

# 2018: Year in Review

## The Royal Montreal Regiment



Greetings,

Well, so much for my bold prediction that the Officers & NCO's would repeat their 2017 victory over the Junior Ranks Club in hockey this year... Despite the best efforts of our goalie, Sgt Mike Talarico, there was no way to overcome the differential in average ages (20+ years between the two teams!). The JRC beat the "old guys" on 15 December 2018 at the Westmount Recreation Centre, although at 5-3 it wasn't a complete washout. All in all it was a great way to kick off the holidays!

As 2018 winds down, please take a moment to read this selection of the accomplishments of the RMR Family over the past year that are shown below. There is a selection from the entire Regimental Family: the serving battalion, the RMR Association, the RMR Museum, and the three affiliated cadet units.

A major project for the RMR Foundation in 2019 will be the addition of our most recent theatre honour "AFGHANISTAN" to the RMR's memorial tablet, located on the north wall of the armoury. Warrant Officer (ret'd) Brent McNair has volunteered to lead a committee that will plan, fundraise, and coordinate the installation. Theatre honours are a form of battle honour given to publicly recognize a Canadian Armed Forces unit for successful participation in a theatre armed conflict. The RMR was one of 63 units in the Canadian Armed Forces who were awarded the AFGHANISTAN theatre honour in 2014, and this is the first new battle honour awarded to the Regiment since the end of the Second World War. The unveiling is scheduled for November 2019, to coincide with Remembrance Day.

Please take a few moments to think of or utter a prayer for deployed RMR members and those

of our regimental family who are battling illness or disease.

On behalf of Honorary Colonel Andrew Molson, the Regiment's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Shone, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Master-Warrant Officer Stephen Leroux, please accept our best wishes for a Happy New Year. Looking forward to seeing you soon in 2019!

*Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.*



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

## Please read the collection of stories from 2018



### RIP: CWO R. Wheaton, CD.

Chief Warrant Officer (retired) Robert (Bob) Wheaton, CD. passed away in January 2018.

Served as Regimental Sergeant-Major twice: 1964 – 1968 and then again from 1979 – 1981.

He was also an active member of the RMR Association, marching as part of the Branch's colour party for many years during church parades and Remembrance Day parades.

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### Ex LYNX POLAIRE 2018

Greeted by a brisk minus 18°C that felt more like minus 26 °C with the wind. The Regiment saw B-Coy conducting more advanced training while other members conducted basic level winter indoctrination and further still the Regiment supported the conduct of the final exercise for a serial of a Basic Winter Warfare course.

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Jody Mitic visits RMR JRC



On 17 March 2018, the Junior Ranks Club (JRC) welcomed Mr. Jody Mitic as their guest of honour for their annual mess dinner. Jody encouraged the JRC to relish their experiences and make the most of their military service, which he predicted will be the best times in their lives.

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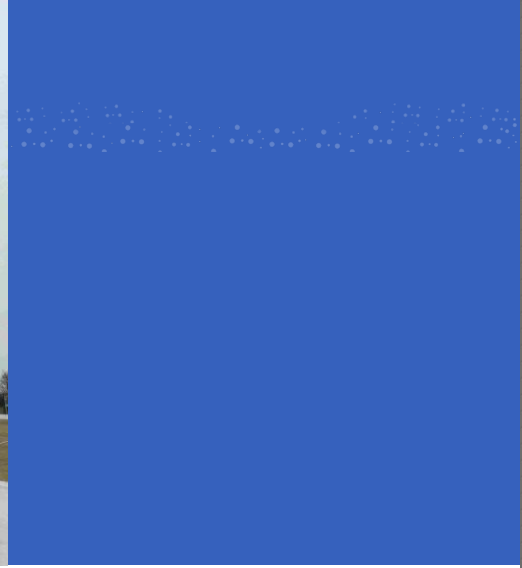
## RMR ON SPRING BREAK: EX GUERRIER ENDURCI

Close to 70 members of the RMR spent their "spring break" on exercise throughout Quebec. Centred on Ste-Hyacinthe, they conducted infantry operations throughout the region. A video of one of the RMR platoon attacks (as part of the GBT's "A" Company") was produced by the RMR's own Major Maciej Jonasz (link in the article).

