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# February 2022

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" (masthead from above is from the 1950's) 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.



New RMR regimental face masks are available!

#### Greetings,

January is typically a tough slog in the best of years, and as we wrap up our second January in lockdown, I think it is now pretty conclusive that this pandemic officially 'sucks'.

It doesn't mean that we've been idle, of course. Members of the RMR have been deployed in the Montreal area on Operation VECTOR to help distribute the third doses of the Covid vaccine. Following the acceptance of the request for assistance from the Government of Quebec by the Minister of National Defense and the Chief of the Defense Staff on December 31, 2021, the Canadian Armed Forces were tasked to support the provincial vaccination campaign for the 3rd dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, and many RMR members answered the call. The RMR's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Shone, was in command of the 34 GBC Territorial Battalion Group for a couple of weeks (command is rotating between 34 GBC units).

Our affiliated Cadet units continue to meet and train virtually. Hats off to the officers, Civilian Instructors, volunteers, and the Cadets themselves for making the best of a bad situation and continuing to train under such difficult conditions. Same with the RMR Association, which despite the technological challenges of Zoom for some, have managed to continue with regular meetings (virtually) and to conduct the important business of the Branch. Comrade Sue Guerin, President of the RMR Association, made note during their last general meeting of the many donations of the Poppy Campaign funds being made in the community, including \$10,000 for the **Old Brewery Mission's Sentinels program**, which houses homeless veterans in Montreal.

Thus, despite all the challenges of the pandemic, the RMR Family continues to do good work and to make an impact on the community. Please take a moment to read this selection of the accomplishments & news 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.

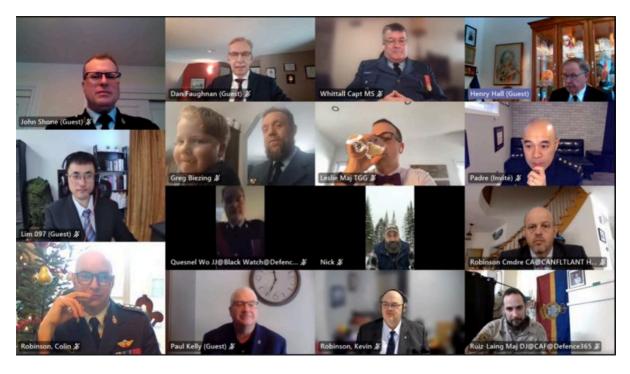
On behalf of Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel David Bensadoun, the Regiment's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Shone, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Chief-Warrant Officer Stephan Leroux, please accept our continued best wishes.

Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.

LCol (ret'd) Colin Robinson, CD Honorary Colonel

The Royal Montreal Regiment

# **Articles from the past month:**



#### VIRTUAL LEVÉE TO START 2022

Westmount, Quebec — 01 January 2022: Due to the restrictions on gatherings imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the members of The Royal Montreal Regiment were not able to hold their annual Levée Day. Instead, the Honorary Colonel hosted a virtual Levée event, where approximately 25 people gathered in a "virtual mess" to exchange best wishes for the New Year. Serving and former members alike made the effort to meet online, including Major Dexter Ruiz-Lang who joined us from Baghdad, Iraq, where he is currently deployed.

Learn more by reading the full article here.

## Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal for Sgt James D'Haiti



Westmount, Quebec – 27 January 2022: Congratulations to **Sergeant James D'Haiti** who recently earned the Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal. It was awarded to him on a medals parade held by Task Force Democratic Republic of the Congo (TF DRC) under the auspices of the Commander, Colonel B. Maureen Wellwood, in Goma for Roto 43 members. The Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal and the United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) medals were presented..

Read story here.



#### LATEST PANDEMIC FASHION: NEW RMR MASKS!

Westmount, Quebec – 31 January 2022: The RMR Foundation will begin distributing reusable face coverings decorated with the regimental crest this month to non-serving members. All serving members should already have one (they were given out at the Honorary Colonel's Christmas parade in December 2021, with extras given to the RQMS for those members not in attendance).

These masks are larger than the originals and have adjustable ear bands. They also have three layers of fabric for enhanced protection, as well as an internal pocket for adding additional filters.

Masks will be mailed to all members of the RMR Association (Branch 14) and/or to anyone who made a donation to the RMR Foundation in 2021.

If you don't meet the above criteria but would like to receive one, simply make a **donation of \$25.00** or more and a mask will be mailed to the address that you indicate for your tax receipt. Donations can be made here: <a href="https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/15455">https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/15455</a>

<u>Learn more by reading the full article here</u>.

### **About the RMR Foundation**



Foundation

The RMR Foundation is a non-profit incorporated body with charitable status, 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." Donations help with providing emergency financial assistance to RMR soldiers identified by the chain of command, and providing relief to veterans of the RMR.

Beyond direct veteran support, the RMR Foundation provides assistance for the needs of the RMR family, advises on request, the CO of the RMR or any of its affiliated units, promotes the role of the Reserve Forces within the Canadian Armed Forces and the Regiment's affiliated municipalities, lobbies for the promotion of a more effective Canadian Defence Force, funds the operation of the RMR Museum's annual exhibitions, and supports the *Je Me Souviens* education program providing free materials to supplement Quebec's curriculum.

#### Please DONATE to support the RMR Family

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