*

*They work here at home  
Or on some foreign soil  
So they were assembled together  
To shoulder their toil*

77 Line  
Regiment

77<sup>e</sup> Régiment  
des Lignes

*Now, you may ask.  
Of the soldiers I speak  
Those hard working hard playing  
Whom some have dubbed Freak*

*The Heart of the Corps  
Least that's what they say  
The Regiment now Named  
They're here to Stay*

*Now I know this has been lengthy  
But there's certainly no Doubt  
Surely it's the LINEMAN  
You've figured, I've been talking about*

*So up on your feet and let's toast a cheer  
To 77 Line Regiment now that it's here  
And as well to those Soldiers not of the Corps  
Who will march forward with us as we build  
our own Future....  
Our History... our Lore?*

An original by:  
MWO Mike Walsh, 77 Line Regt LCS

**Canadian Forces Communications and  
Electronics Association**  
PO Box 17000 Station Forces  
Kingston, ON K7K 7B4



**Association des communications et de  
l'électronique des forces canadiennes**  
PO Box 17000 Station Forces  
Kingston, ON K7K 7B4

The Communications and Electronics Association is alive and well. Over the past 18 months under the leadership of the Colonel Commandant several individuals have been working diligently to update and expand the mission and goals of the Association. One of the main objectives is to ensure that the Association is addressing the needs of our serving members. To this end the following is a short summary of who the Association is and what constitutes the main activities.

### Who Are We?

The Communications and Electronics (C&E) Association is an emerging and dynamic organization that traces its roots to the former C&E Association. This is a professional association that aims to deliver on our common objectives of enhancing our professional development, supporting our members, preserving, educating and celebrating our heritage and staying connected.

### Association Objectives

The mission of the C&E Association is to enhance the effective of military communication and electronics and the morale and welfare of its members. Its objectives are:

- Enhance the effectiveness of Canada's military communications and electronics in Canada;
- Nurture and facilitate the well-being of all C&E military personnel and their families;
- Preserve, educate and celebrate the heritage and traditions of the C&E community in conjunction with the Military Communications and Electronics Museum;
- Connect with and promote a close association with all members of our C&E military community including the extended military C&E community.

### Our Membership

All former and serving members (Regular Force and Primary Reserve) of the C&E Branch and its founding elements are automatically members of the C&E Association, as well as their families, existing C&E associations and groups and friends of the C&E including Canadian industry.

### Why a C&E Association? (What's In It For Me?)

1. The C&E Association will allow you to network with other C&E members throughout Canada. Our Association will connect through Association Chapters across Canada and with other Affiliate organizations such as the Signallers Club of Canada, the Hamilton Signals Association and others.
2. The C&E Association will keep you up to date with current news and information through our website [cmcen.ca](http://cmcen.ca) and shortly through a community-wide newsletter. Within a few

months, as government regulations change, [www.cmcen.ca](http://www.cmcen.ca) will become the only website serving the entire Branch.

3. In keeping with CF C&E Associations objectives of introducing value added Member Purchase Programs:
  - a. We are pursuing a partnership with TD Insurance Meloche Monnex to offer members home and auto insurance at Preferred Group Rates. TD Insurance is the largest direct-response group home and automobile insurer in Canada and considered the bench mark for affinity programs. TD Insurance is part of the TD Bank Financial Group, which serves approximately 13 million clients worldwide. We look forward to bringing this valued benefit to our members. This service is currently accessed by the Canadian Military Engineers Association, The RCAF Association and the Royal Canadian Artillery Association.
  - b. We will also pursue another business relationship that might offer very competitive mortgage rates to our members.
  - c. For those approaching retirement, the Association will also be pursuing a working arrangement with Workopolis – Canada’s largest career site for job seekers to further assist our retiring members.
4. It is also our intention to pursue other areas such as Professional Development through symposiums, publishing professional papers and articles of community interest on [cmcen.ca](http://cmcen.ca).
5. Our Association will work with the Branch Office to manage the Awards programs, or educations bursaries and to facilitate links to other CFMWS programs including scholarships and the Support Our Troops funds.
6. Our Association will also provide assistance and other information related to veterans and their families.
7. Finally, our Association will generate major efforts in support of ongoing and future heritage events including the current Battlefield Tour in support of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

Please join us as we embark on this major effort to connect our serving and retired community to ensure that we provide the best possible support to our C&E family across Canada. Please register at [www.cmcen.ca/register](http://www.cmcen.ca/register).

W.S. Richard  
Brigadier-General (Retired)  
Colonel Commandant

K.G. O’Keefe  
Brigadier-General (Retired)  
President  
C&E Association



**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FORCES LINEMEN**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL**



I \_\_\_\_\_  
First name/nickname Surname

hereby make an application for membership/renewal in the Canadian Association of Forces Linemen (CAFL).

I completed my Lineman Apprentice Training (Group 1/TQ3/QL1/DP 1.1)

From: \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_ and served in the Canadian  
(Month/Year) (Month/Year)

Armed Forces from: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month/Year) (Month/Year)

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a cheque/money order in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover my  
Membership dues for the period 1 Apr \_\_\_\_\_ to 31 Mar \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Year) (Year)

Membership dues are \$10.00 per year and the membership year is from 1 Apr to 31 Mar.

Note: Make check payable to the Canadian Association of Forces Linemen.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Forward to: Owen Crabbe  
15 Settlement Lane Russell, On, K4R-0A4



# 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

Note: As approved during the CAFL General Meeting held in Cornwall Ontario on 21 June 2010, the CAFL Scholarship's eligibility was extended to include grandchildren and siblings (brothers and sisters).

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

a. applicant must be a sponsored dependant (**children , grandchildren, brothers, sisters or spouse**) of a CAFL member in good standing (paid up);

Note: For clarity, extended family such as nephews and nieces 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 than 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;

## CAFL Family Scholarship

- v. a copy of registration fee receipt of a post secondary institution;
- vi. a copy of a birth certificate or certificates showing the relationship with the CAFL sponsor as follows:
  - **Children:** birth certificate showing relationship with CAFL sponsor.
  - **Grandchildren:** birth certificate showing parent names **and** parent's birth certificate showing relationship with grand parent (CAFL sponsor).
  - **Spouse:** marriage certificate or proof of common law relationship with CAFL sponsor.
  - **Brothers or Sisters:** applicant's birth certificate and CAFL sponsor's birth certificate.
- d. the post secondary institution must provide full time programs which leads to a collegial or university degree;
- 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 Annual National Line Tasking Meeting, and
- g. the scholarship cheque will be sent by mail following the Annual National Line Tasking Meeting.

### 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 yearly application per CAFL sponsor will be accepted.

### Minimum entry:

As voted during the eighteen annual CAFL meeting held in Cornwall in February 2014, the scholarship awarding requires a minimum of three (1) 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:                                  |     |    |
| Relationship with CAFL Member (Child, grandchild, brother, sister, spouse)  |     |    |
| 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:<br>(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 |
| Copy of applicable birth certificates                                       | YES | NO |
| Copy of applicable marriage certificate or proof of common law relationship | 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Email your application and supporting documents no later than 31 January of the current year to [webmaster@cafl.org](mailto:webmaster@cafl.org). If you have no internet access, please mail a hard copy to the address below. CAFL Family Scholarship, 15 Settlement Lane Russell On, K4R 0A4: Attn Owen Crabbe.