



**The Regimental Senate of the
11th Field Artillery Regiment
Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery**



The Composition and Purpose of the Regimental Senate

The Regimental Senate of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment RCA according to its constitution issued the 27th of October 2009 consists of all past Commanding Officers, all current and past Honoraries and selected distinguished individuals. The current Honorary Colonel or the Honorary Lieutenant Colonel in his/her absence acts as the Chair of the Regimental Senate meetings and activities.

The current Commanding Officer is an ex-officio member of the Regimental Senate as a result of his appointment and shall be invited to attend all meetings in order to provide his input and guidance. The purpose of the Regimental Senate is to promote the interests of the Regiment in the near and long-term. The Senate will work in concert with and provide support to the Commanding Officer to the best of their ability





A significant portion of the information contained in the following biographies was obtained by research done by Miss. Nan McKay on behalf of her brother, Lieutenant Colonel Michael D. McKay CD ADC (Retired), as well as information gleaned from various publications, newspaper articles, Change of Command programs and internet searches. Where possible the person of whom the biography was written has been contacted for their input and review. Therefore the information found in the following pages is only as accurate as the original source documents and of course, errors may have been made while transposing the information. If anyone has any additional information in regard to the completeness or accuracy of the biographies, do not hesitate to contact;

Colonel Gary E. Burton CD (Retired)

At

gary.burton@rogers.com

Dated 6 May, 2022



RECORD OF AMENDMENTS / ADDITIONS

ISSUE	DETAIL OF AMENDMENT / ADDITIONS	DATE AMENDED
1.	Typo - French, Burton, Senate membership list amended and HCol Bossi's bio changed to reflect appointment to HCol in December 2022	3 April, 2024
2.		
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Commanding Officers of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery

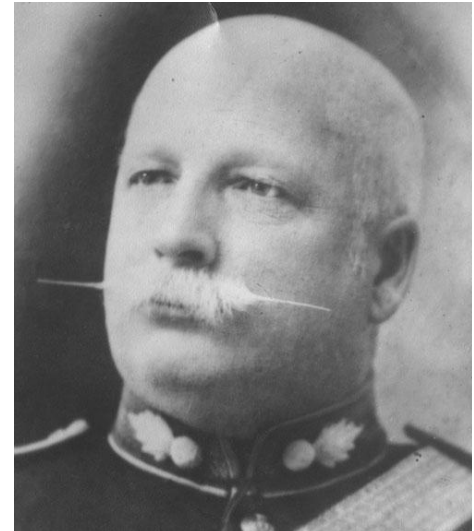
1. 1880 – 1897 Lieutenant Colonel Archibald H. Macdonald
2. 1897 – 1902 Lieutenant Colonel William M. Nicoll
3. 1902 – 1914 Lieutenant Colonel John Davidson
4. 1914 – 1915 Lieutenant Colonel Alexander B. Petrie
5. 1915 – 1918 Major F. Watt
6. 1919 Lieutenant Colonel Frederick T. Coghlan DSO VD
7. 1920 – 1929 Lieutenant Colonel William Simpson VD
8. 1929 – 1935 Lieutenant Colonel George A. G. Drew PC CC VD CD
9. 1935 – 1940 Lieutenant Colonel C. Douglas Crowe MC ED
10. 1940 Lieutenant Colonel Cyril L. C. Allinson
11. 1941 Lieutenant Colonel Ossian G. Lye
12. 1942 – 1946 Lieutenant Colonel John T. Steele ED
13. 1946 – 1949 Lieutenant Colonel A. Gibson Goldie DSO
14. 1949 – 1952 Lieutenant Colonel Thomas J. Bell OC MC CD
15. 1952 – 1955 Lieutenant Colonel Arthur N. Kearns CD
16. 1955 – 1958 Lieutenant Colonel Philip K. Griggs CD
17. 1958 – 1961 Lieutenant Colonel Frederick D. Metcalf CD
18. 1961 – 1965 Lieutenant Colonel Colin C. MacDonald CD
19. 1965 – 1968 Lieutenant Colonel Donald G. Ingram CD
20. 1968 – 1971 Lieutenant Colonel Ralph G. French CD
21. 1971 – 1974 Lieutenant Colonel Clifford Tootell CD
22. 1974 – 1977 Lieutenant Colonel David C. Willard CD
23. 1977 – 1980 Lieutenant Colonel William H. Hammill CD
24. 1980 – 1983 Lieutenant Colonel (Colonel) Gary E. Burton CD (ADC)
25. 1983 – 1984 Lieutenant Colonel John R. Pelletier CD
26. 1984 – 1986 Lieutenant Colonel William H. Hammill CD
27. 1986 – 1990 Lieutenant Colonel Michael D. McKay CD ADC
28. 1990 – 1992 Lieutenant Colonel Ralph G. French CD
29. 1992 – 1996 Lieutenant Colonel Robert W. Elliott OMM CD
30. 1996 – 2000 Lieutenant Colonel (Colonel) Wayne M. Shiplo CD
31. 2000 – 2002 Lieutenant Colonel Michael McKean CD
32. 2002 – 2004 Lieutenant Colonel Robert W. Elliott OMM CD
33. 2004 – 2007 Lieutenant Colonel Morley B. Armstrong CD
34. 2007 – 2010 Lieutenant Colonel Sean E. Carragher CD
35. 2010 – 2014 Lieutenant Colonel Kevin P. J. Doyle CD
36. 2014 – 2017 Lieutenant Colonel Morley B. Armstrong CD
37. 2017 – 2020 Lieutenant Colonel Gary M. McQueen CD
38. 2020 Lieutenant Colonel Miguel Ortiz-Sossa CD



Lieutenant Colonel Archibald (Art) Henry Macdonald K.C. Commanding Officer 1880 – 1897

Lieutenant Colonel A. H. Macdonald was born, the eldest of four children on the 21st of July 1848 in Cobourg, Ontario, the son of Archibald Macdonald and Jane Anne Wright. His father was a lawyer who in 1854 was appointed judge of the County Court of Wellington, Surrogate Judge and subsequently Local Judge of the High Court of Justice. His father was chairman of the Board of Education for many years and a member and a builder of St. George's Church in Guelph.

Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald was the grandson of Archibald Macdonald, a Captain in H. M. 35th Foot who came to Canada in 1819, represented Northumberland in the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada and was a Colonel in the Northumberland Militia. Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald was the great-grandson of Captain John Macdonald of Gart, Callender, Scotland. Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald's siblings were A. A. Macdonald MD of Toronto, Mrs. B. R. McConkey of Guelph and Captain Walter Macdonald.



Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald was educated principally at the Guelph Grammar School and studied law at the office of Judge Ingsmill of Walkerton. He went on to practice law in Guelph and was called to the bar in 1870. He was a Barrister at Law and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Ontario.

He joined the Guelph Rifle Company as a Private and obtained a 2nd Class Military School Certificate in August 1864 and 1st Class Certificate in March 1865. Soon after, he was appointed Captain and a drill instructor in the Guelph Rifle Company. In September 1866, the Guelph Rifle Company became Number 2 Company of the 30th Wellington Battalion of Rifles. In July of 1866, Guelph's first Artillery unit came in being and was Number 1 Company of the 30th Wellington Battalion of Rifles. In 1870 Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald obtained his 1st Class Certificate in Gunnery at the Royal Artillery School in Toronto and was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Guelph Garrison Battery. Captain A. H. Macdonald became the Officer Commanding in 1871 succeeding Captain James Barclay. In 1871 the Artillery was separated from the 30th Battalion and became the Wellington Field Battery of Artillery. With the establishment of a second battery known as the Ontario Field Battery of Artillery in 1878, the two Guelph Batteries were joined in March of 1880 to form the 1st Provisional Brigade of Field Artillery with Major A. H. Macdonald being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and appointed its Commanding Officer. The Batteries now called Number 1 and Number 2 Batteries were commanded by Captain William Nichol and Captain David McCrae. In 1887 the word Provisional was dropped from the name and the Batteries renamed 11 and 16.

In 1880, the Dominion Artillery Association presented the first Governor General's Cup for Efficiency to Number 2 Battery (later the 16th) and in 1883, a team under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald won the Governor General's Cup in Shoeburyness, England for "ordnance shifting" where a gun had to be removed from its carriage and mounted on another, defeating the 3rd Kent (the Woolwich



Arsenal Corps). In the five years between 1879 and 1984 each of the two Guelph Batteries won Governor General Awards twice.

Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald was an Alderman of the City of Guelph in 1884 and 1885 and served as the Mayor of the City of Guelph from 1887 to 1888. He was the President of the Council of the Dominion Artillery Association from 1888 to 1889 and a member of the Council of the Dominion Rifle Association.

On Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald's retirement as Commanding Officer in 1897 he was succeeded by Lieutenant Colonel W. Nichol. By 1902 newspaper articles show that Lieutenant Colonel MacDonald was the Honorary Colonel of the Brigade.

He married Alicia White the daughter of Robert White of Guelph on the 21st of October 1875. He died on February 13, 1920 in Guelph at the age of 71.



Lieutenant Colonel William Meldrum Nicoll Commanding Officer 1897-1902

Lieutenant Colonel William M. Nicoll was born on April 27, 1843 in Puslinch, Ontario the third of three children born to Alexander Nicoll and Mary Alexander. His parents were married in Angus, Forfarshire, Scotland on March 17, 1834 and moved to Canada the same year, settling on lot 35, concession 8, Puslinch. Lieutenant Colonel Nicoll's two siblings were Elizabeth born in 1835 and Mary Ann born in 1842.

Lieutenant Colonel Nicoll's father died when he was fifteen and he took over the responsibility of running the farm, resulting in him only being able to obtain a primary school education at Badenoch School, however he read extensively, becoming a man of strong and independent ideas and endeavors.

He joined the Morriston Infantry Company, an early militia unit in 1861. In 1865 he organized the training of two battalions of 76 men each in Puslinch and maneuvers were held on the north east corner of Brock Road and Badenoch St. in Morriston. In 1866 he took courses at the Toronto Military School and in 1872 attended gunnery training in Kingston. He was promoted to Captain in 1877. By 1880 when the 1st Provisional Brigade of Field Artillery was founded with the joining of the Wellington and the Ontario Batteries, Captain Nicoll was given command of the Wellington Battery, now named Number 1 Battery. In 1881 he was promoted to Major, eventually becoming Second in Command of the Brigade. In 1897 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and given command of the Brigade. During the time that he was Commanding Officer the Brigade won the Governor General's Cup five times for efficiency and the Mowat Trophy three years in succession. Lieutenant Colonel Nicoll retired from the military in 1902.



He was the Commanding Officer of the Brigade at the outset of the South African War and oversaw the recruitment of the Guelph volunteers for service in the Second Contingent. In January of 1900, fifty-four gunners, twenty-seven of whom were from Guelph, departed Guelph by train with much pomp and circumstance to join "D" Battery commanded by Major Hurdman of Ottawa. The Guelph contingent would form the right section under command of Lieutenant John McCrae of Guelph. "D" Battery was part of a cavalry force consisting of two battalions of mounted rifles and a brigade of three batteries of Field Artillery.

Lieutenant Colonel Nicoll was elected to the Puslinch Council in 1869 servicing until 1893. He was the Deputy Reeve from 1870 to 1882 and Reeve from 1882 to 1894. He was the Warden of Wellington



County in 1892 and appointed Division Court Clerk in Puslinch in 1885. In addition to running the family farm, he worked as an auditor for Wellington County, Puslinch Township, the Puslinch Mutual Fire Insurance Company and the Puslinch Agricultural Society. He was a member of two lodges, The Sons of Scotland, Loch Blue Lodge and the Speed Lodge, AF and AM.

He married Jane (Jennie) McFarlane of Puslinch on July 15, 1874 and they had nine children; Margaret Maude born in 1875, William Alexander born in 1877, Mary Jane born in 1879, John Stewart born in 1881, George Loudon born in 1883, Peter Ernest born in 1884, Charles Gordon born in 1887, Wilbert Ross born in 1889 and Jesse Elizabeth born in 1892.

Lieutenant Colonel Nicoll died on January 2, 1921 at the age of 77 and is buried in Crown Cemetery located just north of Morriston on the corner of Brock Road and Highway 401. His wife Jennie died in May 1937 and is buried alongside him.



Lieutenant Colonel John Davidson Commanding Officer 1902-1914

Lieutenant Colonel John Davidson was born in Guelph one of five children (three girls and two boys) the son of Charles Davidson and Jean Kennedy. His father was born in Ayrshire, Scotland and immigrated to Canada in 1841 and moved to Guelph when he was offered a position managing Ross's Store in Guelph.

Lieutenant Colonel Davidson was educated in Guelph at the Guelph Grammar School and the Rockwood Academy. He served an apprenticeship with Fischer of Waterloo, in a general store and then went to Toronto and took a course at James Day's Business College and entered the millinery house of Thomas May & Company for the next seven years. His health demanded a change and in 1876, he returned to Guelph and went to work in his father's office with the Wellington Mutual Fire Insurance Company. At his father's death in 1898 he became the Manager of the Wellington Mutual Fire Insurance Company.



He joined the 16th Battery as a gunner and in 1881 he got his commission serving in the 11th Battery. He was subsequently appointed adjutant under Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald. In 1890 he was appointed Battery Commander of the 16th Battery replacing Major Hood who retired. In 1902 he succeeded Lieutenant Colonel Nicoll as Commanding Officer of the 1st Artillery Brigade.

Lieutenant Colonel Davidson was Commanding Officer of the brigade when the 11th and 16th Field Batteries, lost most of its guns, supply wagons and stores in a train wreck at Enterprise, Ontario on 9 June 1903 while enroute to Militia summer training at Deseronto. Commanding the Batteries at the time were Major Merewether commanding the 11th and Major John McCrae commanding the 16th. All but two of the guns were destroyed and several horses were killed. Fortunately no soldiers or civilians were injured. It was reported in The Canadian Military Gazette in July 1903 that the lost guns were "nine pounder muzzle-loaders" that were due to be replaced by the new breech loading 12 pounder.

There was disappointment in 1904, when the Brigade was converted to a Howitzer Brigade and armed with 5" Howitzers instead of the new field gun. It is not confirmed, but the loss of their guns in the train wreck in 1903 could have been a determining factor in the Brigade being converted to howitzers. In 1905 the 16th and 11th Batteries stood first and second respectively in Canada for efficiency. In 1908 it



was recorded that the Brigade had two hundred and fourteen Officers and men, eight 5" Howitzers and a hundred and forty-five horses.

Lieutenant Colonel Davidson was for more than thirty years, the representative of the leading steam ship lines sailing from New York and Montreal and had an office in the Guelph Market Square. He was also a Director of the Wellington Mutual Fire Insurance Company and a member of the Board of Trade. He was a clerk of sessions, appointed in 1898 replacing his father. He was a member of the Masonic Order and of the Scottish Rite, as well as an elder of St. Andrew's Church and an active Sunday school worker, being Superintendent on three occasions.

He was married to Grace Davidson of Hamilton and they had one son.



Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Bain Petrie Commanding Officer 1914-1915

Lieutenant Colonel Alexander B. Petrie was born on April 13, 1870 in Wellington County, Ontario, the oldest of six children. He was the son of Alexander Bain Petrie and Laventia Horner. His father was a prominent Guelph businessman and City Ward Councilor who was by trade a chemist and a pharmacist who had the Petrie Building built on Wyndham Street in 1882 and operated a drug store in the street level floor. The building, now a heritage building was designed by Guelph architect John Day and is only one of three building in the country built prior to 1890 with full sheet metal facades.

Lieutenant Colonel Petrie received his early education in Guelph schools and the Guelph Collegiate and his university education at the University of Toronto and the University of Philadelphia, PA. After graduating from university, he went into business with his father in the drug store on Wyndham Street.



He remained in the city until 1918, taking up residence in Hamilton at that time where he was involved with the Petrie Manufacturing Company, a producer of gasoline engines and cream separators. He later moved to Toronto and lived there for a few years. In 1943 he moved to Thornhill, Ontario where he was retired and living when he passed away.

He was a member of the 1st Artillery Brigade and a Lieutenant at the time of the South African War, when the Guelph contingent left Guelph under command of Lieutenant John McCrae and by 1908 commanded the 11th Battery. In 1914 upon the retirement of Lieutenant Colonel John Davidson, he became the temporary Commanding Officer until relinquishing command to Major F. Watt who commanded for the balance of the Great War.

Lieutenant Colonel Petrie was married to Frances Elizabeth Bromely and they had three children, Helen Bromley Petrie born in 1903, Alexander Bain Petrie born in 1908 and Catharine Leventia in 2006. His son Alexander was a Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps living in New Brunswick at the time of Lieutenant Colonel Petrie's death.

Lieutenant Colonel Petrie was a member of the Masonic Lodge and member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church while living in Guelph.

He died in January 1944 and was buried in the family plot at Woodlawn cemetery on the 11th of January, 1944 at the age of seventy-three.



Major Frederic Templeton Watt Commanding Officer 1915-1918

Major Fred Watt was born in Guelph on April 27, 1882, one of ten children, the son of James Watt and Margaret Guthrie. His father was born in Guelph and was a barrister, whose father emigrated from Scotland to Canada in the early 1800's settling in the Guelph area.

Major Watt was educated in Guelph at the Guelph Colligate Vocational Institute and the University of Toronto. He studied law and was called to the bar in 1908. He was a Kings Council and appointed City of Guelph Police Magistrate in 1913, a position he held until 1956. He had a reputation for being a tough, no nonsense judge.



There is very little record of Major Watt's military service either before or after the war, but he did command the 1st Howitzer Brigade during the First World War.

Judge Watt was very active in the Guelph community and was a Master at the Masonic Waverley Lodge. He was a member of the Guelph Horticultural Society and its President in 1921. He was also a member of the Guelph Historical Society and the President of the Guelph Canadian Club where he was involved in instituting a Memorial Fund in the memory of Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae. He was Chairman of the local library Board and the Chairman of the Board of Trade. He donated a parcel of land to the city for use as a park which is still in existence today and known as Sunny Acres Park off Edinburgh, just south of Paisley.

