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@royalmontrealregiment.com to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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June 2020





CAF support to long-term care facilities. PHOTO CREDIT: COMBAT CAMERA.

# 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 "Intercomn" ("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,

Another month of pandemic lockdown has passed, and it was a tough one for a variety of reasons - none more than the sudden accidental death of a comrade, a friend, and an admired colleague: Sergeant Yozef "Boots" Butera. There is a link below to a tribute written by his friends in the regiment, and I encourage all who read this to consider making a donation to his family (links in the story).

The resilience of the RMR spirit was on full display as the unit quickly swung into action to organize a small yet dignified memorial service that allowed for the respecting of social distancing protocols and collective grieving. Kudos to the RMR's padre, Captain Rici Be, and others for creating such an event so that we could grieve together, albeit briefly.

On a happier note that also highlights the resilience of the RMR spirit, I would like to salute the leadership of those cadet commanding officers who adapted quickly to help their cadets finish their training year with some semblance of normalcy. Certainly haircuts were not being inspected, nor was it possible to ascertain the brilliance of a shine on a particular pair of drill boots, however the cadets and officers showed up on their Zoom calls in uniform and keen to participate.

Number 1 Montreal West Squadron, commanded by Major Thomas Leslie, started it off on Sunday 24 May 2020 with an hour-long 'virtual parade' that included awards, promotions, addresses, flash mobs, and musical interludes from the joint Squadron-Corps band (# 1 Squadron + CC 2862). The level of involvement from the junior leaders and the overall delivery of the 'virtual parade' truly let the Squadron live up to their motto of "Second to None". Not to be outdone, CC 2806 Pointe-Claire (RMR), commanded by Captain Kim Thomas, held their virtual Annual Cadet Review on Saturday 30 May 2020. Both cadet units had the RMR's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Shone, as their reviewing officer.

If you are curious as to what a "virtual parade" looks like, you can watch the Annual Cadet Review hosted by 2806 Pointe-Claire (RMR) this past weekend. It gives you a good idea of what is being achieved by our Air and Army Cadets, and Mayor Belvedere's address (starts at 11 minutes 50 seconds) really makes clear the value of the Cadet program and how important it is during these difficult times.

Currently there are more than 50 RMR's who have volunteered to serve in **Operation LASER**, the Canadian Armed Forces' response to the worldwide pandemic. 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.

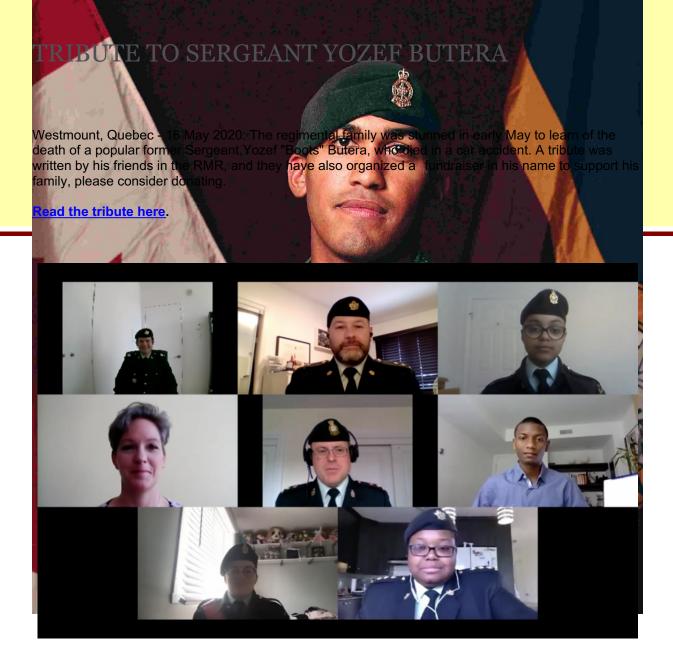
On behalf of Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel David Bensadoun, the Regiment's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Shone, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Chief-Warrant Officer Stephan Leroux, please accept our continued best wishes.

Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.

LCol (ret'd) Colin Robinson, CD

**Honorary Colonel** 

The Royal Montreal Regiment



## VIRTUAL CADET PARADES

#### Cadets affiliated with the RMR adapt & overcome

Westmount, Quebec - 31 May 2020: In a definite sign of the times, cadet units affiliated with the RMR have adapted quickly to help their cadets finish their training year with some semblance of normalcy. Certainly haircuts were not being inspected, nor was it possible to ascertain the brilliance of a shine on a particular pair of drill boots, however the cadets and officers showed up on their Zoom calls in uniform and keen to participate.

Kudos to the leadership displayed by the CIC officers and cadet NCO's who put together the virtual Annual Cadet Reviews. Adapting and overcoming is the hallmark of successful organizations, and hats off to the cadet units who embraced the available technologies to maintain a sense of connection and tradition while celebrating their achievements.

Read the complete article and watch the CC 2806 virtual parade here



# BASIC TRAINING WITH THE RMR - PART 4

Basic Military Qualification Course 1904

Westmount, Quebec - 01 May 2020: Basic Military Qualification (BMQ) is the first course that transforms civilians into soldiers. Major Maciej Jonasz of the RMR has produced a series of six videos that profiles both candidates and instructors to provide an overview of the challenges.

This is the fourth of six videos.

Watch the video here



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Fondation RMR Foundation

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designated by the Trustees to help any member body of the Regimental Family."

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