

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Fondation RMR Foundation. Don't forget to add info@royalmontréalregiment.com to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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**April
2020**



The INTERCOM

The INTERCOM is the RMR family's newsletter, which originally started as "The Bugler" in 1914 on the troopship carrying the 14th Bn (RMR) overseas. Censorship quickly squashed the initiative, but the RMR tried again in 1916 with "The Growler" (which was also squashed!).

In WW2 the RMR had two battalions, one overseas from 1939-45, and a Home unit stationed in Westmount. In an effort to boost morale and keep the lines of communication open between the two battalions, the "Intercom" ("n" intentional) was born.

The current "Intercom" is published monthly and is intended to keep the friends & family of the Regiment up to speed with the accomplishments of the current serving members of the Regiment and all affiliated organizations.

Greetings,

What a difference a month can make!

Pretty sure there weren't many of you reading the March edition of the Intercom who could have predicted how things would change so dramatically by the time the April edition was published... the letter to all ranks from the CO (below) makes our "new normal" abundantly clear. At the time of writing, all activities in the armoury (training, admin, RMR Association, cadets, etc.) remain suspended.

As I prepared this edition I was struck how an [article](#) published just three weeks ago about 1 West Montreal Squadron's march break trip seemed like it was from a different era. What that particular article REALLY represents in these unsettling times is the reassurance that things will calm down and eventually return to a happier time. A time where the innocent pleasures of smart, motivated teenagers building and firing rockets together outdoors can be pursued normally again.

There's also an article from the RMR Museum which explains the vision and progress for the facelift that is being organized. Assistant Curator Vanessa Michaud has put together a solid plan and hopes to unveil the new permanent collection in the autumn. Closely linked to this is the digital archive project being spearheaded by Melanie Presseau-Dumais, where close to 9,000 items will be made available in a searchable online database hosted on rmrmuseum.com.

Please take a moment to read this selection of the accomplishments of the RMR Family over the past month that are shown below. As well, please take a few moments to think of or utter a prayer for deployed RMR members and those of our extended regimental family who are battling illness or disease. It is never easy to be deployed over Christmas - neither for the soldier, nor their family - please remember them.

On behalf of Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel David Bensadoun, the Regiment's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Shone, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Chief-Warrant Officer Stephan Leroux, please accept our continued best wishes.

Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.



LCol (ret'd) Colin Robinson, CD
Honorary Colonel
The Royal Montreal Regiment



CO'S LETTER TO ALL RANKS REGARDING COVID 19

28 March 2020

Dear Members of RMR Nation (thanks Beezer),

We all received a letter from the Chief of Defence Staff, General Jon Vance. It can be accessed here in English & French: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/maple-leaf/defence/2020/03/march-27-letter-from-cds-regarding-covid-19.html>. Please take the time to read it as it contains up-to-date information regarding the status of the Canadian Armed Forces. It is also available on the CAF app, which I suggest you all install on your phones.

So we are living in interesting times. Unprecedented, some say; and certainly no one alive today has lived through a global pandemic. As soldiers, I suspect we all find this both worrisome and exciting.

On the worrisome side, I need to reiterate that our duty - as both citizens and soldiers - is to slow the spread of this virus. What we are defending - and this is very much a defence-in-depth - is our health care system's capacity to treat severe cases. To defend the healthcare system, we need to reduce all cases in any given time period. This is the notion of flattening the curve. To avoid infection, we need to NOT engage in risky behaviour. I remind you that none of you are immune; or invincible; or immortal. Neither are you invisible. Take the direction on social distancing seriously.

Also, by not engaging in behaviour that would increase your likelihood of becoming infected, we are also accomplishing the operational function of Force Protection. Simply put, we need to stay fit-to-fight.