In 1924 at the age of forty-two, he married Mayhard Kingsmill Thompson of Guelph, the daughter of Edward Thompson and Mary Mercer.

He died on March 9, 1957 at the age of seventy-four and is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in Guelph.



Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Thomas Coghlan DSO VD Commanding Officer 1919

Lieutenant Colonel Frederick T. Coghlan was born on April 19, 1869 in Guelph, Ontario, one of ten children to Thomas Stewart Coghlan and Jane Sweetnam. Lieutenant Colonel Coghlan's father was born on a farm in Guelph Township in 1829, the son of an Irish immigrant (Stewart Coghlan) of Queen's County, Ireland who came to Canada in 1827 settling in Guelph.

Lieutenant Colonel Coghlan was educated at the Guelph Collegiate Institute and later the University of Toronto where he obtained his DDS and LDS. Prior to the war he was a practicing dentist in Guelph and a member of the Roman Catholic Church (Church of Our Lady).

He joined the 11th Battery of the 1st Artillery Brigade in Guelph in 1904 as a Lieutenant, promoted to Captain in 1907 and to Major in 1910. At the outbreak of the First World War he organized the 29th Battery CFA and took command of the 11th Howitzer Brigade CFA CEF on February 26, 1916. He disembarked for England on the March 13, 1916 and arrived in France July 15, 1916. He commanded the 29th Battery at Ypres, the Somme and Vimy. He was promoted to Acting Lieutenant Colonel January 27, 1917 commanding the 11th Brigade but transferred to the 10th Brigade Canadian Field Artillery on re-organization on March 25, 1917 reverting to the rank of Major and commanding the 43rd Battery. He was Mentioned in Despatches on April 9, 1917 and taken on strength of 8th Brigade CFA on May 6, 1917. He was wounded at Passchendaele in November 1917, Mentioned in Despatches once more in December 1917 and awarded the Distinguished Service Order on January 1, 1918 for gallantry at Passchendaele. He was posted to the 8th Army Brigade CFA on January 30, 1918 and was subsequently promoted Acting Lieutenant Colonel on March 13, 1918 and posted to the 9th Brigade CFA. He was awarded France's Croix de Guerre on March 11, 1919 and struck off strength and returned to Canada on March 19, 1919.



On return to Guelph he commanded the 1st Artillery Brigade for a brief time but moved to Vancouver with his family. Four months after his arrival in Vancouver he was given command of the newly formed 15th Brigade Canadian Field Artillery, which he commanded from 1920 to 1924.

Lieutenant Colonel Coghlan was married to Rose Genevieve Hazleton in Guelph on January 5, 1899 and they had one son and two daughters.

He died on April 9, 1944 ten days short of his seventy-five birthday in Vancouver and is interred at Mountain View Cemetery. His wife Rose died on June 9, 1955 at 82 years old in Vancouver.



Lieutenant Colonel William Simpson VD Commanding Officer 1920 - 1929

Lieutenant Colonel William Simpson was born on July 21, 1880 in Palmerston, Ontario, the eldest of five children to David Simpson and Jemima Hewer.

He joined the 1st Artillery Brigade in 1900 as a gunner and served in South Africa as a Corporal with the South African Constabulary from March 1901 to March 1902. On his return he continued his service and was promoted to a Lieutenant in 1908. He was subsequently promoted to Captain and was a Major commanding 16th Battery when the Great War broke out. He mobilized the 16th Battery for overseas service with the men recruited from the 16th Field Battery in Guelph, the 6th Field Battery in London, Ontario and the 30th Field Battery in Aylmer.



He enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) on December 1914 and arrived in England on May 30, 1915 as Officer Commanding 16th Battery CFA. He took the Battery to France as part of the 4th Brigade, 2nd Canadian Divisional Artillery on the September 15, 1915. On March 14, 1916 he had a fall from his horse while in Belgium injuring his right shoulder when the horse fell partially on him. After spending some time in a couple hospitals on the continent, he was evaluated to England and to the I.O.D.E Hospital for Officers. He subsequently commanded the 82nd Howitzer Battery of the Reserve Brigade, as well the Reserve Brigade (RBCFA) and the Canadian Artillery Regimental Depot at Whitley Camp in Surrey, England. He returned to Canada in July of 1919 in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He was subsequently appointed the Commanding officer of the 1st Artillery Brigade assuming command from Lieutenant Colonel F. T. Coghlan. He commanded from 1920 to 1929 and was the Commanding Officer at the time of the militia reorganization in 1920 that resulted in the regiment being re-designated the 11th Brigade, Canadian Field Artillery. In 1929 before leaving for Vancouver, he handed over command of the regiment to Lieutenant Colonel George Drew.

He was listed as a journalist on his attestation papers when he joined the CEF and was the secretary of the Guelph Chamber of Commerce for some time. He was involved in a number of volunteer organizations including the Presto Music club where he was treasurer and the Guelph Music Society. He was a member of the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows, Lodge 158. He was on the planning committee of the Guelph Centennial in 1927. In early 1929, six months before his death he and his family moved to Vancouver where he took the position of Provincial Superintendent with the Empire Life Insurance Company.

He was married to Margaret J. Simpson (maiden name unknown) who was born in 1881 in Scotland.

Lieutenant Colonel William Simpson died in Vancouver, British Columbia on November 13, 1929 at the age of forty-nine. His remains were sent to Toronto for internment.



Lieutenant Colonel George Alexander Gibbs Drew PC CC VD CD Commanding Officer 1929 to 1935

Lieutenant Colonel George A. Drew was born on May 7, 1894, one of ten children born to John Jacob Drew and Annie Isabelle Stevenson Gibbs of Guelph. He was named after his Grandfather, George Alexander Drew, a Queen's Council and a member of Sir John A. MacDonald's Confederation Cabinet. His father was a prominent Guelph lawyer and president of the South Wellington Conservative Association.

After attending public school and the Guelph Collegiate Institute, Lieutenant Colonel Drew attended Upper Canada College. While a student he joined the 11th Battery of the 1st Artillery Brigade and was a Lieutenant in the 11th Battery at the outbreak of the First World War. In December 1914 he enrolled in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) at the age of twenty and went overseas as a member of the 16th Battery CEF, which was commanded by Major William Simpson of Guelph. He proceeded overseas in May 1915 and arrived in France in September 1915. While serving as Lieutenant in the 16th Battery in Poperinghe, West Flanders on May 10, 1915 he was wounded when struck in the left forearm by a shell fragment. His left arm was shattered with both major bones broken. After spending a month in hospital in France he was invalided to the I.O.D.E. Hospital in England and spent most of the next year in England in and out of hospitals for various operations including numerous bone grafts. He was invalided to Canada in January 1917 and spent the next twenty-nine months in and out of hospitals during which time he commanded the 64th Depot Battery. He was released from the CEF on June 6, 1919. He would have restricted use of his left arm for the remainder of his life. During the period that he served in Canada he attended the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall; being called to the bar of the Province of Ontario in 1920



After his release from the Canadian Expeditionary Force he practiced law in Guelph, continuing with the Militia as a member of the 11th Brigade CFA. He commanded the 16th Battery before becoming Commanding Officer in 1929. During his tour as Commanding Officer, the Brigade won the Shaughnessy Cup, an annual award for efficiency, three times; 1930, 1931 and 1932. He served two terms (1932 and 1933) as President of the Canadian Artillery Association and in 1932 was one of the four founders of the Conference of Defence Associations, serving as its Chair in 1933. He relinquished command of the Regiment to Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Crowe in 1935. In 1949 he was appointed Honorary Colonel of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment RCA, a position he held until his death in 1973.

While active with the regiment he made an entry in local politics in 1921 becoming an alderman for the city of Guelph. In 1925 at the age of thirty-one he became Mayor of Guelph, the youngest chief magistrate in Canada at the time. In 1926 he was appointed Assistant Master of the Supreme Court of Ontario and three years later elevated to Master-in-Chambers; a job that involved hearing minor cases



and the screening of cases for the Supreme Court hearings. In 1931 he was appointed Chairman of the Ontario Securities Commission. In 1934 he started to get involved in provincial politics and two years later he was Chairman of the provincial Conservative Campaign Committee. He became leader of the provincial Conservative Party and in 1939 he was elected a member of the Ontario legislature representing Simcoe East. In general election in 1943 he was elected to the Ontario Legislature for the riding of High Park and became Premier of Ontario when the Progressive Conservatives won a minority government.

In 1948 he was chosen leader of the Federal Progressive Conservative Party and resigned as Premier of Ontario. The same year he was elected to the House of Commons for the riding of Carleton. He spent the next eight years in Ottawa as the Leader of the Official Opposition. In 1953 he was appointed to the Privy Council. Due to ill health, following an attack of meningitis, he resigned as party leader in 1956; succeeded by John Diefenbaker. From 1957 to 1964 he served as Canada's High Commissioner to Great Britain. He was appointed the first Chancellor to the University of Guelph, serving from 1965 to 1971.

Lieutenant Colonel Drew was President of the Toronto branch of the League of Nations, Vice President of the Dominion Command of the Royal Canadian Legion and the author of several books. He was the recipient of honorary Doctor of Law Degrees from the University of Toronto (1945) and the University of Western Ontario at London Ontario, Canada (1947). In 1967 he was made a Companion of the Order of Canada

In 1936 he married Florenza Johnson, the daughter and only child of the famous opera singer Edward Johnson and Countess Beatrix de Veiga of Portugal. Her father, who was the General Manger of the 30th Battalion Metropolitan Opera in New York, was also from Guelph and in his youth, a member of the of Rifles band. George and Florenza had two children, Edward and Alexandra. Florenza passed away in 1965. Lieutenant Colonel Drew remarried in 1966 to Phyllis McCullagh, the widow of the former publisher of Toronto's The Globe and Mail and The Toronto Telegram newspapers

He died in January 4, 1973 of heart failure at the age of seventy-eight. He was buried in the family plot in Woodlawn Cemetery in Guelph, alongside his first wife Florenza.



Lieutenant Colonel Charles Douglas Crowe MC ED Commanding Officer 1935 to 1940

Charles Douglas (Doug) Crowe was born, one of six children on November 27, 1897 in Guelph Ontario, the son of Lieutenant Colonel Charles Robert Crowe and Edith Bowden Skinner. His father, Charles Robert Crowe was an Officer in the Wellington Rifles, an accomplished musician and sportsman who captained the Canadian Bisley Team in the 1920s and was the co-proprietor of Crowe Iron Works in Guelph. Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Crowe's grandfather was Captain John Crowe who was the paymaster, First Brigade Canadian Field Artillery and the Wellington Rifles and the founder and proprietor of Crowe Iron Works.



Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Crowe joined the 1st Artillery Brigade as student, serving in the 16th Howitzer Battery. He was a Lieutenant in December 1915 when he joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force at the age of eighteen. He enlisted in the 43rd Battery, commanded by Major David McCrae and served in the 43rd Battery as part of the 11th Brigade, 3rd Canadian Division, Royal Canadian Artillery. He departed Canada on February 26, 1916 and embarked for active service in France July 14, 1916. He also served with the 9th Brigade, the 3rd Divisional Trench Mortar Battery and for a time was attached to Royal Flying Corps. He was wounded while on duty in November 1917. He was awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous bravery in January 1918 and was awarded the bar to the Military Cross the following year in March 1919. He was promoted to Captain in April 1919 and returned to Canada at the end of May. For a short period he was an acting Major; all this before his twenty-second birthday. On his return to Canada he remained in the Militia with the 11th Field Brigade in between wars while a member of the family firm; Crowe Iron Works. He commanded the 29th Battery as a Major from 1925 to 1926. In 1927 now the Battery Commander of 16 Battery took the battery to Petawawa for training. He was the Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Artillery Brigade from 1935 to 1940, succeeding Lieutenant Colonel George Drew.

At the outbreak of war in September 1939, the 29th Field Battery was mobilized as part of the 3rd Army Field Regiment (later called the 11th Army field Regiment). In 1940 the Regiment went overseas commanded by LCol Douglas Crowe. In 1941 he returned to Canada to raise and organize the 19th Army Field Regiment with Guelph's 63rd as one of the batteries. He commanded the 19th Field Regiment until 1943 but did not take it overseas. In 1943 he was appointed the Chief Administrative Officer at A-23 Coast and Anti-Aircraft Artillery Training Centre in Montreal, a post he held until 1944, when he was appointed to the Directorate of Trades Training in Ottawa.



One of his brothers was Lieutenant Colonel Ralph Marston Crowe (1911-1943), who died in Sicily during Operation Husky while serving as Commanding Officer of the Royal Canadian Regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Crowe was married to Winnifred Powell and had three sons who all served in the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery; Charles Julien (Joe) Crowe CD, Denis Bleecher Crowe OMM CD and John Douglas Crowe MC CD. All three sons rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Both John and Denis Crowe were veterans of the Second World War where John Crowe was awarded the Military Cross for his work in Holland. All three were veterans of the Korean War.

In February 1925 Lieutenant Colonel C. D. Crowe, along with his Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel William Simpson was elected to the Guelph Musical Society. He became President of the Guelph Tennis Club in 1927 and a member the Caledon Mountain Trout Club in 1934. He was the President of the Guelph Rifle Association in 1936. In 1953 he was appointed Deputy Minister of Travel and Publicity in Ontario.

He died on 24 July 1957 in his sixtieth year and is interned at Woodlawn Cemetery in Guelph.

Hanging in a prominent location in the 11th Field Artillery Regiment Officers' Mess is a portrait of Lieutenant Colonel C. D. Crowe that was painted in England in 1940 by artist Richard Marintreu. The portrait was presented to the Mess by Major John Kennedy ED of Toronto, a close friend of Lieutenant Colonel Crowe in May of 1958 and was unveiled by Colonel Crowe's son, Captain Joe Crowe in the presence of over 200 guests. The picture was graciously accepted by Lieutenant Colonel Fred Metcalf, the Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment.



Lieutenant Colonel Cyril Launcelot Calhrop Allinson Commanding Officer 1940

Lieutenant Colonel C. L. C. Allinson was born in Lewisham, London, England in 1893. His father was John James Allinson a solicitor and Captain in the Cinque Ports Rifles Volunteers in England. His mother was Margaret Eva Livesay.

Lieutenant Colonel Allinson was a Gunner Bugler with the Royal Garrison Artillery in Brighton, England in 1907. He moved to Canada when he was about twenty years old and enlisted with the Canadian Field Artillery as a Gunner. He went to Europe with the first contingent of the Canadian Expeditionary Force in September 1914. During 1915 and 1916 he fought in the Ypres salient, at Mount Sorrel and other battles.



He was the Bombardier and on duty in the Artillery Brigade headquarters during the Second Battle of Ypres and was present when Lieutenant Helmer was killed and John McCrae wrote "In Flanders Fields", In August of 1916, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Garrison Artillery and posted to 191 Siege Battery. Later he saw action in the Somme, until he moved to Arras and Vimy Ridge for the 1917 battles. He was severely wounded, losing an eye on May the 30th, 1917 during the Battle of Arras. He was discharged in October, 1917.

He was married to Elsie Innes MacDonald whose father was William MacDonald who was a partner in D. E. MacDonald Dry Goods on Wyndham Street in Guelph. Lieutenant Colonel Allinson was the Secretary Treasurer of the company in 1941 when the company was moved to MacDonnell Street where it continued as a men's wear shop until 1957. Elsie's mother was Alice MacIntosh.

In a 1932 South Wellington directory C. L. C. Allinson is listed as a barrister. In 1967 he produced a booklet as a personal centennial Project entitled "Notes on Courts and Court Buildings at Guelph; History of Administration of Justice; Wellington County Lawyers who Attained Special Eminence" and is shown as a retired Barrister at Law. According to his daughter, he had a law degree from the University of New Brunswick. In 1935 he is listed as one of the original members of the first Wellington County Historical Society and is shown as Captain C. L. C. Allinson.

He was one of the original founders of the Red Chevron Club in Guelph and involved with the Royal Canadian Legion and one of the original members of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 257.

He commanded the 11th Field Regiment R.F. in 1940 where he was responsible for recruiting reinforcement soldiers for the war effort. He was succeeded by Lieutenant Colonel O. G. Lye.

Lieutenant Colonel Allinson and Elsie had one child, Cynthia whose married last name is McLeod.



He died in Guelph General Hospital on September 16, 1975 and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery in Guelph. His wife Elsie passed in 1982 and interred at Woodlawn Cemetery along with her husband.



Lieutenant Colonel Ossian Gardiner Lye Commanding Officer 1941

Lieutenant Colonel Ossian G. Lye was born in Toronto, Ontario on February 20, 1889. His parents were John G. and Freda Lye of Toronto.

He was a graduate of the University of Toronto and was by trade a chemist. While he was going to University he served in the Militia with the Queen's Own Rifles from 1908 to 1911 until he moved to Guelph to work for the Canadian Diamalt Company Ltd.

In May of 1915 at the age of 26 he enlisted for service in Canadian Expeditionary Force overseas joining the 2nd University Company CEF. He served in France as a Corporal with the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI). In May of 1916 while on leave in England, he came down with tonsillitis and spent a significant amount of time in the hospital. While recovering he served with various units in England until he was returned to Canada in early 1917. He was medically discharged in July 1917.



He reenlisted in the Militia with the Wellington Rifles in 1919 and was a Lieutenant in 1921 and a Major by 1933. In 1936 when the Wellington Rifles was folded into the 63rd Battery of the 11th Field Brigade, he became a member of the 11th Field Brigade. In 1940 he assumed command of the 11th Field Regiment RCA from Lieutenant Colonel C. L. C. Allison. He relinquished command of the Regiment in December 1942 to Lieutenant Colonel J. T. Steele.