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2018 was a busy year for the  
RMR's 2862 Cadet Corps

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## Virtual Battle Simulation

over the weekend of 28 – 29 January 2018, a rifle platoon from the RMR's "B" Company conducted offensive operations training... but no one even got their feet dirty, let alone cold, wet, and miserable!.

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## Open House in April

On 07 April 2018 visitors to the RMR were able to see and touch the weapons we put on display, including the Browning Pistol, the C7, the C9, the C6 and the 84 mm Carl Gustaf. Equipment, rations, radios, and more!

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## Triple honours for WO Anttil

At the battalion review held after the annual RMR church parade on 07 May 2018, WO Andrew Anttil certainly set the standard by earning a commendation, a trophy, and sharing the top honours in rifle shooting proficiency!

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## MCKEAN TROPHY AWARDED TO CORPORAL RANDALL-COSS

THE CAPTAIN G.B. MCKEAN, VC, MC, MM TROPHY (BEST SOLDIER) award is given to the most deserving soldier who displayed the best attendance, technical ability, leadership potential, relations with peers and superiors, dress, and the extent to which he/she embodies the Regimental spirit. Congrats to Corporal Christopher Randall-Coss for earning it in 2018!

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Captain Grant Furholter  
earns the Army  
Commander's  
Commendation

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## Barré Trophy for Pte Hoffman

The Major P.H. Barré, ED, C ST S Trophy (TOP RECRUIT) award is given to the most deserving soldier who received the highest ranking on his/her Basic Military Qualification / Soldier Qualification course.



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## Cpl Ene earns the Soldier Trophy

**THE SOLDIER TROPHY (MOST IMPROVED SOLDIER)** award is given to the most deserving soldier who made great improvements in attendance, fitness, professional competence, dress, drill, and discipline.

The trophy was donated to the RMR in the early 1990's by the members of the Regular Forces Support Staff (RSS): Captain Matthew McDonald of the PPCLI, and Warrant Officer Gaudreau of the R22eR.

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## Hampstead Trophy: Cpl O'Driscoll

The Hampstead Trophy was presented to Corporal O'Driscoll for her exceptional community service in having volunteered to assist the firefighters and miners of Burkina Faso as part of a CanadAfrique mission contributing to the peace, prosperity, and security of its citizens.

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## Lord Strathcona Medal Winners for 2018

The RMR is proud of its affiliation with three cadet units: Number 1 West Montreal Squadron, Pointe-Claire (RMR) RCACC # 2806, and RMR RCACC # 2862, and we wish to extend a hearty congratulations to the latest generation of cadet leaders who have set the standard for leadership within their units by earning the Lord Strathcona medal. It is bestowed upon a Cadet in recognition of exemplary performance in physical and military training.

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## Ties that Bind

On 23 June 2018, As per the traditions of Westmount, the official portrait of former mayor (and Honorary Colonel of the RMR), Peter Trent, was hung in the council chamber. It serves as a permanent visual reminder of Westmount's ties (pun intentional!) to the RMR on display.

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## Hampstead Family Day

On 10 June 2018 the RMR participated in the annual Hampstead Family Day. The objective was to create positive community awareness of the RMR family and the display the work we do as a



combat arms regiment serving the reserves for the Canadian Armed Forces.

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## Westmount Family Day

On a sunny Saturday, 27 May 2018. Soldiers equipment, rations, vehicles, and even set-up a "low wire entanglement". Mine tape replaced the barbed wire and the soldiers of the RMR helped children navigate the obstacles, apply camouflage paint, etc

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## RMR Association Visits Canadian War Museum

40 members of the RMR Association and their families visited the Canadian War Museum on Saturday 04 August 2018. Using train tickets provided by the RMR Foundation through a Via Rail sponsorship package from the Regiment's centennial in 2014, the RMR Association members were lucky to travel in style and not have to deal with traffic!