On the exciting side, we are all Reservists, which means we have volunteered to step up in times of national crisis. We know that happens when the resources of the civil authority are exhausted. If you think about it for a minute, you will realise that the civilian resources that will be exhausted first - both actually and metaphorically - are front-line healthcare workers: nurses and doctors whose day and night jobs are to treat people who have a bad case of COVID-19. How will a bunch of poor bloody infantry be able to help? Simply, by taking over tasks that require no more than a First Aid certificate. That will allow the healthcare system to conduct an economy of effort operation in the sectors we are helping in, thus allowing them to concentrate their forces where their expertise is vital.

What can we do to prepare? If it's not abundantly clear already: pack your kit, shave your beard, and check your gas mask. Put your name in for deployment, stay healthy, and remain on two hours' notice to move.

While you're waiting, complete your online CBRN IBTS training and review your first aid knowledge.

Keep yourself and your family healthy and happy. Be resilient. Look at the positive outcomes of this situation. Enjoy your long hair. And if you're feeling unhappy, reach out for help. Our Padre, Rici Be, is in service to all of us in this respect.

Finally, keep in touch with friends and family, as well as your chain of command. And most importantly, call your mother. Now.

Other than that, 'watch and shoot, watch and shoot'.



LE MUSÉE DU RMR FAIT PEAU NEUVE!!!

AUTOMNE 2020

www.rmrmuseum.com

LE MUSEÉ DU RMR FAIT PEAU NEUVE!

RMR Museum getting a facelift!

ARTICLE WRITTEN BY VANESSA MICHAUD

Westmount, Quebec - 25 mars 2020: Malgré la relative tranquillité du Musée du Royal Montreal Regiment ces derniers mois, les employés s'activent et les projets vont bon train ! En effet, le Musée vous prépare une toute nouvelle exposition permanente qui présentera l'histoire de la famille du RMR depuis ses tout débuts.

L'exposition, qui sera présentée à partir de l'automne 2020, s'intitulera Le Royal Montreal Regiment : des Canadiens ordinaires qui accomplissent l'extraordinaire. L'exposition abordera l'histoire régimentaire en fonction de six thématiques précises qui forment le cœur du vécu collectif de ses membres soit : la Première et la Seconde Guerre mondiale, les missions de maintien de la paix, l'Afghanistan, l'entraînement et les opérations domestiques et finalement, le tissu social que forme le RMR dans sa collectivité.

En misant sur les vécus individuels et collectifs, les exploits militaires et les exemples de bravoure de ceux qui ont servi à travers les décennies, l'histoire régimentaire est présentée comme un récit profondément humain et multidimensionnel. Même si l'exposition s'adressera principalement à la

[Read the complete article here](#)



1 WEST MONTRÉAL SQUADRON

March Break Trip 2020

Westmount, Quebec - 10 March 2020: For the first weekend of March 2020, 72 cadets of 1 West Montreal Squadron departed for their March Break trip to Sherbrooke. On Friday, March 6th, the cadets went Skiing and Snowboarding at Owl's Head Ski Resort. It was a bright sunny day for the cadets to slide down the mountains of Mansonville, whether they were beginner or advanced, everyone enjoyed their time at the ski resort. Afterwards, the Cadets slept over at the Sherbrooke Hussars Regiment in the heart of the city.

Afterwards, they started constructing their model rockets that were to be launched on the following day. As the day goes by, in the evening, the cadets headed to O-Volt Trampoline and Wall Climbing park. The cadets enjoyed their time bouncing around and climbing for a good time until they headed back to

the Sherbrooke Regiment to rest and finalize their rockets. On the next day, Sergeant Bergeron, a reservist of the Sherbrooke Hussars visited and provided an insight of the life of a reservist. The sergeant piqued the interest of the cadets as questions were followed along after every question.

[Read the full article and see photos here](#)



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The RMR Foundation is a non-profit incorporated body, designed to

"Serve the best interests of The Royal Montreal Regiment and accept such tasks designated by the Trustees to help any member body of the Regimental Family."

Please DONATE to support the RMR Family.