In 1930 he was a manager of the Canadian Diamalt Company Ltd. The Canadian Diamalt Company Ltd eventually became Standard Brands Ltd. and Lieutenant Colonel Lye was the manager of the plant in Guelph at the time he was Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Regiment.

He ran for Alderman of the City of Guelph in 1930 served three years on city council and was Mayor in 1932. He had a great interest in amateur sports, including Guelph baseball and hockey. He served with the Guelph Chamber of Commerce and various welfare bodies in Guelph. In 1936 he is listed as a Patron of the Guelph Rifle Association and was a member of the Caledon Trout Club.

He was married to Florence Hilda Kirby and had two sons, one a son William Kirby Lye born on 14 July 1918 who later would become Brigadier General William Kirby Lye MBE, CD who was an Engineering officer. Brigadier General Lye served with 1 Field Regiment during the Second World War and commanded the Royal Military College from 1970 to 1973.

Lieutenant Colonel O. G. Lye died on Tuesday, November 26, 1963 and is interned at Woodlawn Cemetery in Guelph. His wife Florence passed away two years later in February.



Lieutenant Colonel John (Jack) Thomas Steele ED Commanding Officer 1942-1946

Lieutenant Colonel John T. Steele was the son of James Steele and Gertrude Lambkin. James Steele was an Irish emigrant who started Steele's Wire Springs Ltd. in Guelph during the 19th century. Lieutenant Colonel John Steele was born in Guelph on January 9, 1892, the sixth of seven children; three boys and four girls. He attended St. Johns Public School and Guelph Collegiate Vocational Institute (GCVI) where he developed his love of shooting while in cadets.

After two years at GCVI Lieutenant Colonel Steele left school at the age of 16 to work at his father's business. In 1913 his father passed on the business to Lieutenant Colonel Steele and his two brothers and he made the business his career becoming a master machinist. He was married on December 21, 1916 to the former Margaret Grant of Harrison, Ontario and they had two children, a son, Captain William J. Steele and a daughter, Jacqueline.



His military career began with the Wellington Rifles of Guelph around 1920 when he enlisted as a Private, working his way through the ranks until 1924 when he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. He was promoted Captain in July of 1927. When the Wellington Rifles was disbanded in 1936 he transferred in the rank of Captain to the 11th Field Brigade, joining the 63rd Field Battery RCA. At the time the Wellington Rifles were disbanded they were folded into the 63rd Battery. He later went on to be command the 16th Battery and qualified to the rank of Major in 1938.

In 1940 when the 16th and 43rd Batteries were mobilized for active service he offered to revert to the rank of Captain and go on active service, however his son, Lieutenant William Steele was serving in the 16/43 Battery and he was told that they would not permit a Father/Son to be in the same unit. Rather he was given task of forming and commanding the 2-16 Battery which would be a reinforcement battery. In August of 1942 he was awarded the Efficiency Decoration (ED) for twenty years of service in the military.

In December of 1942 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Regiment RCA (R.F.) succeeding Lieutenant Colonel O. G. Lye. He commanded the 11th Field Regiment for the remainder of the war and on December 26, 1946 relinquished command of the Regiment to Lieutenant Colonel A. G. Goldie DSO.



Lieutenant Colonel Steele was an accomplished marksman with few equals and one of the best shots in the British Empire. Approximately 3,000 competitors from Canada, the United States, Britain and Australia would gather each year for this prestigious event at the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association's competition site in Rockcliffe Ontario. He was an expert with many different firearms but his specialty was the full-bore rifle. He shot distances up to 1000 yards and was the Canadian champion once, second twice and third on another occasion.

His marksmanship also won him the coveted Governor General's prize. The best competitors from that event were selected to participate on the Canadian Rifle team at Bisley, England. Lieutenant Colonel Steele was selected 14 times between 1913 and 1948. The top competitors were awarded the King's Prize and he won that on three occasions. And he was steady until the end coming second in the King's prize during his final year of competition in 1948.

Lieutenant Colonel Steele was a member of the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association and a member of the executive committee from 1930 to 1949 and it's President in 1950. In 1952 he was elected to the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association Hall of Fame. He was inducted into the Guelph Sports Hall of Fame in the Veteran Athlete category on October 23, 2013.

Lieutenant Colonel John T. Steele died on February 7, 1965 at the age of 73 following a brief illness and is interned at Woodlawn Cemetery in Guelph.



Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Gibson (Gib) Goldie DSO Commanding Officer 1946-1949

Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Gibson (Gib) Goldie was born on May 21, 1903 in Waterloo Ontario, the son of Alexander Rodgers Goldie and Nora Gibson who were married May 31, 1897 in Waterloo. Lieutenant Colonel Goldie's father A. R. Goldie was a prominent Galt businessman (who was the son of a Scottish emigrant) and a partner in the Goldie & McCulloch Company Limited, a large manufacturing company of boilers and pumps. Goldie & McCulloch merged with Babcox Wilcox in 1923 and A. R. Goldie became President of the company in 1932. Lieutenant Colonel Gib Goldie married Anne Marion Hancock on Thursday September 6, 1928. They had one child; a daughter Barbara.



Lieutenant Colonel Goldie started his military career in Brantford, joining the 69th Battery. When it was organized as a Non-Permanent Active Militia Battery with its Headquarters in Hamilton in September 1939 he enlisted in the 11/69 Battery as a Second Lieutenant. Going from Hamilton to Petawawa in June 1940, he transferred to the 16/43 Battery of Guelph as part of the 12th Field Regiment RCA commanded by Lieutenant Colonel George Inch ED of Hamilton. He was subsequently promoted to Lieutenant in September 1940 when the Regiment moved to Sussex, New Brunswick and was promoted Captain on 1 June, 1941 prior to the Regiment going overseas on 1 July 1941. He spent the next three years training primarily as a FOO for the assault on Europe.

During the invasion of Normandy, he commanded the 43rd Battery as a Major in support of the 1st Canadian Scottish, 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade, 3rd Canadian Division. During the assault he went ashore as landing officer and was responsible for directing the ship borne gun fire unto the enemy defenses. On the afternoon of D-Day following the Second in Command of the 12th Field Regiment being wounded, he was appointed Second in Command of the Regiment and given the responsibility of deploying the Regiment on the beaches of Normandy, The following day on June 8th 1944 he was captured by the Germans along with other members of his unit when the Germans attacked during a heavy bombardment supported by a tank attack. He was later able to escape during an allied counter-attack. For his gallantry on the beaches of Normandy he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order.

He served as the Regimental Second in Command throughout Europe. He was the only original Officer of the 12th Field Regiment to serve the entire war with his Regiment. After the cease of hostilities, Lieutenant Colonel A.G. Goldie DSO was promoted Lieutenant Colonel in June 1945 and commanded the 19th Army Field Regiment from 17 June 1945 to December 1945. One of the batteries in the 19th Army



Field Regiment RCA was the 63rd Battery from Guelph. During the transfer of the Canadians back home, he also commanded the 3rd Anti –Tank and the 4th light Anti-Aircraft Regiments. After returning to Canada he rejoined the militia and commanded the 11th Field Regiment RCA from 20 December 1946 to 07 April 1949 succeeding Lieutenant Colonel John T. Steele. Lieutenant Colonel Goldie was responsible for reorganizing the 11th Field Regiment from a war time footing to a peace time active militia unit and growing the Regiment to approximately 26 Officers and 150 other ranks by the time he stepped down.

After stepping down as Commanding Officer in 1949, Lieutenant Colonel Goldie retired from military life and continued to make his residence in Brantford where he held a position with the Milner Ross Company. He continued to volunteer with various organizations until his death at the Brantford General Hospital on 18 December, 1973 at the age of 70.

The following is his recommendation for the DSO;

Major

Unit: 12th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, 3rd Canadian Infantry Division (12th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, 3rd Canadian Infantry Division)

Action:Recommendation:

On 6 June 1944 during the invasion of Normandy, Major Goldie, 12 Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery acted as a Forward Observation Officer for the shipborne guns of his regiment, directing their fire onto the enemy's beach defences. This necessitated his small craft being in the forefront of the invading fleet to within range of the enemy's small arms weapons. Under very difficult conditions of poor visibility, rough sea and enemy gun fire, he effectively neutralized their defences, thus enabling the 6 Canadian Armoured Regiment and the Royal Winnipeg Rifles to get ashore with comparatively light casualties. On landing he assumed the duties of Second-in-Command and deployed the regiment on the immediate beaches affording continuous support to the infantry. Major Goldie has continued since D Day to reconnoitre and deploy the regiment in every position it has occupied, most frequently under heavy fire and deployed well forward. Of the especially difficult ground of Calais and the south bank of the Scheldt his work and leadership have been of the highest order. His cool judgement, personal courage and continued devotion to duty have been reflected in the quick and accurate response of the guns both by day and night for five months, which has inspired the troops of the 7 Canadian Infantry Brigade with complete confidence in their guns.



Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Johnston Bell OC, MC, CD Commanding Officer 1949 - 1952

Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Bell was born in Southhampton, Ontario in 1914. He attended Ridley College, and in 1936 he moved to Guelph after graduating Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Toronto.

Lieutenant Colonel Bell joined the C.O.T.C. Officer Training plan at the Ontario Agricultural College in September 1940 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant with the 2-29th Battery, 11th Field Regiment R.F. in May 1941. In February 1942 he left the Regiment as a reinforcement officer and was subsequently posted overseas joining the 43rd Battery of the 12th Canadian Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery in December 1942. As a Lieutenant he was the Gun Position Officer of "B" Troop, 11th Battery on D-Day supporting the Royal Winnipeg Rifles. His was the first ship to leave England, and his regiment the first to land in Normandy on D-Day, from which it formed part of the Canadian Liberation Army in NE Europe. In September 1944, Captain Bell, while attached as a Forward Observation Officer with the 15th Canadian Field Artillery Regiment, was badly wounded, but returned to the front to rejoin the 12th Canadian Field Regiment in November immediately after recuperating in England. Once back with his old Regiment, he was employed as a FOO. He was awarded the Military Cross for bravery in April 1945 while supporting the Royal Winnipeg Rifles. His supported Company Commander was killed and Captain Bell took over the infantry company leading them to their objective. He was the Battery Captain of the 11th Battery when he returned home in January 1946. He was the author of "Into Action with the 12th Field", a history of his regiment during the war. He remained in the Militia after the war serving with Guelph's 11th Field Regiment. He was appointed Second in Command of the Regiment in January 1947 and served as Commanding Officer from 1949 until 1952 succeeding Lieutenant Colonel A. G. Goldie. Retiring from the military, he was appointed Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 11th Field Regiment in 1954, a position he held until stepping down in 1969. He remained throughout his life a keen historian of World War II and amassed a considerable library on the subject.



Lieutenant Colonel Bell began his business career as a salesman for the Federal Wire and Cable Company in Guelph, Ontario. He eventually became Vice President, and led the company from a small operation of 35 employees, to a successful organization of over 330 employees. In 1950, he was elected a director of the Canadian Electrical Manufacturers Association, and became President in 1954. His corporate skills were noticed by Eric Philips, CEO of Argus Corp. of Toronto and Chairman of the Fibreglass Canada Ltd., who recommended him for President of Fibreglass Canada, a post which he accepted, and the family, which now consisted of six children moved to Toronto. In 1968, Lieutenant Colonel Bell's business acumen was again noticed and he was asked to serve as CEO and eventually Chairman of Abitibi Paper Company, a position for which he was most well known and which he held very successfully until retirement at age 65 in 1983. He was an outspoken leader in the industry and



earned the reputation as the "Tireless Lion of Abitibi". In 1974, Abitibi, steered boldly by Lieutenant Colonel Bell, launched a successful takeover of the Price Paper Company of Newfoundland, creating the world's largest producer of newsprint and a major exporter among Canada's corporate hierarchy.

Lieutenant Colonel Bell, as one of the leading businessmen in Canada of his era, served as a director on many corporate boards, among them the Royal Bank of Canada, the Robert Simpson Company, Fibreglass Canada, The Matthews Group Ltd., Canada Cement Lafarge, Royal LePage Capital Properties, and the De Havilland Aircraft Ltd.

He was a passionate and gifted golfer. While a member of the Cutten Club in Guelph Ontario and the Rosedale Golf Club in Toronto, he won many club and amateur championships and also served as president of Rosedale. In 1967 he was invited to join the Augusta National Golf Club and eventually became its first Canadian Director. He was also an avid skier, and built a ski chalet at Blue Mountain, Collingwood, where he joined the Toronto Ski Club, and imbued his family with a life-long love of this sport.

Throughout his active business life Lieutenant Colonel Bell dedicated himself to serving his community, which he said had given so much to him. The list of his community service is impressive: Chairman of the Guelph Board of Education, President of the Guelph Board of Trade, President of the Guelph Junction Railway Board, co-chair of a multimillion dollar fund raising campaign for the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, President of the Canadian Arthritis Society, trustee of the Toronto General Hospital, and finally, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of that hospital for an unprecedented sixteen years until 1986, a post he held with great pride, dedication, energy, and accomplishment. In appreciation, not only of his years as Chairman, but for his role as chief fundraiser for the massive expansion of the Toronto General Hospital in 1983, the University Wing of the Hospital was renamed the Thomas J. Bell Wing. The portico of this historical building has been rebuilt in the impressive new Patient Atrium of the renovated hospital, and a tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Bell has been placed there. In 1982, he was named "Canadian Philanthropist of the Year" by the National Society of Fund-Raising Executives. In 1983, in recognition of his outstanding civic service, he was awarded a Honourary Doctor of Law, *Honoris Causa*, from the University of Toronto.

After his retirement from the Toronto General Hospital, Lieutenant Colonel Bell continued to sit on several Ontario Government medical committees. He served as Chairman of the Healing Arts Radiation Protection Commission, 1981-1988, and Director, Ontario Research Foundation, 1982-1987.

Lieutenant Colonel Bell was a recipient of the Military Cross (MC) and the Canadian Forces Decoration (CD). In 1989, he was made an Officer of the Order of Canada for his community service.

At the time of his passing in 2003, he was survived by his wife of 58 years, Edna Gertrude "Trudie" (nee; Harshman) of Ottawa who passed in January 2006. He was survived by five children Penny, Pamela, Jennifer, Mark, stepdaughter Wendi Redmond and fourteen grandchildren.



Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Nixon Kearns CD Commanding Officer 1952 - 1955

Lieutenant Colonel Arthur N. Kearns was born in the town of Arthur, Ontario on December 20, 1913, the son of John McKeown Kearns QC and Jane Ann McKeon. He attended Guelph Colligate Vocational Institute (GCVI) in Guelph in 1932 prior to attending law school in Toronto at Osgoode Hall. He was the Gold Medal winner for his graduating year and was admitted to the bar in 1939.



Lieutenant Colonel Kearns joined the Militia in 1939 and served during the Second World War seeing active service in 1940 and going overseas with the 12th Field Regiment in 1941. In July of 1942 he transferred to the 6th Canadian Infantry Brigade Headquarters in England and then a few months later he was posted to the 1st Canadian Army Headquarters in the rank of Captain. He returned to Canada in 1943 to attend the six-month War Staff Course in Kingston. After completing the course he returned to England in September of 1943 and served in the Canadian Military Headquarters in London. He then posted to duty in the European theatre in the Canada sector of the 21st Army Group where he served the balance of the war until November 1945. During his service in Europe he was "Mentioned in Despatches".

In 1947 Lieutenant Colonel Kearns joined the 11th Field Artillery Regiment serving initially as Adjutant and then as a Major seeing service as a Battery Commander and then as Second in Command until he took over command in 1952. He commanded the 11th Artillery Field Regiment from October 15, 1952 to January 31, 1955 succeeding the Lieutenant Colonel Tom Bell as commanding officer with Brigadier P. A. S. Todd, CRA 1st Division, as the Reviewing Officer.

Lieutenant Colonel Kearns practiced law in Guelph for 52 years with Kearns McKinnon LLP and during that time was active in many community groups. He was a member of the Canadian Bar Association, the Law Society of Upper Canada, Canadian Tax Foundation and the Wellington Law Association of which he was President from 1959 to 1960

He was a member of the Guelph Transportation Commission from 1946 to 1952 and Chairman of the Commission from 1950 to 1952. He was also a member and Chairman of the Guelph Public Library Board, a member and President of the Guelph Rotary Club, a member of the Board of Directors for the University of Guelph and a member of the Board of Directors for the Guelph Spring Festival. He was a member of the local Progressive Conservative Party in Guelph.

He was married to Edith Barbara Henderson and they had four children, Katherine, Michael, Ann and Geoffrey all of whom were born in Guelph.

Lieutenant Colonel Art Kearns passed away on July 20, 1992 at the age of 78.



Lieutenant Colonel Philip Kenneth Griggs CD Commanding Officer 1955 - 1958

Lieutenant Colonel Philip K. Criggs was born in 1915, one of five children, the son of Benjamin Frank Criggs and Mary Beatrice Baker.

As a child he moved from Winnipeg to Guelph with his parents, two brothers and two sisters. He attended Guelph Collegiate Vocational Institute (GCVI) and the University of Toronto where he graduated in 1935 with a degree in commerce and finance. Following graduation he worked for an investment house in Toronto for a year before joining his father at the Guelph Spinning Mill.

He was married to Joanna B. Neuman and had one daughter who was a practicing dentist in Guelph.