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Happy Canada Day 2018!

RMR helps welcome new Canadian citizens

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### MCpl Lamb: Top Instructor Award

Master-Corporal Christopher Lamb was awarded the "Best Instructor (rank of MCpl)" from the 2nd Division Training Centre in Valcartier this summer. Employed as a section commander on the Infantry course, MCpl Lamb clearly set the standard!

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### RMR Association battlefield tour

Seven retired RMR's embarked on a 10-day adventure whose primary purpose was to visit and walk the European Battlefields that Canadian Soldiers in general and The Royal Montreal Regiment in particular conducted combat operations on during WWI and WWII.

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### Je Me Souviens collaboration

The RMR Foundation announced that their "Great War Education Program" has been expanded greatly and is officially renamed "**Je Me Souviens**" as part of a collaboration with Canada Company and le Royal 22<sup>e</sup>me Régiment (R22eR).

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## A 'BACK BREAKER' to remember!

On Sunday 26 August 2018, the soldiers of the RMR were fortunate to be welcomed to a private residence in the Eastern Townships to conduct our annual 'BACK BREAKER' forced march competition. David Bensadoun and his wife Isabelle Poirier, along with their children and a group of friends press-ganged into running the grills, welcomed the Regiment to their home for a post-march BBQ.

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Ex APPRENTICE  
WARRIOR

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## Pte Morneau wins CO's Challenge

The RMR's infamous "Back Breaker" competition was held as a 12 km forced march on hilly terrain in full gear (tactical vest, rucksack, helmet, weapon, and gas mask). Pte Morneau won in one hour and 42 minutes – the exact same time he did last year on a 13 km flat course!

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## Home on the Range

On the weekend of 27 October 2018, the RMR took to the field to sharpen some of their core infantry skills: Instinctive shooting, Chemical, Biological, Radiological & Nuclear Defenses, and Improvised Explosive Devices and Mines.

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## RMR Depot Platoon in Ottawa

During the morning of Saturday 17 November 2018, Depot Platoon set out to learn about their country's military history at the Canadian War Museum.

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## Former RMR Corporal, receives wound certificate: 25-years later

On Sunday 04 November 2018, the RMR conducted Remembrance Day parades in Pointe-Claire and Westmount, culminating with the traditional 'battalion review' ceremony where a page from the RMR's roll of honour was read by the youngest soldier. As part of the ceremony, former Corporal Jeff Melchers was awarded his official wound stripe certificate for injuries sustained in 1993 in former Yugoslavia. He donated it to the Junior Ranks Club.

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RMR Museum's exhibition *"War: is it Over? The Challenge of Peace"* brings in crowds & schools!

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## Poppy Campaign beats record!

The RMR Association (Branch 14) confirmed that 2018 was the most successful year ever in their 99-year history!



Their success was mostly due to the dedication & professionalism of their members – and the outstanding support received from the members of the serving battalion.

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## RMR's on the 34 GBC team for Canadian Patrol Competition

The CPC had total of 27 participating teams, including international teams from the UK, USA, Netherlands (two teams), Poland, Italy and Latvia. The rest of the teams were from various Canadian units.



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## RMR officers hold 98th annual Reunion Dinner

Held on Friday 09 November 2018, the guest of honour was the Consul General of Belgium, Mr. Hubert Roisin. Additionally three of the units associated cities were in attendance: Her worship Christina Smith, Mayor of Westmount, His Worship John Belvedere, Mayor of Pointe-Claire, and His Worship William Steinberg, Mayor of Hampstead.

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# Levee Day 2019

January 1st, 2019

10h00 - 14h00

The Royal Montreal Regiment  
4625 Ste-Catherine Street West  
Westmount, Quebec  
[royalmontrealregiment.com](http://royalmontrealregiment.com)

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