He served with the 19th Army Field Regiment during the Second World War, achieving the rank of Captain. When the Regiment was mobilized, he was a Lieutenant with the 63rd Battery and in March 1942 his troop ("C" Troop) was sent to Prince Rupert B.C. for the purpose of defending the Prince Rupert harbour. The remainder of the Regiment followed to British Columbia shortly thereafter. In November their tasking was changed and the Regiment was sent to Petawawa for training for overseas deployment. In May 1943 they were the first Regiment to be issued the Sexton Self Propelled 25 Pounder Gun. In July the Regiment moved to England via Halifax, where the Sextons were exchanged for 105mm S.P. Priests. The Regiment supported the 3rd Canadian Division on D-Day and in July, Lieutenant Griggs by then a FOO was wounded and had to be evacuated. In September after recuperating, Lieutenant Griggs returned to his Regiment as a replacement Officer assuming the position of Intelligence Officer. In October while in Holland he was promoted to Captain. In December 1944 he was transferred to the 4th Canadian Armored Division Headquarters and served as a liaison Officer until V.E. Day. Lieutenant Colonel Griggs commanded the 63rd Battery on its return from Europe.

On his return from active service he joined the 11th Field Regiment RCA in Guelph and was subsequently promoted to Major and given command of the 29th Battery. He was the Second in Command from 1952 to 1955 and the Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Regiment RCA succeeding Lieutenant Colonel Art Kearns from February 1955 to November 1957.

After his return from Europe in 1946, he joined the Guelph Paper Box Company where he worked until February 1984 when he retired at the age of 69. He was the President and General Manager of the company up until 1982 when he became an Executive Advisor to the company.



He was involved with the Guelph community as President of the YMCA, Chairman of the United Way, a Scout Leader and a fundraiser for the University of Guelph and the University of Waterloo.

Lieutenant Colonel Griggs died on February 8, 2002 at the age of 87. His wife Joanna died later the same year and both interred at Woodlawn Cemetery in Guelph.



Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Taylor Metcalf CD Commanding Officer 1958 - 1961

Frederick Taylor Metcalf was born in Toronto, Ontario on March 17, 1921, the son of Charles Metcalf and Mable Atkinson of Toronto.

He was educated at North Toronto Collegiate Institute

Lieutenant Colonel Metcalf enlisted in the ranks of the Toronto Scottish in the 1930s and served in Europe during the Second World War with the Lake Superior Regiment in 1942. He was commissioned in 1944 serving as a Lieutenant in Holland. He was discharged from active service in 1946. He joined the 11th Field Regiment RCA in 1948. He served as the Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Regiment RCA from 1958 to 1961. In 1972 he was appointed Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 11th Field Regiment and Honorary Colonel in 1974. He was awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration (CD) in 1953. During his tour of command of the Regiment he oversaw the conversion of the Regiment from the 25 Pdr Gun to 105 mm C1 Howitzer and the FN C1 rifle, the regiment firing the 105 mm C1 for the first time in May of 1958. He was also responsible for conducting regimental training during the National Survival era.



After the war he became a Sales Representative with Dunn Sales in Toronto from 1946 to 1947. In 1948 Lieutenant Colonel Metcalf along with Wally Slatter opened Guelph's first radio station, CJOY on June the 14th. Some of the early shareholders in the radio station were military associates and fellow officers from the 11th Field Regiment in the persons of Arthur Kearns and Tom Bell. He was also the founder of the first cable television system in Canada called "Neighborhood TV" in 1952, making Guelph, the first city in North America to get cable television. As an early pioneer of community programming in Canada, he increased the company to twenty cable operations, which he sold to Mclean Hunter in 1967 and ran that company as President and CEO between 1977 and 1984. MacLean Hunter was taken over by Rogers Cable TV in 1994.

By 1983, Frederick Thomas Metcalf was the President and Chief Operating Officer, Maclean Hunter Limited, a diversified communications company involved in publishing (MacLean's Magazine, Chatelaine and shares in the Toronto Sun), cable television, radio and television broadcasting. He was Chairman of the Board of Suburban Cablevision, New Jersey, USA and a Director of Canada Trust until he retired in 1991.

He was a founding member and President of the Canadian Cable Television Association, a member of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters, CCBA Broadcast Executive Society. He was a member of the



University of Guelph Heritage Trust, the Guelph Country Club, the Cutten Club and the Royal Canadian Military Institute. His interests were swimming, hiking, reading and travel.

He was married to Kathleen (Kay) May Adams, a daughter of Arthur C. Adams. They were married on October 3, 1940 and had five children, Douglas, David, Charles, Diane and Cheryl. Kay and Fred Metcalf were strong supporters of the University of Guelph and endowed a Presidents Scholarship.

Lieutenant Colonel Metcalf died on February 15, 1996 at the age of 74 and is interred at Woodlawn Cemetery in Guelph along with his wife Kathleen who passed on May 5, 2003 in her 86th year.



Lieutenant Colonel Colin Campbell MacDonald CD Commanding Officer 1961 - 1965

Lieutenant Colonel Colin C. MacDonald was born in Toronto in 1923, one of six children, the son of Major Robert A. MacDonald and Suzanne Leggate. His father was a veteran of the Boer War and the First World War. His grandparents emigrated from the Isle of Skye, Scotland and settled in Sidney Mines, Nova Scotia where they had fourteen children of which Colin's father was number seven.

At the age of seven, Colin and his family moved to a farm at Chute, Ontario. Colin received his early education in Chute and left the farm at seventeen years old. He went to college in Kemptville, Ontario and took part in the COTC program and was attached to the Brockville Rifles Militia. After graduation in 1942 he transferred to active service, obtaining the rank of Sergeant in 1943. Shortly after, he attended officer training at the Royal Military College in Kingston and was commissioned as a Lieutenant in 1944. He served as an instructor at Camp Borden, Kingston and the Pacific Command. He was sent to the east coast in early in 1945 arriving just before the conflict in Europe ended. He then returned to Borden and later Kingston until 1947 when he left active service and moved to Guelph, Ontario, where he joined the 11th Field Regiment RCA.



Lieutenant Colonel McDonald who served as Second-in-Command of the Regiment under Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Metcalf, assumed command of the 11th Field Regiment in April 1961. He relinquished command of the Regiment to Lieutenant Colonel Donald Ingram in February 1965.

Upon moving to Guelph, he became an officer for the Veterans land Act (VLA) for Wellington and Simcoe Counties and was with them for seventeen years. From 1947 to 1950 he attended the University of Guelph obtaining his BSA majoring in Agriculture. In 1967 he became a partner in Cardinal Homes, a building company which he took over in 1969 becoming President as well as being President of Colin MacDonald Construction. The companies were dissolved in 1971 and he became a mortgage broker and a real estate appraiser. He was for many years the Deputy High Commissioner for the clan MacDonald in Canada. Locally he volunteered for the Guelph Museum Board and was a member of Colonel John McCrae Birthplace Society.

He was married to Dorothy T. Colleson of Toronto and had three children; Brian, Alan and Christine. They were divorced in 1980. He suffered strokes in the mid 1980's and again in 1991.



He retired in 1989 and due to failing health spent his retirement quietly living with his second wife Shirley M. Scott in Bancroft, Ontario. After moving to an assisted living retirement home, Lieutenant Colonel Colin MacDonald died in 2006.



Lieutenant Colonel Donald George Ingram CD Commanding Officer 1965 - 1968

Donald George Ingram was born in Toronto in 1923, one of 7 children.

Lieutenant Colonel Ingram joined the Canadian Armoured Corps early in 1940 and in November of that year was sent overseas. He served in England, Northwest Europe, France, Holland and Belgium. He was wounded in 1944 and spent two months in the hospital when the tank he was in was hit and burned. After several months recuperating, he returned to his Armoured unit where he remained for the balance of the war, serving his entire active service in the same squadron.



In 1937 at the age of fifteen, he was forced to cut short his education due to financial difficulties, so when the war ended he decided to get his matriculation at rehabilitation school in Toronto. In 1948 he moved to Guelph and attended the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC), graduating four years later. Fresh out of college he went to work for a large animal practice for a London doctor for six months. He then returned to OVC as a research assistant working on the blood typing of animals. It was that year that he joined the 11th Field Regiment RCA as a way of paying back the Army for his education. In 1956 he acquired his MVSc from the University of Toronto and attended Cambridge where he got his PhD. In his third year at Cambridge he was supported by a National Research Council grant. He wrote a book in collaboration with his PhD supervisor entitled "The Serology of Conglutination" an extension of his thesis that was published in 1961. In total during his life he had 92 scientific publications in scientific journals to his credit.

In 1961 he received his DVSc from the University of Toronto, all while continuing to work at OVC. In 1969 he was Associate Dean of Research at the OVC and at the time of his death was the acting Dean of Research for the University of Guelph.

Joining the 11th Field Regiment in 1952, he was a Major and the Battery Commander of the 43rd Battery in the early 1960s. He took command of the Regiment on February 23, 1965 succeeding Lieutenant Colonel Colin MacDonald. Lieutenant Colonel Ingram would be the last Second World War veteran to command the 11th Field Regiment. He was the Commanding Officer during the 100th Anniversary of the Regiment in 1966 when significant celebrations took place including a Freedom of the City of Guelph Parade as well as a one hundred gun salute, an all ranks ball and a visit by the Governor General George P. Vanier and Madame Vanier in September/October of that year. He was also the Commanding Officer



during the centennial celebrations of Canada's 100th Birthday. He relinquished command of the Regiment in 1968 to Lieutenant Colonel Ralph French.

He met his wife Pierrette Champagne, a former teacher and the daughter of a French Colonial Army Officer while living in England and attending Cambridge. They were married in 1958 in a small French town called Chantilly. They had one child, George Pierre.

Lieutenant Colonel Ingram was a member of the University of Guelph Senate and an executive member of the Wellington County TB and Health Association. His associations included the Canadian Society for Immunology, the Ontario Antibody Club, the Canadian Society of Microbiology, the British Society for Immunology, the New York Academy of Science and the Genetic Society of Canada. His interests included travel, photography and woodworking.

Lieutenant Colonel Ingram died April 23, 1978 at the age of 57 at the Guelph General Hospital. Two scholarships were established at the University of Guelph in his name through the establishment of a Memorial Fund.



Lieutenant Colonel Ralph George French CD Commanding Officer 1968 -1971 & 1990 - 1992

Lieutenant Colonel Ralph G. French was born on August 14, 1936 in Maryborough Township, Wellington County, Ontario, the second of three children to Mervyn Corbett French and Hazel Grace English. His father managed a farm for a while, before moving to Palmerston, Ontario where he was a coal deliveryman when Lieutenant Colonel French was quite young. The family moved to Fergus, Ontario when Lieutenant Colonel French was five, where his father worked for Beatty Brothers until he retired. His father was a Captain in the local volunteer fire department in Fergus.

Lieutenant Colonel French attended Fergus Public School and Fergus High School. It was while in high school that he got his first interest in the military through army cadets. It was in conversation with his shop teacher, Mr. Oscar Moon, that he developed an interest in the militia. Mr. Moon who was a Second World War veteran, was a Captain serving with the 11th Field Regiment RCA



Lieutenant Colonel French joined the 29th Battery of the 11th Field Regiment RCA as a Gunner in February of 1953 and after completing recruit and basic gunnery training was promoted to Bombardier in November 1953 while still in High School. He completed the Senior NCO course in the summer of 1954 and was promoted to Sergeant that following November becoming a 25 pounder Detachment Commander in 1955. In 1958 he applied for officer training and being accepted in the Cadet Officer Training Corps (COTC) was promoted to Officer Cadet. As he progressed through his training he was subsequently promoted to Second Lieutenant, Lieutenant and then to Captain in 1962. In 1960 the 63rd Battery was transferred to the Supplementary Order of Battle and the 16th Battery was reformed and located in Fergus under the command of Captain Oscar Moon, with Lieutenant French moving to the 16th Battery. He remained in the Fergus Battery until 1964 when the 16th Battery was shut down in Fergus and moved to Guelph. Captain French subsequently served as Adjutant and Regimental Signals Officer. He attended Senior Officer's Staff Course in 1964, promoted to Major in 1965 and given command of the 16th Battery. He attended the Militia Staff College in Kingston in 1967 and was appointed Second-in-Command of the Regiment in September 1967. He was promoted Lieutenant Colonel in September 1968 at 32 years of age and appointed Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment RCA succeeding Lieutenant Donald Ingram.

It was during Lieutenant Colonel French's tour as Commanding Officer, in 1970 that the 11 Field Regiment and the 8th Field Regiment located in Hamilton amalgamated, with the 8th Field Regiment going to the supplementary order of battle and the 11th Battery becoming part of the 11th Field Regiment. At the same time the 43rd Battery went to the Supplementary Order of Battle with the 11th Field Artillery Regiment, now consisting of the 16th and 29th Batteries in Guelph and the 11th (HW) Battery in Hamilton. He relinquished command of the Regiment in 1971 to Lieutenant Colonel Cliff Tootell of Hamilton. Lieutenant Colonel French went on to be Senior Staff Officer, Administration and Logistics at Central Militia



Area Headquarters in Toronto until he transferred to the Supplementary List retiring for the first time in 1974.

For a number of years Lieutenant Colonel French volunteered with the local Navy Cadets and the Navy League, but in 1984 he took a reduction in rank to Major and rejoined the 11th Field Regiment as the Battery Commander of 16 Battery. He was appointed Second-in-Command in September 1986 and assumed Command of the Regiment for the second time in May 1990, succeeding Lieutenant Colonel Michael McKay. He retired for the second time in 1992 when he reached the compulsory retirement age of fifty-five, turning command of the Regiment over to Lieutenant Colonel Robert Elliott. After stepping down as CO of the 11th Field Regiment he got involved with the Army Cadets, taking command of the 1943 Army Cadet Corps in Palmerston as an Acting Major. He remained active with the cadets until reaching compulsory retirement age at sixty-five.

In civilian life, Lieutenant Colonel French held management positions in Material Management and Purchasing with a number of companies including Foseco Canada Inc., Borg Textiles and the Elmira Stove Works. He is a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Canadian Association for Production and Inventory Control and the Canadian Institute of Management. He is a past president of the Guelph Branch of the Navy League of Canada, a Life Member and past president of the Royal Canadian Artillery Association, a Vice Chairman of the Artillery Support Group of Guelph and a member of the 11th Field Regimental Senate.

Lieutenant Colonel French has the Canadian Forces Decoration and the Canada 125 medal. He is married to Patricia Anne Granger of Guelph and they have three grown children, Mark, Scott and Michelle. His interests include travel, golf, woodworking and military history.



Lieutenant Colonel Clifford (Cliff) Malcolm Tootell CD Commanding Officer 1971-1974

Lieutenant Colonel Cliff Tootell was born in Wigan, Lancashire, England January 5, 1937. He immigrated to Canada settling in Hamilton, Ontario with his family at the age of sixteen. He was educated at Westdale High School and Mohawk College in Hamilton.

In 1955 at the age of 18, he joined the 8th Field Regiment RCA as a gunner, serving continuously with the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery for the remainder of his military career. He was promoted Lance Bombardier in June 1956 and completed the Junior NCO Course in July of that year, before being accepted for officer training in September. He was commissioned and promoted to Second Lieutenant at CFB Shilo in 1958 and subsequently promoted to Lieutenant in 1959. He transferred to the 3rd Independent Medium Battery in Gananoque in 1961 for approximately two years while working with Ontario Department of Highways as a Surveyor. Lieutenant Colonel Tootell returned to the 8th Field Regiment with a job transfer to Stelco Steel in Hamilton in 1963.



Lieutenant Colonel Tootell was promoted Captain in 1963 and subsequently appointed adjutant of the 8th Field Artillery Regiment RCA in 1966. He attended Major Qualifying at CFB Gagetown in 1967 and was promoted to Major and appointed Battery Commander, 11th (HW) Battery in 1968. In 1970 with the amalgamation of the 8th and 11th Field Regiments RCA, Lieutenant Colonel Tootell transferred to the 11th Field Regiment RCA where he was appointed second in command.

He attended the Militia Command and Staff Course in 1971 and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment RCA in November of that year succeeding Lieutenant Colonel Ralph French. Following his tour of command, he transferred to HQ Hamilton Militia District where he worked as Senior Staff Officer "Administration and Logistics" prior to transferring to the Supplementary list in December 1975. During this break in service Lieutenant Colonel Tootell continued to support the Regiment as a member of the Regimental Senate as well as an active member of the Hamilton Artillery Association and a member of the 8th Field Regiment Board of Trustees.

In 1997, Lieutenant Colonel Tootell was appointed the Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 11th Field Regiment RCA. He was subsequently appointed Honorary Colonel of the 11th Field Regiment RCA in January 2001. Lieutenant Colonel Tootell retired as Honorary Colonel of the Regiment in December 2005 after a very successful year of spearheading the 150 anniversary celebrations of his beloved 11th Hamilton Wentworth Battery in Hamilton, more than fifty years after joining the Regimental family as a Gunner.

Lieutenant Colonel Tootell had a bar to his Canadian Forces Decoration, and was awarded the Colonel Commandant's Commendation for outstanding service to the Guns in 2005.



In civilian life, Colonel Tootell was Buyer with the Steel Company of Canada before retiring in 1990. He was a member of the Regimental Senate of the 11th Field Regiment RCA. He was a Life Member of the Royal Canadian Artillery Association and a Director of the Hamilton Artillery Association. He was an active Member of the Masonic Order, having served as the District Deputy Grand Master Hamilton District "C" and Executive Secretary of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in Hamilton.

Lieutenant Colonel Tootell and his wife Jeannette (nee: Cossar), resided in Hamilton until his death in January 2012. Jeannette was born in South Cayuga, Ontario on May 19, 1939 one of three children to James and Frances Cossar. Cliff and Jeannette were married on April 23, 1960, beginning a partnership that would last 52 years. Jeannette passed suddenly on April 2, 2021. They had two children, a son Gavin and a daughter Sheila.



Lieutenant Colonel David Charles Willard CD Commanding Officer 1974 – 1977

Lieutenant Colonel David C. Willard was born on April 21, 1941 in New Liskeard, Ontario the youngest sibling of a large family. His father died when he was very young and he came to Guelph where he attended Guelph Collegiate Vocational Institute (GCVI). He began his association with the military in 1953 when he joined the 121 Squadron Air Cadets in Guelph. He remained with the Air Cadet corps until 1959.

Lieutenant Colonel Willard graduated from GCVI in 1959 and started his employment as a laboratory assistant with Foseco Canada Inc., a supplier of metallurgical products to the Foundry and Steel Industry. He progressed through the company and was a Technical Sales Representative with the Steel Mill Division before being appointed General Manager in the early 1970s and later Vice President Steelmill Division. While working with Foseco he continued his education, attending the University of Guelph on a part time basis graduating with a degree in Economics and Business Administration.



He joined the 11th Field Regiment in 1960 and attended the prerequisite officer qualifying courses and progressed through the officer ranks. Lieutenant Colonel Willard served as a Captain in the 16th Battery in 1966 and was a Forward Observation Officer for the field battery. He served as the Regimental Adjutant in 1967. He was promoted from Captain to Major in 1969 and appointed Battery Commander 43rd Battery and the Mobile Command Field Battery. In 1972 he was appointed Second in Command of the Regiment and assumed command, succeeding Lieutenant Colonel Cliff Tootell in 1974. He relinquished command in January of 1977 and retired from the military.

Lieutenant Colonel Willard continued in his career with Foseco, joining Foseco International located in Birmingham, England as a senior executive in the Steelmill Products Division, until he was transferred back to North America to take the position of President, Steelmill Products Division of Foseco's United States operation, headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio. He eventually left Foseco to start his own business in the metallurgical field. He sold the company a few years later before retiring to Freeport, Grand Bahamas. Throughout his life he was an entrepreneur and dabbled in a number of enterprises ranging from dairy farming to retail outlets, continuing this into his retirement years.

Lieutenant Colonel Willard was married to Donna Ransom of Elmira and they had three children. While living in the United States, Lieutenant Colonel Willard and his wife Donna divorced. He later remarried his second wife before relocating to Freeport, Grand Bahamas.

Lieutenant Colonel Willard was awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration (CD) and was a member of the Association for Iron and Steel Technology and a number of other professional organizations. He passed away on June 21, 2015 at the age of 74 while in Florida being treated for cancer.



Lieutenant Colonel William H. Hammill CD Commanding Officer 1977 – 1980 & 1984 – 1986

Lieutenant Colonel Wm. H. Hammill was born on May 8, 1937, in Guelph, Ontario the youngest of three brothers (siblings; Ken and John). He lived in Huntsville from 1940 to 1949. He attended Central Senior Public School in Guelph where he was President of the Students Council. He attended Guelph Collegiate and was active in sports, including football. He graduated with honours in 1956, subsequently going on to McMaster University and the University of Waterloo where he studied financial accounting.

In 1951, Lieutenant Colonel Hammill started his military career in Guelph, ON when he joined the 1882 Army Cadet Corps. His summers during his teen years were spent on Senior Leaders courses at Camp Ipperwash. In 1955 he was awarded Master Cadet Status and attended the National Cadet Camp in Banff, Alberta, representing Wellington County. He was appointed the Cadet Commanding Officer for the years 1955 and 1956.



Lieutenant Colonel Hammill joined the Royal Canadian Artillery in September 1957 through the COTC program and after completing the requisite qualifying courses was granted his Queens Commission in 1959. He was subsequently promoted to Lieutenant and continued his career progression courses, rising to the rank of Major. In 1966 he assumed command of the 43rd Field Battery. In 1968 he completed his formal artillery officer training at staff school in Kingston ON. In 1974 he was appointed Second in Command of the 11th Field Regiment RCA. In 1977 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and assumed command of the Regiment until 1980. In 1984 he was called back to command the Regiment for a second term until 1986. Lieutenant Colonel Hammill continued to be an active participant in Regimental affairs as a member of the Regimental Senate and an executive member of the Artillery Support Group and was appointed Honorary Lieutenant Colonel in 2015, a position he held until 2019.

Lieutenant Colonel Hammill has his bar to his Canadian Forces Decoration and was awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1978.

Throughout his military career, Lieutenant Colonel Hammill had an interest in the family business and was a partner in the business J.P. Hammill and Son Ltd. Established in 1929 in Guelph, ON the company manufactured and distributed workwear and uniforms to both retail and industrial customers across Canada and into the USA.



Lieutenant Colonel Hammill was a member of the Royal Canadian Military Institute in Toronto, ON, the Crow's Nest Officers' Club in St. Johns, NL and a Life Member of the Royal Canadian Artillery Association. He was a member of the Guelph Chamber of Commerce and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 234. He served with The Canadian National Ski Patrol and held a scuba diving certificate and his private pilot's license. His interests included hockey, skiing, sailing and flying his own taildragger aircraft at the Guelph Airpart.

Lieutenant Colonel Hammill was a long time Guelph resident and he and his wife Virginia Lee (nee Wildfang) have two sons, Tom and Chris who both served in the 11th Field Regiment RCA as officers. Lieutenant Colonel Hammill passed away on the 29th of April 2022 in his 85th year and is interred at Woodlawn Memorial Park in Guelph.



Colonel Gary Ernest Burton CD (ADC) Commanding Officer 1980 – 1983

Colonel Burton was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia on June 14th 1944, the fourth of eight children to Ernest Garfield Burton and Mary Veatress Bradley formerly of the Burin Peninsula in Newfoundland. He moved with his family to Southern Ontario at the age of six. He began his military career with the Erin High School cadet corps in 1958. Colonel Burton attended Cadet Leadership courses at Camp Ipperwash during the summers of 1959 and 1960, and taught at Cadet Leadership courses as a Corporal Instructor in the summers of 1962 and 1963. He was selected as Cadet of the Year for the year 1960 – 1961 and appointed Cadet Commanding Officer in 1962.



In January 1961 he joined the 16th Battery, 11th Field Regiment RCA as a gunner, serving continuously with the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery for the remainder of his career with one year spent with the 33rd Medium Regiment RCA in Napanee, Ontario where he was promoted to Bombardier in 1963. Back with the 11th Field Regiment RCA, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 1964, and was the Regimental Signals Sergeant in 1965 when he was accepted for officer training as a Provisional Second Lieutenant serving with the 43rd Battery. He was commissioned in 1967, and promoted to Lieutenant, serving as a Gun Position Officer and Command Post Officer. He attended Captain Qualifying in Shilo, Manitoba in 1969 and was promoted to Captain that same year and served as a Forward Observation Officer (FOO) with the Field Battery. He attended Major Qualifying in the summer of 1971 at CFB Petawawa and was subsequently promoted to Major and appointed Battery Commander, 29th Battery in 1973.

He attended the Militia Command and Staff Course in 1974 and in 1977 was appointed 2nd in Command of the 11th Field Regiment RCA. From September 1978 to October 1979, he was attached to Hamilton Militia District Headquarters as the Staff Officer 2 Training (SO2 Trg). Upon returning to his unit, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in February 1980 and appointed Commanding Officer and served in the post until October 1983.

Following his tour of command, he transferred to the Militia Officer Training School in Toronto where he was an instructor / Directing Staff on Officer career progression courses. In February 1985 he was appointed Senior Staff Officer Artillery at Central Militia Area Headquarters. He returned to HQ Hamilton Militia District in September 1986 as the Senior Staff Officer, Operations (G3). He subsequently held the positions of Senior Staff Officer, Services (G1) and Deputy Commander. Colonel Burton attended the NATO Reserve Officer's Course in Rome in 1989. He was promoted to Colonel and commanded the District from



June of 1990 to October 1993. He served as Brigade Commander for the Central Militia Area collective training at Petawawa in the summer of 1992.

Colonel Burton retired from the Primary Reserves in September 1994. In 2001, he was appointed the Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 11th Field Regiment RCA. Colonel Burton was subsequently appointed Honorary Colonel of the 11th Field Regiment RCA in January 2006, an appointment that he relinquished in April 2015.

Colonel Burton has his third bar to his Canadian Forces Decoration (CD), and was awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1978, the Canada 125 Medal in 1993 and in 2013 was admitted to the Order of St. John in the grade of Member. He was awarded the Sovereigns' Medal for Volunteers in 2019. In 2021 he was awarded the St. John Service Medal and the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires Long Service Medal (CLSM). From 1990 to 1993 Colonel Burton served as Honorary ADC to Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn. In January 2011 he received "The Colonel Commandant's Commendation" for his dedicated service to the Guns. In 2016 he was awarded the Commissionaires Distinguished Service Medal for his service to the Corps of Commissionaires. He was awarded the Mobile Command Achievement Award in 1990. He is a qualified military parachutist.

In 2009 after 34 years of service, Colonel Burton retired as the National Sales Manager of the Flow Control Division of Vesuvius Canada Inc. (a major supplier to the primary steel industry) of Welland. He is currently a Past Chairman of the Regimental Senate of the 11th Field Regiment, Chairman of the Artillery Support Group of Guelph, a past Chairman of the Guelph branch of St. John Ambulance and a current member of the St. John Council for Ontario Honours and Awards Committee. In addition he is a Past Chairman of the Board of Governors for the Hamilton Division of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires and also chairs the Commissionaires National Honours and Awards Committee.

Colonel Burton is very active with the Royal Canadian Artillery Association (RCAA), and has held the positions of President (twice), member of the advisory board, member of the RCAA Board of Directors and is a past Chairman of the Board of Directors. He was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Association In October 2018. In addition he is a former member of Royal Canadian Artillery Senate, the Association for Iron and Steel Technology, a member of Reserves 2000, a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, branch 234, a member of the 1st Artillery Brigade Association and the Hamilton Artillery Association.

Colonel Burton and his wife Marilyn Ruth (nee; Vance), who were married in Hillsburgh, Ontario on 17 July 1965 have four children, Deborah Anne, Stephen William, Scott Edward and Michael Gary, as well as four Grand Children; Matthew, Spencer, Alexander and Evelyn. His hobbies in retirement include travel, music, military history and hockey as an avid Toronto Maple Leafs fan.



Lieutenant Colonel John L. Pelletier CD Commanding Officer 1983 – 1984

Lieutenant Colonel John L. Pelletier was born in Timmins, Ontario on July 6, 1940. He eventually moved with his family to Sudbury, where he completed his elementary and secondary education. His field of education was mining and technology.

Lieutenant Pelletier enrolled in the Lord Mountbatten Sea Cadet Corps in September 1954 and after a period of service with the Royal Canadian Navy; he enlisted in the 58th Light Anti Aircraft (LAA) Regiment in Sudbury and was commissioned with the rank of Second Lieutenant. On March 1, 1961 he was promoted to Lieutenant. The 58th LAA Regiment was re-designated the 58th Field Artillery Regiment RCA in December 1962 and then converted to infantry and designated 2nd Battalion, Irish Regiment of Canada in 1965.



When he relocated to Hamilton, he promptly transferred to the 8th Field Artillery Regiment RCA. He remained with the Regiment until 1966 at which time he transferred to the Supplementary Reserve List in order to take a year off for studies. Upon his return to the regiment he was promoted to Captain and served in various capacities with the regiment. In 1970, the 8th Field Artillery Regiment RCA was moved to the supplementary order of battle and its 11th Battery became part of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment now known as the 11th (HW) Battery, located in Hamilton. In 1972 after completing the necessary course of military studies, he was promoted to Major and a year later appointed Officer Commanding 16th Battery. He later commanded the 11th (HW) Battery in Hamilton.

In September 1974, Lieutenant Colonel Pelletier was posted to Hamilton District Headquarters in the position of Staff Officer 2 (SO2) Operations and Training. He served in that position for two years and on the 10th of September 1976 he transferred to the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry where he was appointed Deputy Commanding Officer and Support Company Commander. In 1977 he returned to the 11th Field Artillery Regiment and commanded the 11th (HW) Battery for the next four years. He was appointed Deputy Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment in January 1981. In September 1982 he was once again posted to Hamilton District as Staff Officer 2 for Training, returning to the Regiment in February 1983 where he resumed the position of Deputy Commanding Officer up until he succeeded Lieutenant Colonel G. Burton CD as Commanding Officer on October 2, 1983.

Following Command of the Regiment he reverted to the rank of Major and spent the next several years at District Headquarters as a staff officer. He retired from the Primary Reserve in the early 1990's.

Lieutenant Colonel Pelletier is a recipient of the Canadian Forces Decoration (CD) and the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal.



He is married to Kathleen Gladys (Packham) Evans and they had three children, Trevor, Oliver and Kristina. The family lives in Vinemount, Ontario. In civilian life Lieutenant Colonel Pelletier worked as a contract processor for Otis Elevator Company and was an employee of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires.

His interests include military and historical reading and research, as well as travelling.



Lieutenant Colonel Michael David McKay CD AdeC Commanding Officer 1986 – 1990

Lieutenant Colonel Michael D. McKay was born in Kitchener, Ontario on April 13, 1949, the fourth of six children to Murray McKay and Helen Agnes Diebolt. He moved to Guelph with his family at the age of six.

Lieutenant Colonel McKay joined the 29th Battery of the 11th Field Regiment in April 1965 as a Gunner. On completion of basic gunnery training he transferred to the 16th Battery to train as an Artillery Technician. In 1966, he completed the Junior Non-Commissioned Officer Course and was promoted to Bombardier in early 1967. In the fall of 1967, he was accepted for Officer Training and enrolled as a Provisional Second Lieutenant. Upon completion of qualifying courses at CFB Petawawa he was commissioned in September 1968, and transferred to the 43rd Battery as a Gun Position Officer (GPO).



He attended Captain Qualifying in Shilo, Manitoba in 1969 and was subsequently promoted to Captain. In 1971, he served as a GPO with the Allied Command Europe (ACE) Mobile Force on attachment in Germany. He was appointed Adjutant in 1973, serving in this capacity for almost two years. Lieutenant Colonel McKay attended the Major Qualifying Course in 1976, was promoted Major in 1978, and appointed Battery Commander of the 16th Battery. From September 1979 to August 1981, he was attached to Headquarters, Hamilton District as Staff Officer 2 (SO2) Operations. Upon his return to the Regiment he was appointed Battery Commander 29th Battery. In October 1983, he was appointed Deputy Commanding Officer. He attended the Militia Command and Staff College in July 1986. In December of 1986 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment. He relinquished command in May of 1990 on transfer to FMC HQ (Army Headquarters) St. Hubert, Quebec where he served as Senior Staff Officer, Reserve Operations. Two years later he was transferred to Land Forces Central Area HQ as Senior Staff Officer Artillery. He retired from military service in May of 1994.

Lieutenant Colonel McKay commenced his business career working as a Process Development Engineer in the molten metal industry traveling extensively throughout Canada. Special projects necessitated frequent travel to the United States as well as to the Dominican Republic, Mexico, New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom and Europe. He was a member of both the Canadian and American Institutes of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers. Up until his retirement, he was the President and Chief Executive Officer of MDM Insurance Services Inc. He holds the designation of Chartered Financial



Planner (CFP) and is a member and graduate of the Canadian Institute of Financial Planning. He is a Health Insurance Associate (HIA), an Associate of the International Claims Association (ALHC), a Managed Health Care Professional (MHP), Advanced Trustee Management Standards (ATMS), and a member of the Independent Financial Brokers of Canada. He is a Past Chair of the Health Industry Electronic Commerce Association (HIEC).

In 1982, Colonel The Honourable John Black Aird, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario appointed Lieutenant Colonel McKay, Aide de Camp, a position that he has continued to hold for each successive Lieutenant Governor up to the present day. In February 2006, he was appointed Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 11th Field Regiment RCA, a position he held until 2013. He was appointed Honorary Colonel of the 11th Field Regiment RCA in April 2015 and served in that capacity until the end of March 2021.

Lieutenant Colonel McKay has been inducted into the Order of St. John in the grade of Member. He is a recipient of the Canadian Forces Decoration (CD), the Canada 125 medal, the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal. He was presented the Lieutenant Governor's Community Volunteer Award presented by The Honourable James Bartleman. He received the Colonel Commandant's Commendation on two occasions from Colonel's Commandant; MacInnis and Beno for his continuing generous support to 11th Field Regiment, The Royal Canadian Artillery Association and to The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery as a whole. In 2006, he was awarded Citizen of the Year by the Guelph Police Service. In 2020 he received the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Commendation for his support to the 11th Field Regiment and for his work on the Col John McCrae Statue Project. In the same year, he received the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers for his outstanding contribution in volunteerism.

His past community service includes work as a volunteer case worker for the Guelph Credit and Debt Council. He has served as director and president of this same organization. He also served on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Guelph Wellington. He assists with fund raising for various charities and other worthy causes.

Lieutenant Colonel McKay is a member of the 11th Field Regimental Senate, the RCA Senate, the Chair of the RCA Heritage Campaign, a Life Member, past President and a former Director of the Royal Canadian Artillery Association. Lieutenant Colonel McKay conceived, developed, fund raised and successfully implemented the project which saw the erection of two statues of Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, the author of *In Flanders's Fields*; one at the National Artillery Memorial in Ottawa and one in Guelph, John McCrae's home town. He is currently Executive Director for the Artillery Support Group of Guelph. He is a Past Chair and member of the Board of Directors for the Guelph Branch of St. Ambulance. He is the current Chair of the Board of Directors for the Hamilton Division of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires. He is a member of the Canada Company, Reserves 2000, the Hamilton Artillery Association (HAA) and 1st Artillery Brigade Association (1ABA).

Lieutenant Colonel McKay resides in Guelph with his wife Nadia Toscan. He has two adult daughters, Stacy and Lee, as well as three grandchildren, Braden, Charlotte and Michael



Lieutenant Colonel Robert W. Elliott OMM CD Commanding Officer 1992 – 1996 & 2002 – 2004

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Elliott was born in Victoria and grew up in Kamloops, British Columbia. He joined Army Cadets in 1959 and attended Cadet Camps during the next four summers. He joined the Rocky Mountain Rangers in 1962 and was promoted to Sergeant in 1964.

He had an interest in both science and history in high school. Concluding that there was not too much future in history, he went into science at the University of British Columbia.

He joined the University of British Columbia Contingent of the Canadian Officers Training Corps in 1964. He was commissioned in 1966, transferred to the 15th Field Regiment, RCA in Vancouver and was promoted to Lieutenant. After graduating with a BSc (Hons) in Chemistry in 1968, he transferred to the supplementary reserve and moved to Ontario to begin employment with Dow Chemical of Canada as a Chemist in their research laboratory in Sarnia. In late 1970, he joined International Nickel as a Chemist in their research laboratory in Mississauga. From 1978 to 1980, he was employed by Bristol Plating, an electroplating firm in Etobicoke as the Assistant Plant Manager. He joined the Ontario Research Foundation as an Associate Research Scientist, specializing in corrosion in 1980.



Lieutenant Colonel Elliott joined the 7 Toronto Regiment, RCA in 1971 and was promoted to Captain in 1973. He spent 1974 as a Staff Officer at Toronto Militia District Headquarters. He was promoted to Major in 1980. He transferred to Central Militia Area Headquarters in December 1983 and to Toronto Militia District Headquarters in May 1984.

He transferred to the 11th Field Regiment, RCA in October 1984 and was appointed Battery Commander of 11 (Hamilton Wentworth) Field Battery. He was appointed Battery Commander of 16 Field Battery in Guelph in 1987 and Second in Command of the Regiment in 1990. In November 1992 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer of the Regiment and served in that position until May 1996. In the summer of 1995, he commanded a composite regiment during the summer concentration.

In 1990 he bought a townhouse in Milton. After the sale of the Ontario Research Foundation (now called ORTECH Corporation) to Bodycote International PLC in 1999, Lieutenant Colonel Elliott was transferred from Mississauga to Cambridge where he was employed as a Corrosion Analyst with Bodycote Materials Testing Canada Inc., Galt Laboratory. His work involved determining the cause of corrosion related metal failures and specialized corrosion testing.



In August 1996 Lieutenant Colonel Elliott joined London District Headquarters as Deputy Chief of Staff Support. On re-designation of the District as 31 CBG he became the Assistant Chief of Staff. In September 1998 he joined the Directing Staff of the Militia Command and Staff Course, remaining in that position until starting to retire in August 2001. He returned to the 11th Field Regiment in fall 2001 and was again appointed Commanding Officer in January 2002. He relinquished command in June 2004, retiring from the Canadian Forces in March 2005.

Bodycote sold their materials testing division in 2010 and the new company was called Exova. Lieutenant Colonel Elliott retired in late 2015 after thirty-five years in the same job, all be it under different company names and in two different locations.

He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Military Merit in September 2004 and to the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem in the grade of member in 2020, and holds the Canada 125 Medal, the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal and the Canadian Forces Decoration with two clasps and the St John Long Service Medal.

He is a Past President of the Royal Canadian Artillery Association. He has been a member of the executive of Branch 136, Royal Canadian Legion and has served as Second Vice-President, First Vice-President, Public Relations Officer, Branch Service Officer, Canteen Chair, Cadet Liaison Officer, Poppy Chair, Parade Marshall and Curator of the branch museum. He is a member of the Board of the St. John Ambulance, Halton Branch. He is an active member of the 11th Field Regimental Senate.

He maintains an interest in Canadian Military history and has been on a number of battlefield tours to Italy and Northwest Europe covering both the First and Second World Wars.



Colonel Wayne M. Shiplo CD Commanding Officer 1996 – 2000

Colonel Wayne Shiplo began his military career in 1968 when he enrolled as a Gunner in the 56th Field Artillery Regiment RCA in Brantford, Ontario. Thereafter he progressed through several trade courses and ranks until he was appointed the operational battery's Technical Sergeant in 1971. Colonel Shiplo accepted an officer's commission in 1972 and was promoted to Lieutenant later that same year.

In order to complete an Honours Bachelor of Commerce degree, work in northern Alberta and study for a Master of Business Administration degree, Colonel Shiplo transferred to the Canadian Forces Supplemental List in 1975. Upon successful completion of post graduate work in 1981, he joined the 7th Toronto Regiment RCA where, as a Captain, he attained the positions of Gun Position Officer, Forward Observation Officer, Adjutant and Battery Captain. Upon promotion to Major in 1986 he was appointed Battery Commander. In 1988, he was selected as the Chief Instructor of the Toronto District Battle School and subsequently became the School's Officer Commanding.



With his move to Burlington in 1990, he transferred to the 11th Field Artillery Regiment RCA and was appointed Battery Commander of the 11th (Hamilton-Wentworth) Field Battery. In 1992 he was appointed Second in Command of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment and in 1996 was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer. He relinquished command of the Regiment in 2000 to Lieutenant Colonel Michael McKean.

In January 2001, Colonel Shiplo was appointed Assistant Chief of Staff, Operations & Training at 31 Canadian Brigade Group Headquarters in London and in October of 2001 he was appointed Deputy Commander. Promotion to Colonel and appointment as Commander of 31 Canadian Brigade Group followed in 2003 for a two year tour of duty. In 2005, he completed the NATO Information Operations program in Germany and was appointed Director of Information Operations for the Canadian Army until that tasking was transferred to National Defence Headquarters.

A long time employee of a major Canadian bank, upon retirement in 2016 Colonel Shiplo was Vice President Loan Syndications for credit transactions to large corporations and projects at head office in Toronto. He has been awarded the professional designation of Fellow of the Institute of Canadian Bankers.

Colonel Shiplo and his wife Kathy have been married since 1980 and they have three adult children.



Lieutenant Colonel Michael Charles McKean CD Commanding Officer 2000 – 2002

Lieutenant Colonel Michael C. McKean was born in Hamiota, Manitoba on November 7, 1959 the older of two boys born to Godfrey Charles McKean and Hazel Mae Nesbitt. He began his association with the military in 1975 as a member of the 26th Field Artillery Regiment RCA in Brandon, Manitoba.

In 1978 he transferred to the Regular Force, completing his Bachelor of Applied Science at the Royal Military College (RMC) at Kingston, Ontario, where he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in 1982.

Continuing education and training have been an ongoing part of Lieutenant Colonel McKean's military career, which allowed him to acquire an in-depth knowledge of several aspects of the Canadian Forces and an appreciation of the inter-Departmental and International aspects of remote-sensing from space. He is a graduate of the Canadian Forces Land Command and Staff College and the Canadian Forces Staff College, and he obtained a Master of Engineering Management degree from the University of Ottawa and a Master of Computer Science from the Royal Military College (RMC).



In 1999 after twenty-one years with the Regular Force, Lieutenant Colonel McKean, then Major McKean transferred back to the Reserves, joining the 11th Field Artillery Regiment RCA and was appointed Battery Commander of the 29th Battery and subsequently Second in Command of the Regiment. In May 2000 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and appointed Commanding Officer. During Lieutenant Colonel McKean's time as Commanding Officer, the City of Guelph celebrated its 175 Birthday and Lieutenant Colonel McKean made a significant effort to tighten the bonds of the Regiment with the City and its involvement in Community Partnerships. In January 2002, Lieutenant Colonel McKean relinquished command of the Regiment to Lieutenant Colonel Robert Elliott.

At the time of stepping down from command, he was living in Sudbury with his wife Sylvie Fortin and their two sons, Francois and Jean-Luc.

Lieutenant Colonel McKean has been awarded the bar to his Canadian Forces Decoration. He continues his association with the Regiment as a member of the Regimental Senate and is a strong supporter of regimental affairs.



Lieutenant Colonel Morley B. Armstrong CD Commanding Officer 2004 – 2007 & 2014 – 2017

Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong was born in Swan River, Manitoba, one of three children (a sister Audrey and a brother Kevin) on December 17, 1958 to Bruce and Doreen Armstrong. He attended and graduated from secondary school in Castlegar, British Columbia. From 1972 to 1976 he was a member of 581 Castlegar Air Cadet Squadron. He entered Royal Roads Military College in 1976 and graduated from the Royal Military College in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Posted to the Third Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery in Shilo, Manitoba, Lieutenant Colonel Armstrong was employed over the next three years in all junior officer field battery positions. This posting included a UN tour to Cyprus in 1982. In 1984, he was appointed the Battery Captain of the regiment's air defence battery, and then, in 1985, was posted to England to attend the Gunnery Staff Course (Air Defence) at the Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill. Upon return to Canada in 1986, Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong was posted as an Instructor-in-Gunnery at the Air Defence Artillery School in Chatham, NB.



In 1989, Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong was posted as Staff Officer Survival-to-Operate with 1 Air Division Headquarters in Lahr, Germany. In 1990, on promotion to Major, he was attached as a Battery Commander with the 22nd Air Defence Regiment, Royal Artillery in Dortmund, Germany. In 1992, he moved with his regiment to England and completed his battery commander tour at the end of that year. Following a short posting with the Canadian Defence Liaison Staff (London), Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong was posted to Headquarters Land Force Command, St-Hubert, QC in 1993 as a staff officer in the G3 Artillery section. In 1994, he completed a tour with the European Community Monitor Mission in Bosnia and Croatia. In 1995, Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong attended the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College in Toronto, ON and upon graduation was posted as the Second-in-Command of 11 Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery in Guelph, ON. In 1997, he completed a tour as a J3 Co-ordination staff officer with the Stabilization Force Headquarters in Sarajevo, Bosnia.

Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong was appointed Commandant of the Canadian Forces Nuclear, Biological and Chemical School in Borden, ON in 1999. In this position, he was also the Commanding Officer of the Joint Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Response Team, responsible for NBC counter-terrorism in Canada. In 2002, he became the Operations Officer for the Canadian Forces Support Training Group in Borden. Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong was promoted to his present rank and appointed Commanding Officer of



11 Field Regiment in June of 2004. In September 2006, Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong was appointed Commanding Officer of Regional Cadet Support Unit (Central) in Borden, the position he held until his retirement from the Regular Force in August, 2011. Upon retirement, he component transferred to the Reserve Force, and commanded the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group in Borden until July 2013. In April 2014, Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong once again assumed command of 11 Field Regiment, subsequently giving up command in May 2017. Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong was then appointed as a Liaison Officer for the Canadian Forces Liaison Council until his release from the Canadian Forces in December 2018.

In 2021 Lieutenant Colonel Armstrong moved to Victoria, British Columbia to be closer to his family. He has one child, a daughter Tiffany.



Lieutenant Colonel Sean E. Carragher CD Commanding Officer 1997 – 2000

Lieutenant Colonel Sean E. Carragher was born in New Liskeard, Ontario on February 10, 1967 the eldest of three children to Captain (Ret'd) Edward Carragher and Mrs. Jeannine Carragher (nee; LeSage).

He enrolled in the 2344 Algonquin Regiment Cadet Corps in 1981 where he was eventually promoted to Cadet Captain and held the position of Cadet Commanding Officer. In 1990 he was accepted into the Canadian Forces under the Officer Candidate Training Plan and began his officer and artillery training. Upon graduation in 1991 he was posted to the Field Artillery School in Gagetown, New Brunswick where he filled many junior officer positions. In 1994 he was posted to the Second Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery in Petawawa, Ontario where he was employed as a Forward Observation Officer (FOO) with "F" Battery.



Lieutenant Colonel Carragher released from the Regular Force at the end of 1995. In late 2002 he re-enrolled in the Primary Reserve with the 56th Field Artillery Regiment RCA in Brantford, Ontario. Upon completion of the Battery Commander's (BC) Course he was employed as a Battery Commander of the Firing Battery and Regimental Training Officer. Lieutenant Colonel Carragher transferred to the 11th Field Artillery Regiment in May of 2017 and subsequently completed the Army Operations Course (AOC). He was promoted Lieutenant Colonel and took command of the regiment succeeding Lieutenant Colonel Morley Armstrong on September 6, 2007. He commanded the regiment until 2010 when he relinquished command to Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Doyle. During his tour of command, he had the honour of hosting the 2009 Annual General Meeting of the Royal Canadian Artillery Association in Guelph.

Lieutenant Colonel Carragher has been the principal owner and President of Winser Doors Inc. since 2010, a supplier of commercial and residential garage doors located in Cambridge. Prior to acquiring his own business he held a senior management position with Steel-Craft Door Products Ltd. where he lead and managed the largest distribution and sales center in the company. Prior to joining Steel-Craft he worked for Mitten Inc, a manufacturer and distributor of exterior building products, where he held the multiple roles of Sales Representative, Product Manager and Regional Sales Manager.

Lieutenant Colonel Carragher has studied at Sir Wilfred Laurier University, Trent University, Universite de Montreal and the University of Waterloo. He currently resides in Cambridge, Ontario. He has two grown children; Kelsey, a Certified Financial Planner and Graeme, a Mechanical Engineer. He is a Past President of the Cambridge North Rotary Club. He is fluently bilingual.



Lieutenant Colonel Kevin P. J. Doyle CD Commanding Officer 2010-2014

Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Doyle joined the Canadian Forces in 1980 and was commissioned into the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery in 1981. He has served in many different appointments in 1st and 2nd Regiments Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, both in Canada and Germany, and has been an Instructor-in-Gunnery at the Artillery School in Gagetown, New Brunswick. He has deployed on two international operations: with SFOR in Bosnia in 1998 as Officer Commanding E Company, 1st Battalion The Royal Canadian Regiment; and with Canada's contribution to ISAF as the Chief of Staff and Commanding Officer of Headquarters, Joint Task Force Afghanistan in 2008-2009. He has also deployed on two major domestic operations: the Manitoba Floods in 1997 as Battery Commander E Battery, and the G8 Summit in Kananaskis, Alberta in 2002 as Second-in-Command 1st Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery.



Extra Regimental employment includes tours as a Recruiting Officer in Hamilton, Ontario and as a staff officer at the Captain, Major and Lieutenant-Colonel levels at LFCA HQ and NDHQ. He is a graduate of the Canadian Forces Staff School, the Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff College and the Canadian Forces College (Command and Staff Course 27).

He was promoted to his present rank in 2004 and was a Section Head within the Directorate of Joint Force Capabilities at NDHQ, responsible for the Canadian Forces Uninhabited Aerial Vehicle Joint Programme Office and the Sensor Integration sub-sections. Prior to retiring from the Regular Forces, he held the position of Chief of Staff, 31 Canadian Brigade Group Headquarters in London, Ontario. On retirement in 2010, he took a component transfer to the Army Reserve and was appointed Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Regiment RCA. A position he held until 2014 when he turned over command to Lieutenant Colonel Morley B. Armstrong. He retired from the Canadian Forces at that time.

He was an ex-officio Advisor to the Executive of the London and Region Garrison Community Council, a former member of the London St John Ambulance Board of Directors and a former member of the Board of Directors of London Celebrates Canada Committee. He is also an active officiating member of the Hamilton Football Officials Association, as well as being a Director on its Executive Committee.

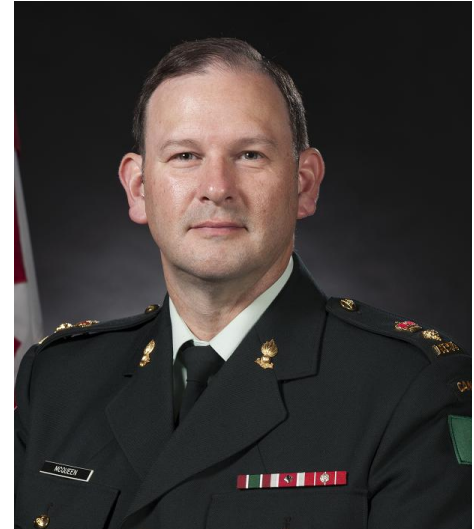
Lieutenant-Colonel Doyle is married to Cindy Doyle (née Dunn) of Hamilton, Ontario, with whom he has four children: Sean, Sarah, Mary and Emily. He enjoys playing rugby, officiating football, music, and attempting to stay in shape.



Lieutenant Colonel Gary M. McQueen CD Commanding Officer 2017 – 2020

Lieutenant Colonel Gary M. McQueen was born in Hamilton, Ontario in 1967, one of five children of Murray and Mabel McQueen. He spent his childhood growing up on a farm in Mount Hope, which is now part of the City of Hamilton.

Lieutenant Colonel McQueen joined the Canadian Armed Forces on 16 June 1988 as a Private with The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry (Wentworth Regiment) (RHLI). The following year, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and selected to command a platoon in B Company. As a Lieutenant, Lieutenant Colonel McQueen commanded a platoon in the Third Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment when the RHLI provided N Company for that unit. Lieutenant Colonel McQueen has held various RHLI regimental appointments over the years. In addition to Platoon Commander, he was the Training Officer, Operations Officer, Company Second-in-Command, Adjutant, Company Commander, Deputy Commanding Officer, and Commanding Officer



Lieutenant Colonel McQueen has also had several full-time postings throughout his career, most of them at Land Force Central Area (LFCA) Headquarters (now the 4th Canadian Division Headquarters) where he served as G3 Plans 2, Staff Officer to the Chief of Staff, G1 Operations, G5 Operations, and Acting G5. He also served in the Directorate of National Security within the Strategic Joint Staff at National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa.

In 2002, he received his first Commander LFCA Commendation for his leadership as Chief of Staff of the Transportation Department for the papal visit to Toronto. During this event, called World Youth Day, he oversaw the daily activities of the department responsible for the transportation of 800,000 participants. In 2004, Lieutenant Colonel McQueen was selected to set up and command C Company of the RHLI, which marked the regiment's expansion into the City of Burlington under the Land Force Reserve Restructure program. In recognition of his leadership and initiative in this endeavour, he was awarded his second Commander LFCA Commendation in 2007.

In 2011, the then Major McQueen deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan and was attached to 10 Mountain Division (US Army) as part of the Regional Command-South Headquarters where he earned a Canadian Joint Task Force Commander's Commendation for his exemplary work as the Stability Operations Border Coordinator. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and appointed the 53rd Commanding Officer of the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry on 26 May 2013 and served in that appointment until 14 May 2016, growing the RHLI to become the largest combat-arms unit in the brigade.

After having served his term as Commanding Officer of the RHLI and 31 Territorial Battalion Group, Lieutenant Colonel McQueen deployed in July 2016 as the J5 for Joint Task Force – Iraq, Canada's



contribution to the Middle East Stabilization Force and the fight against DAESH. As the senior planner for the Canadian conventional forces, Lieutenant Colonel McQueen managed mission transition, provided theatre-level oversight for the stand-up on new capabilities, and produced contingency plans for threats to CAF personnel and resources in Iraq.

Following his return to Canada, Lieutenant Colonel McQueen was selected for a second command appointment and on 13 May 2017 became the Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, with Batteries in Guelph and Hamilton and served in that appointment until 24 October, 2020. After a successful command that saw the unit grow by over 30 percent, Lieutenant Colonel McQueen was selected for a third command appointment as Commanding Officer of 32 Combat Engineer Regiment in Toronto on 14 November 2020.

In civilian life, Lieutenant Colonel McQueen is a director and management consultant at Vistara Consulting Ltd. He holds a Bachelor of Applied Science in Chemical Engineering from the University of Toronto and a Master of Business Administration from McMaster University, and is a registered Professional Engineer in the Province of Ontario.

He is a long-time member of the Canadian Space Society where he served on the Executive Committee from 1998-2018 and was the President from 2000 to 2003. He is a member of the Royal Canadian Military Institute, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada; The Guelph Chamber of Commerce, and The International Association for Continuing Education and Training. He is a member of the Senate for both the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry and the 11th Field Artillery Regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel McQueen is the recipient of the General Campaign Star – South-West Asia, the General Service Medal – Expedition and the Canadian Forces Decoration with one clasp. He lives in Acton, Ontario with his wife Kandice and they have two daughters, Madison and Jacqueline.



Lieutenant Colonel Miguel A. Ortiz-Sosa CD Commanding Officer 2020 –

Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa was born in San Salvador, El Salvador in 1974, and grew up during turbulent political times. He immigrated to Canada in 1990 after having lived through the end of a military dictatorship and 10 years of civil war. He joined the Canadian Armed Forces in February 1996 as a Private Recruit with the 7 Toronto Regiment RCA. Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa was trained as a Gunner, Driver, Communicator, and Command Post and Reconnaissance technician in addition to his Junior Leadership and Junior NCO qualifications. In 2002, after having been promoted to Master Bombardier, Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant.



Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa held various appointments over the years, typical of an Artillery Officer. In the gun line, he worked as the Reconnaissance, Command Post, and Safety Officer, and culminated with his appointments as Gun Position Officer, and Battery Captain (BK). Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa also worked as a Forward Observation Officer, and as an instructor. Through the 32 CBG Battle School, he was Course Officer for a Basic Military Qualification Course in 2004 and for Basic Military Officer Qualification Courses in 2010. In addition to that, Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa Was the Course Officer for a Gun Tow Course in 2002 and a Reconnaissance Technician Course in 2005. Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa received a Unit Commendation in 2015 in recognition of “outstanding leadership and professionalism in his many roles...” Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa served as Battery Commander of 9 and 130 Batteries in Toronto from 2012 to 2016 and again from 2018 to 2020, leaving the 7 Toronto Regiment RCA as a Major, and having served a total of 22 years in the unit in the period of 1996 to 2020.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa served as the Second-In-Command of the 56 Field Regiment RCA from 2016 to 2018. As Unit Fund Committee Chair, Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa led the transition of the regimental Non-Public Finances to the CFMWS. As Cadet Liaison Coordinator for the regiment, he was keen to work with all three batteries in Brantford, Simcoe and St Catharines, and with the affiliated Cadet Units in Brantford, Simcoe, Fort Erie and Niagara Falls. Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa also served as the Unit Security Officer; Unit Environmental Officer; Unit General Safety Officer; and Unit Information Officer.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa served as the Deputy Commanding Officer of the 32 CBG Battle School from 2018 to 2020 while working again with the 7 Toronto Regiment RCA. He was keen to be involved in recruiting for the unit and recruit training for the brigade concurrently. He also served as the Chief



Instructor and led Progress Review Boards for several courses. Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa was keen to observe and support the development of our soldiers.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa was selected as Commanding Officer of the 11 Field Regiment RCA, with Batteries in Guelph and Hamilton in early 2020. He transferred to his new unit in the summer and is proud to have served and to continue to serve with all three Artillery Units in South Western Ontario.

In civilian life, Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa continues a career in public service with the Ontario Government that started in 1998. He is currently employed by the Children, Youth and Social Services I&IT Cluster in the maintenance and development of computer applications used to deliver social services to Ontarians. Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa graduated from Glendon College, York University with a Combined Honours BA in Political Science and History and from Ryerson University with a Certificate of Economic Analysis.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ortiz-Sosa is the father of 4 children, Miguel Andres, Lauren, Chantal and Mateo. He was also a foster parent to over 20 children through the Halton and Hamilton Children's Aid Societies from 2006 to 2015.



Honorary Colonels of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery

1. Circa 1902 Honorary Colonel Archibald H. Macdonald*
2. 1948 – 1973 Honorary Colonel (The Honourable) George A. Drew VD CD*
3. 1973 – 1979 Honorary Colonel Frederick D. Metcalf CD*
4. 1980 – 1996 Honorary Colonel John A. Williamson EM CD
5. 1996 – 2001 Honorary Colonel James L. Erskine CD
6. 2001 – 2006 Honorary Colonel Clifford M. Tootell CD*
7. 2006 – 2015 Honorary Colonel Gary E. Burton CD (ADC)*
8. 2015 – 2021 Honorary Colonel Michael D. McKay CD ADC*
9. 2022 – Honorary Colonel Linda M. Bossi CD

Honorary Lieutenant Colonels of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery

1. Circa 1910 Honorary Lieutenant Colonel David McCrae
2. 1954 – 1969 Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Thomas J. Bell OC MC CD*
3. 1970 – 1974 Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Frederick D. Metcalf CD*
4. 1977 – 1980 Honorary Lieutenant Colonel John A. Williamson ED CD
5. 1980 – 1990 Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Henry R. Howitt MC CD
6. 1990 – 1996 Honorary Lieutenant Colonel James L. Erskine
7. 1997 – 2001 Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Clifford M. Tootell CD*
8. 2001 – 2006 Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Gary E. Burton CD (ADC)*
9. 2006 – 2013 Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Michael D. McKay CD ADC*
10. 2014 – 2020 Honorary Lieutenant Colonel William H. Hammill CD*
11. 2021 – 2022 Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Linda M. Bossi CD

- Previous Commanding Officer of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment RCA



Colonel John Alexander Williamson EM CD Honorary Colonel 1980 – 1996

Colonel John A. Williamson was born in Rutherglen, Scotland on the 3rd of June 1922. He moved to Canada with his family at the age of nine, settling in Hamilton and then Dundas. He attended Binkley and Dundas High School, graduating with his Junior Matriculation in 1939.

He began his military career in May of 1938 when he joined the 102 (Wentworth) Field Battery RCA in Dundas, Ontario as a Gunner. In June of 1940 he transferred to the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry as a Private and went overseas as part of the Canadian Active Service Force (CASF). While in England he was subsequently promoted to Corporal in 1942 and Sergeant in 1943. While serving as a section commander he was seriously wounded in action on the beach in August 1942 while participating in the Dieppe Raid.



In August 1943 after recuperating from his wounds, he was promoted to Officer Cadet and returned to Canada for Officer Training in Brockville, Ontario following which he was promoted to Second Lieutenant and posted to the Junior Officers Battle School in Vernon, BC. In December 1943 he was promoted to Lieutenant and placed on loan to the RCAF as an instructor in unarmed combat and small arms. In June of 1944, he re-joined the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry in Europe as a reinforcement officer serving with them in North West Europe for the balance of the war. Colonel Williamson served as a platoon commander and a Scout Platoon Commander during this period. In his book, "Tug of War" General Denis Whitiker said this about John Williamson; "Scout Platoon Commanders were chosen for their leadership, imitative and courage. Lieutenant John Williamson was such a man. A quiet man, thoughtful, superbly trained, fearless and absolutely confident". He was wounded two more times during the North West European campaign; in Holland in February 1945 and again in March 1945 in Germany.

Following the war, Colonel Williamson returned to the "guns" joining the 8th Field Artillery Regiment RCA in Hamilton as a Lieutenant. He was promoted to Captain in 1950, serving as the Adjutant from 1953 to 1954. He commanded 11 Battery as a Captain from 1954 to 1956 and was promoted to Major and appointed Officer Commanding 102 Battery in September 1956. He served as Second in Command of the 8th Field Artillery Regiment RCA from 1960 to 1965, taking over Command of the Regiment as a Lieutenant Colonel in February 1965. In February 1968 he relinquished command and transferred to the Supplementary Reserves. In September 1970, he returned to the Primary Reserves, promoted to Colonel and appointed as the first Commander of Hamilton Militia District. He served in that appointment until October 1972, when he once again transferred to the Supplementary Reserves.



Colonel Williamson was appointed the Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment RCA in November 1977 and subsequently the Honorary Colonel in April 1980; an appointment he held until 1996. Colonel Williamson enjoyed a remarkable term as an Honorary for nineteen years serving seven different Commanding Officers.

In civilian life, following the war, Colonel Williamson worked for Ontario Hydro and McMaster University's School of Graduate Studies, retiring in 1986. During his time back in Canada for officer training during the war he married his childhood sweetheart, Wilma Delsey of Dundas. They had three sons, Terry, Bill and Michael.

Colonel Williamson held both the Efficiency Medal (EM) and the Canadian Forces Decoration (CD). The medals he was awarded included the Canada Centennial Medal, the 1939-1945 Star, the France & Germany Star, the Defence Medal, the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & clasp and the War Medal.

Colonel Williamson served as the Chairman of the Board of Governors for the Hamilton Division of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires. He was a former President of Branch 35 of the Royal Canadian Legion in Dundas and a former President of the Hamilton Artillery Association. He was a member of the Royal Canadian Artillery Association and a frequent speaker on military matters at clubs and societies. Colonel John, as he was affectionately known took great pride in the proper conduct of Mess Dinners and the annual Exercise St. Barbara held at the Artillery Officers' Mess in Hamilton. He passed away unexpectedly on the 14th of May, 2001 at the age of 78.



Honorary Colonel James Laird Erskine CD Honorary Colonel 1996 – 2001

Colonel Erskine was a second generation Scottish Canadian, born in Guelph, Ontario. At age 16 he joined the 11th Field Ambulance in Guelph. When the Regiment became active at the outbreak of WW 2, he transferred to the 11th Field Regiment where he remained until he joined the RCAF in 1940. He served three and a half years as a Bomber Flight Engineer on Lancaster bombers with No. 405 1st Canadian Bomber Squadron overseas where he was wounded during his last sortie over enemy territory. He was mentioned in dispatches for Devotion to Duty.



He joined the Ontario Provincial Police as Probationary Constable in 1945 following WW 2 serving in Niagara Falls and St. Catharines before being transferred to Toronto where he rose to the position of Commissioner in 1981 and held that position until 1983. In the 1960's Colonel Erskine co-ordinated the efforts to create the OPP's Anti-Rackets Branch that tackled white-collar crime, in particular the Great Canadian Art Fraud of Group-of-Seven art forgeries, which brought him into contact with famed artist A. J. Casson, who became a lifelong friend. As Deputy Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police in 1975, he successfully negotiated the release of four children being held hostage by a man armed with two high power rifles at an old farm house near London, Ontario.

Following his retirement, Colonel Erskine was recruited by the Premier of Ontario to organize the first Ontario Drinking and Driving Counter Measures Program with civic committees in 53 Ontario municipalities. As Ontario's Director of Emergency Response, he was Senior Officer at the Mississauga train derailment and evacuation (largest peacetime evacuation in Canada). He was also Senior Officer investigating the crash of an Air Canada DC8 in Woodbridge that killed 109 people, and he successfully negotiated the release of a family kidnapped by a penitentiary escapee near London, Ontario.

In 1990 Colonel Erskine was appointed the Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment in Guelph and was appointed Honorary Colonel in 1996, an appointment he held until 2001. He was awarded several Canadian war medals as well as the French Volunteer Decoration, the Police Efficiency Medal, the Canadian Forces Decoration and was named an Officer of the Order of St. John.

Among highlights of his career, He was the Canadian delegate at Interpol Head Quarters in France, Chairman Ontario Chiefs of Police, Chair, Ontario Traffic Safety Council, and President, Royal Canadian Military Institute. He served on the Board of Directors of Toronto Crime Stoppers; was a Life Member of



Ontario, Canadian and International Police Associations as well as the Royal Canadian Artillery Association, the Royal Canadian Military Institute and Toronto Press Club.

Colonel Erskine resided in Etobicoke, Ontario until his death on May 22, 2005 at the age of 84. He was predeceased by his son Dan who was also an Ontario Provincial Police Officer, leaving behind his wife Jeanette (Jan) who passed away in 2010 and his three sons, Barry (deceased 2019), Bruce and Rick.



Lieutenant Colonel David McCrae Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Circa 1910

Lieutenant Colonel David McCrae was born on January 21, 1845 in Balmaghie, Scotland, the eldest of four children to Thomas McCrae and Jean (Jane) Campbell. Lieutenant Colonel McCrae's father was born on a farm in Galloway, Scotland in 1820 and was a descendant of Robert McCrae who left Kintail for a safer life in the Scottish low lands around 1719 during the second Jacobite uprising. Thomas McCrae left Scotland for Canada in 1849 and set up residence as a farmer in Guelph. He quickly started a lumber business with a saw mill and then entered into a partnership in a woolen mill (Guelph Woolen Mills) and later entered into the business of breeding livestock.

Lieutenant Colonel David McCrae was educated in Guelph and in 1862 attended the newly founded Ontario Veterinary College as a student on its very first course. Following graduation he helped his father with the family businesses and excelled in stockbreeding becoming a successful businessman, one of the leading stockbreeders in Ontario and one of Guelph's leading citizens. He was an avid sportsman and an enthusiastic lacrosse player. He was a member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Guelph.



His military career commenced in 1865 at the age of twenty when he applied to attend a three month course for Militia officers in Hamilton. He graduated and became active with the local militia during the Fenian Raids and in 1866 was one of original members of the Guelph Battery of Garrison Artillery, designated No. 1 Company of the 30th Battalion of Wellington Rifles joining as a Captain. In 1871 the Battery was detached from the battalion and designated the Wellington Battery of Artillery. In 1878 a second battery was formed with students from the Ontario Agricultural College and he later became Officer Commanding the battery called at that time the "Ontario Field Battery". He served as Battery Commander No. 2 Battery (later the 16th Battery) after the formation of the 1st Provisional Brigade of Artillery under the command of Lieutenant Colonel A. H. MacDonald in 1880. With this battery he won the Marquis of Lorne's Cup for general efficiency for three years in succession, after which the Dominion Artillery Association ruled it out on the grounds that college students had a better chance to prepare than others. At one point he stepped away from the battery, joining the staff of the artillery at Deseronto, Ontario as Assistant Adjutant General.

At the outbreak of the First World War he was an Honorary Lieutenant Colonel. In 1915 at the encouragement of the Honorable Sam Hughes, Minister of the Militia, he raised the 43th Battery for volunteer service with the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) with most of the members coming from the Ontario Agricultural College and Knox College in Toronto. On February 5, 1916 he enlisted in the CEF as a Major and Officer Commanding the 43rd Battery. He departed overseas for England with his battery on February 26 arriving in England on March 10, 1916. However at 71 years of age much to his



disappointment, he was considered too old to command the battery in action and was transferred to the Headquarters Staff, 11th Howitzer Brigade on April 17, 1916 and subsequently returned to Canada July 4, 1916. On his return to Canada he was appointed to the board framed under the Military Service Act and served on the board until the end of the war.

Lieutenant Colonel David McCrae was married to Janet Simpson Eckford in Bruce, Ontario on January 21, 1870. They set up residence in Guelph and had two sons and one daughter; Thomas born in 1870, John born in 1872 and Mary Christie Geills born in 1878. His son John grew up to become Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae of "In Flanders Fields" fame.

He died on October 30, 1930 at the age of eighty-five and is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in Guelph. His wife Janet predeceased him on January, 14 1920 at 73 years old and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery along with her husband.



Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Henry Robinson Howitt MC CD Honorary Lieutenant Colonel 1980 – 1990

Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Henry (Hank) Robinson Howitt was born on June 6, 1915 in Toronto, Ontario, the only son of Henry Howitt and Winifred Robinson. Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Howitt's father was a lawyer in Guelph who was descended from a pioneer family who were among the early British settlers in Southern Ontario in the 1830s.

Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Howitt, although born in Toronto was raised and educated in Guelph graduating from the Guelph Collegiate during the depression and then attended Trinity College at the University of Toronto. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in 1937, he enrolled in Osgoode Hall Law School. The Second World War intervened as he entered his final year. He enlisted in the Canadian Officers Training Corps (COTC) eventually gaining the rank of Lieutenant.



Much to his disappointment he was not called up in the early waves of troops shipped overseas, but was able to graduate with a law degree in 1940, earned his call to the bar and began working as lawyer in Toronto. Early in 1941 he was accepted into the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps and sent for training at Brockville and then Borden. However it was not until late 1942 that he was sent overseas with the Sherbrooke Fusiliers and posted to Aldershot, England for additional training. Frustrated and a bit rebellious, he was released from the Fusiliers and spent a brief time with the Governor General's Food Guards before finding a place with British Columbia Regiment (BCR).

The British Columbia Regiment was sent to France in July 1944 following the landings in Normandy. After the regiment suffered heavy casualties, Lieutenant Howitt was sent to join his regiment as a reinforcement officer in September 1944 and took command of a troop (4 tanks) of Sherman tanks. He bravely led this troop until the end of the war, fighting through France, the Netherlands and into Germany. In November of 1945 he was awarded the Military Cross. The citation commends him for serving with "distinction" "throughout some of the fiercest fighting of the campaign" in Northwest Europe. The citation goes on to say that at Bergen op Zoom, Holland on 29 October 1944 he commanded the first tank to cross the canal at the northern part of the city, bringing fire on the enemy causing many enemy casualties. He assisted the infantry in holding the position during counter attacks on three occasions. During the winter months he acted as Forward Observation Officer of fire missions conducted by his squadron in support of infantry attacks across the Maas River. His utter disregard for his own safety when selecting observation positions while exposed to enemy fire, won him the



admiration of all those associated with him. On March 6, 1945 he commanded a force of two tanks and a section of infantry and was ordered to seize a cross-road in the town of Veen, Germany. Although exposed to heavy fire, he reached the objective and inflicted severe damage on the enemy by the application of indirect artillery fire while suffering minimal casualties. From April 8, 1945 to 25 April 1945 he acted as Rear Link Officer during a period of heavy fighting leading up to and including the Kusten Canal bridgehead. Due to the fact that the troops were dispersed in areas far distant from the squadron headquarters and under constant sniper, small arms and mortar fire, Lieutenant Howitt had to carry out normal administrative work in a very hazardous environment. Despite the danger and physical hardship brought about by a lack of sleep for days on end, Lieutenant Howitt showing considerable courage and ingenuity under adverse conditions always maintained an adequate supply of ammunition, petrol and food to the forward elements. He was an inspiration to those with whom he served.

Lieutenant Howitt returned to Canada in February, 1946 via Vancouver where he was honourably discharged. Returning to Ontario, he initially worked for the Ontario Securities Commission before moving back to Guelph, where he opened a law practice with lawyer Ken Blairon. Their office was on the same street as his father's and uncle's law office (Howitt and Howitt) and it was there that he met his future wife, Patricia who was working as a legal stenographer for Howitt and Howitt. He worked for over a decade as a lawyer before being named a provincial magistrate. He travelled around the province filling in for other magistrates until the mid-1960s when the Guelph position became available. He remained a judge for the provincial court, criminal division until he retired in 1985 at the age of seventy. He then sat on the small claims court until he turned 75. As a judge, he was known for his tough and decisive rulings and a reputation of being tough but fair, and had the nickname "Hanging Hank".

After he returned to Guelph following the war he remained in the military serving in the militia with the 11th Field Ambulance RCAMC and obtained the rank of Major. The 11th Field Ambulance was disbanded in the mid 1950s. In 1980 he was appointed the Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment and served in that capacity until 1990.

Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Henry Howitt was married to Patricia Duthie in Guelph, Ontario on October 7, 1950. They set up residence in Guelph and had three daughters and one son; Ann, Charles, Judith and Katherine.

He died on February 26, 2009 in Guelph at the age of ninety-three and was cremated. He was survived by his wife Patricia and his four children.



Honorary Colonel Linda L.M. Bossi CD Honorary Colonel 2022 -

Linda L.M. Bossi was appointed as Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel (HLCOL) of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery at Guelph, Ontario on 9 March 2021 and to Honorary-Colonel in December of 2022.

HCol Bossi was born on 13 August 1960 to immigrant parents of German and Dutch origin (August Popp †2014, Alice Westerveld †1988). She was raised in Guelph, actively pursuing her interests in sports and music (choral and instrumental) and graduated from Centennial C.V.I. in 1978 with Honours.

Following in her brother's footsteps (Anthony William Popp †1992 who served with 11 Fd Regt and W Bty 4RCHA) she joined the 11th Field Regiment (RCA) in February of 1977. She was formally recruited as a Private administrative clerk, but was also an active member of the regimental band. She attained the rank of Sergeant in 1982 while completing her post-secondary education at the University of Guelph. She graduated with an Honours Bachelor of Science in Human Kinetics in 1983.



HCol Bossi joined the Regular Forces in August of 1984 as a Lieutenant, direct entry Bioscience Specialist Officer, and was posted to the Canadian Forces Environmental Medicine Establishment (CFEME), co-located with Defence R&D Canada – Toronto Research Centre (DRDC-TRC) where she spent most of her regular force career as an applied research scientist (promoted to Captain in 1985, Major in 1991, Acting Lieutenant-Colonel from 2002 to 2005 as the Senior Bioscience Officer and Occupation Advisor, reverting to substantive Major from 2005 to 2010). She conceived and led many projects and teams to enhance the protection, capabilities, performance and operational effectiveness of Canadian Armed Forces personnel (particularly aircrew and dismounted soldier systems).

HCol Bossi completed a military-sponsored Masters of Science degree in Ergonomics from Loughborough University of Technology (UK) in 1993, graduating with distinction. In 2010 she competed for and won a civilian defence scientist manager position as Section Head of the DRDC-TRC Human Systems Integration Section, thus ending her uniformed career (7 years as a reservist and 26 years in the regular force). Her civilian defence science career continues; in addition to scientific leadership responsibilities, she continues her own scientific work within in the soldier systems domain.

HCol Bossi 's honours and awards include: Chief of Defence Commendation for her leadership and contributions to the operational readiness of Canada's naval task force deployed to the Persian Gulf (1993); Canadian Decoration 2nd clasp (for 32 years of military service); Special Service Medal (Canada



125); Queens Diamond Jubilee medal; The UK Ergonomics Society Ulf Aberg Award for best graduate thesis project (1995); The US Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Best Ergonomics in Design Paper Award (2005); two NATO Scientific Achievement Awards (2009 & 2019), a five-eyes Scientific Excellence Award (2022) from The Technical Cooperation Program and several DRDC awards for her scientific, technical and leadership contributions to soldier systems over 3 decades in and out of uniform. She is also Canadian Certified Professional Ergonomist since 2021.

HCol Bossi has returned to reside in her home town of Guelph along with her partner John Haines, an IT Solutions Architect, and her 23-year old son Andrew Bossi.



Distinguished Canadians Appointed to the Senate of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery

1. Appointed 1980 - Colonel Henry D. Chapman CD – Former District Commander, Hamilton Militia District & Commanding Officer 8th Artillery Field Regiment RCA
2. Appointed 2003 - Colonel Francis W. Bayne OMM CD – Former District Commander, Thunder Bay Militia District
3. Appointed 2018 - Colonel Paul E. Scagnetti CD AdeC – Former Commander 33 Canadian Brigade Group



Colonel Henry David Chapman CD **Commander, Hamilton Militia District 1972 – 1975**

Colonel Henry "Harry" Chapman was born on October 4, 1927 and was educated in Hamilton, Ontario. His military interests began when he joined the 102 (Wentworth) Field Battery RCA in 1943. Serving in the ranks he became Battery Signal Sergeant in 1945.

Colonel Chapman was appointed an Officer Cadet in 1951 and rose steadily through the commissioned ranks, serving in a number of appointments including Regimental Adjutant of the 8th Field Regiment, Battery Commander 102 Battery and Second-in-Command of the 8th Field Regiment, culminating in his appointment as Commanding Officer in February 1968.

Following his tenure as Commanding Officer and on the formation of Hamilton Militia District in 1970, Colonel Chapman was transferred to the District Headquarters and appointed Senior Staff Officer, Operations and Training. He was promoted Colonel and assumed command of Hamilton Militia District in October of 1972 until his retirement from the Primary Reserve in October of 1975.

Colonel Chapman was awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration (CD) holding the second clasp to the CD. Colonel Chapman, in addition to being a member of the 11th Field Regiment Senate, was a Life Member and former executive member of the Royal Canadian Artillery Association. He is a founding member and the first president of the Hamilton Artillery Association, as well as the Chairman of the 8th Field Regiment Board of Trustees. He was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 36 in Dundas.

In Civilian life, Colonel Chapman was in the commercial printing industry in Hamilton for over 40 years retiring in October 1988. He is a past member and Past President of the local branch of the Graphic Arts Industries Association, as well as a Past Director of the National Association. He was a Past Director of the Hamilton / Burlington YMCA and a member of the Advisory Board of Camp Wanakita Branch, a resident camp in Haliburton.

Colonel Chapman died on December 21, 2008 at eighty-one years of age and is buried at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Stoney Creek, Ontario. He was survived by his wife Joan and four children.





Colonel Francis Worton Bayne OMM CD **Commander, Thunder Bay Militia District – 1980 to 1983**

Colonel Francis (Frank) Bayne was born on May 12, 1927 in Guelph, Ontario, the only son of Willard James Bayne and Alice Gaston Worton. He had one sister; Marian.

He was educated in Guelph and joined the Canadian Forces in the Canadian Technical Training Corps (CATS) as a “Boy Soldier” in September 1944 at the age of seventeen. He took a draughting and survey course in Hamilton and went on to Petawawa for training as an Artillery Gun Number and surveyor. In October 1945 to May 1947 he was a draughtsman at the RCME Base Workshop in Montreal. In May 1947 he attended draughting courses in Ottawa and then served as a Chief Draughtsman in Nova Scotia and Ottawa, Ontario. From September 1948 to August 1951 he served as a Sergeant Draughting Instructor at the RCME School in Kingston, Ontario.



In August 1951 he attended the Command Contingent COTC in Shilo, Manitoba as an Officer Cadet. Completing training in Shilo, he was posted as a Second Lieutenant to 216 Battery RCA in London, Ontario as a Gun Position Officer (GPO). He would later find himself in Petawawa as a GPO in the newly organized 81 Field Regiment RCA. In February 1953, the 81st Field Regiment RCA was shipped, along with Colonel Frank Bayne, to Korea where he served in active service as a Lieutenant Gun Position Officer. While in Korea, he attended an Escape and Evasion Course with the Royal Marines. Following the Korean War his regiment was posted to Camp Utopia in New Brunswick where he was a Troop Commander. The 81st Field Regiment RCA was re-designated 4 RCHA at this time. From September 1955 to September 1957 he was the Troop Commander for the Soldier Apprentice Battery in Shilo, Manitoba, during which time he took additional career improvement courses including the Basic Guided Missiles Course. During the period of September 1957 to August 1958 he attended the Artillery Staff Course at the Royal Canadian Artillery School in Shilo and also completed the Advanced Guided Missiles Course.

In August 1958 he was promoted to Captain and posted to the Regular Force Support Staff (RSS) Staff as an instructor at the 14th Artillery Field Regiment RCA (M) in Liverpool, Nova Scotia. In November, 1959 he attended Light Aircraft Pilot Course in Rivers, Manitoba. From June 1960 to August 1964 he was a Troop Commander with 1 Air Operations Flight RCA in Petawawa. During this posting he completed the Advanced Air Observations Course, the Basic Helicopter Course with the US Army and attended a Summer Bush Survival Course. For a period he was posted to the US Army in Tacoma, Washington and Fort Lewis, Washington where he served as a pilot with 4th Division Artillery. While in the US he attended a Helicopter Mountain Course.

In September 1965, he was promoted to Major and was posted to Petawawa as the Commander, Air Operations Troop, 4 RCHA and attended the Instructor Course. From August 1966 to August 1968 he served with the British Army on “Exchange” as an Instructor Gunnery at the British School of Gunnery in Larkhill, England. Posted back to Shilo in 1968, he assumed the position of Chief Instructor Gunnery at



the School of Artillery (RCSA) and took refresher courses with the L-19 and helicopter. He also attended an Advanced Management Course and the Naval Gun Fire Spotter Course. In 1970 he was posted to CFB Gagetown as the Commander of the Artillery Department, Combat Arms School. From July 1971 to May 1973 he commanded Light Observation Helicopter (LOH) Flight, 408 Tactical Helicopter Squadron in Namao, Alberta. From May 1973 to September 1975 he was the Base Flight Safety Officer in CFB Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. He retired from the Regular Force in September 1975 and eventually took up a position as a Flight Instructor at Confederation College in Thunder Bay where he taught for seventeen years.

He continued his military career by the joining the Reserves as a Company Commander with the Lake Superior Scottish Regiment, and took the Militia Command and Staff Course. In June 1976, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and appointed as a Senior Staff Officer at the Thunder Bay Militia District Headquarters. In 1980, he was promoted to Colonel and assumed Command of the District. He retired from the military once again in 1983, but was appointed Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 736 Communications Squadron in Thunder Bay and served in that capacity until 1992.

He had his third bar to the Canadian Forces Decoration and was awarded the Order of Military Merit in 1983. He served as member of the Senate of the 18th Thunder Bay Service Battalion and after moving back to Guelph in 1997 served a member of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment RCA Senate. He was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, President of the 1st Artillery Brigade Association, an active member of Unit 13 of the Korean Veterans Association, a Mason and a frequent speaker at elementary and high schools. He was also a guest speaker and guest instructor at the 11th Field Regiment RCA and the Air Cadets.

He had with his first wife Gladys, four daughters; Francine, Nancy, Shirley and Donelda and one son David who unfortunately predeceased him in 2014. He also had three step-daughters from a subsequent marriage; Cindy, Candy and Melissa. In addition to these eight children, he had twenty grandchildren and nineteen great grandchildren. His "last" wife was Lynn Borthwick of Guelph. Colonel Bayne enjoyed his senior years, travelling extensively with his wife Lynn across Canada and various parts of the world and every summer he would vacation in Nova Scotia.

Colonel Frank Bayne passed away on April 7, 2019 in his ninety second year and is buried in Guelph.



Colonel Paul E. Scagnetti CD ADC Commander, 33 Canadian Brigade Group - 2006 to 2011

Colonel Paul Scagnetti was born in Toronto in 1955, raised in suburban Etobicoke and educated in its public school system. He attended the University of Toronto at Mississauga and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1978. Colonel Scagnetti then attended the Faculty of Education and graduated with a Bachelor of Education degree in 1979. In 1987, he took a Sabbatical Leave from his civilian job to pursue a Master of Arts (Teaching) degree from The School of Graduate Studies at the University of Toronto; he is one of the first 50 to obtain that degree in Ontario.

After a short stint teaching in Mississauga and Belleville, Colonel Scagnetti moved to Northern Ontario in 1980 and began teaching grades 9 to OAC, both English and History courses at Timmins High and Vocational School. In addition to teaching he coached sports teams and assisted in numerous other extra-curricular activities. He organized and run two Europe Trips, sat as the staff representative on the School Council and organized the annual student Stratford Trip since 1984, which allowed hundreds of students to see world-class performances.



Colonel Scagnetti joined The Algonquin Regiment as a Second Lieutenant in March of 1981. He qualified at that rank in the summer of 1981 before continuing on with Infantry Officer Classification Training over the following winters and summers. In 1982, he had the good fortune to be judged the #1 and #2 candidate on two of the Platoon Commander's qualification courses run in Aldershot, Nova Scotia. While qualifying as a Captain, he was judged to be the top candidate in Ontario on the Captain-qualifying "Administration in War and Peace" course. Several years later, Colonel Scagnetti attended Advanced Classification Training in Wainwright, Alberta where he qualified as a Wheeled Combat Team Commander.

While on a one-year Sabbatical leave pursuing his Masters of Arts degree in Toronto, Colonel Scagnetti was attached to Central Militia Area Headquarters as the Staff Officer in charge of tracking Non-Effective members of the Army Reserve. On his return to Timmins, Colonel Scagnetti took over command of The Algonquin Regiment's B Company and was promoted to Major in November 1989.

As a Major, Colonel Scagnetti was the Officer Commanding infantry companies in Borden and Petawawa in Area-run exercises. He was also the first Reservist in Canada to run a Base Defence Force when he was in charge of the reserve infantry company of the Base Defence Force at CFB North Bay.



Colonel Scagnetti attended the Canadian Land Force Command and Staff College in Kingston in 1996, passing the Militia Command and Staff Course. He took over command of The Algonquin Regiment in November 1996 and was promoted Lieutenant Colonel on 1 April of 1997.

He relinquished command effective 31 December 2002 and was appointed a member of the Senior Reserve Advisors' Team at Land Forces Central Area on 1 January 2003. He was intimately involved in the introduction of Observer/Controllers into major LFCA Reserve field exercises and assisted in advising the Area Commander on Reserve-specific issues.

In 2003, Colonel Scagnetti was appointed Aide de Camp to The Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. As well, he was appointed the Deputy Commander of 33 Canadian Brigade Group. For the summer of 2004, he was appointed the Deputy Commander of 3 Light Brigade Group for Ex STALWART GUARDIAN at CFB Petawawa.

From December 2004 to June 2005, Colonel Scagnetti was the Task Force Commander of Task Force Freetown in Sierra Leone, West Africa. He was the SO1 of the Freetown Garrison Advisory and Support Team (FGAST) within Operation SCULPTURE — Canada's contribution to the British-led International Military Advisory and Training Team, also known as IMATT (SL), the international community's effort to turn the Republic of Sierra Leone's Armed Forces into a professional and accountable organization. He commanded an international team made up of British, American and Nigerian members and was the advisor to the Freetown Garrison Commander, unit Commanding Officers, and the Officer Commanding the Force Reconnaissance Unit.

Colonel Scagnetti has been a member of the Area Land Force Reserve Restructuring Working Group, and participated as an Area Representative on the National Working Group. He was also appointed the Chief of Staff for Ex VIGILANT GUARDIAN 2006. He was promoted to his current rank and assumed command of 33 Canadian Brigade Group on 3 June 2006. He retired from service in late 2011 but continues to serve as the Deputy-Chief Aide de Camp for the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. Colonel Scagnetti was appointed to the Senate of the 11th Field Artillery Regiment in 2018.

Colonel Scagnetti is married to the former Wendy Susan Glencross of Dorval, Quebec — the former Head of the Mathematics Department at Timmins High and Vocational School. They are very proud parents of three wonderful adult children: Elisia — a museum administrator/curator; Tara — an x-ray and mammogram technician at Cambridge Memorial Hospital; and Christian — the winemaker at Moon Curser Vineyards in Osoyoos BC.