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## December 2021

*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 the 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.*



11h00 at Westmount cenotaph in Vimy Park, Saturday 06 November 2021. Photo Credit: Corporal Yeung

Greetings,

The holiday season is upon us! Despite the best efforts of the media to wind up panic over the latest Covid variant, life is increasingly starting to feel a bit more like 'normal'. The RMR hasn't skipped a beat with regards to training for operations, the RMR Association (Branch 14) conducted a very successful Poppy Campaign, social gatherings are starting to happen again (albeit on a smaller scale), and the Cadets have been allowed to start training again - even if in a restricted capacity, but at least it is in-person and not over Zoom!

As you will read below, November was a busy month for the RMR Family. I for one was quite proud to watch the regiment march into position at the Westmount cenotaph for the annual Remembrance Day ceremony. While there were still restrictions in place, the RMR did an outstanding job in leading the way to pay respects to our fallen.

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:



### REMEMBRANCE DAY BACK IN WESTMOUNT

Westmount, Quebec – 19 November 2021: The RMR marched to the Westmount cenotaph again this year, after being not allowed to pay their respects in 2020 due to the Covid 19 restrictions in place at the time. Covid restrictions were still tight this year, limiting the number of participants allowed to attend, however the usual wreath laying and proper order of service was followed. Cadets were not allowed to parade, but the RMR Association (Br. 14) followed the band to lead the parade, with the veterans taking their proper place of precedence for this sacred ceremony

[Learn more by reading the full article here.](#)



## RIP: Comrade W. Picard

Westmount, Quebec – 16 November 2021: The RMR Association regrets to announce the death of Comrade William Picard, who died of lung cancer on 28 June 2021. William originally joined the RMR as a musician in 1961, and he joined the RMR Association (Branch 14) in 1974.



[Read more about Comrade Picard here](#)



## THREE NEW JUNIOR LEADERS PROMOTED

Westmount, Quebec – 22 November 2021: As part of the battalion review following the Westmount Remembrance Day service, the following members were promoted to Master-Corporal by the RMR's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Shone:

1. Master-Corporal Hollingdrake
2. Master-Corporal Ruscito
3. Master-Corporal Vallieres

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

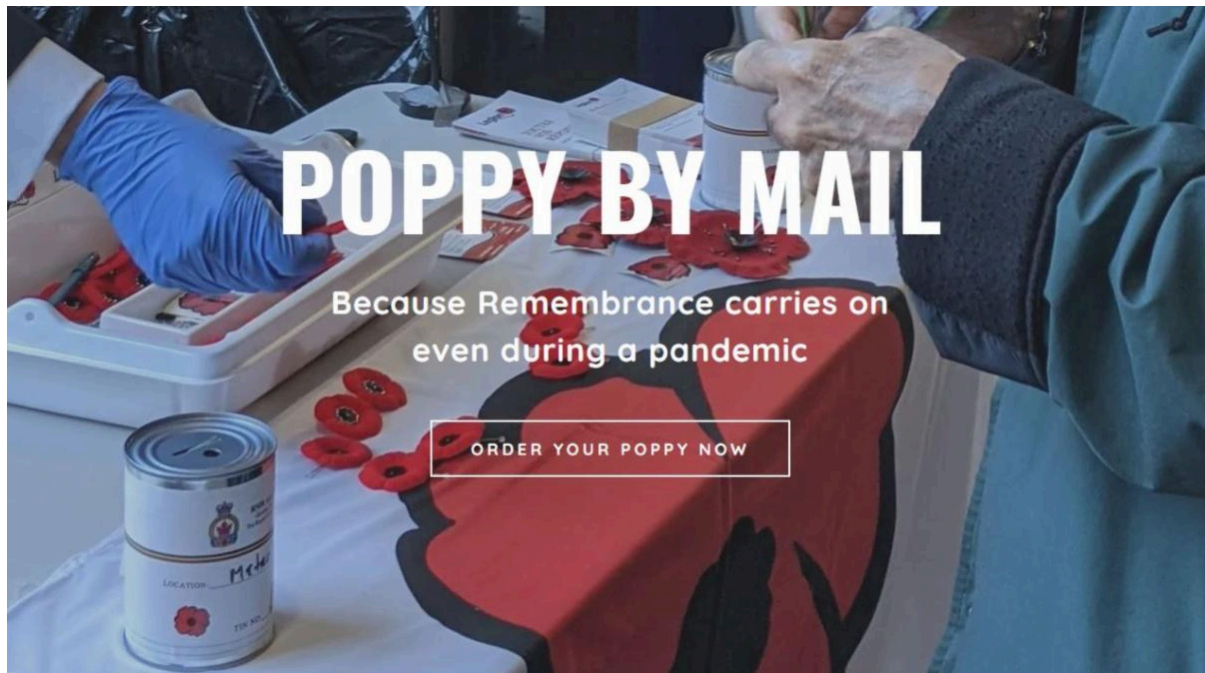
## KEEPING REMEMBRANCE FLAME BURNING

Westmount, Quebec – 17 November 2021: Corporal Kenton Townsend was invited by the management and staff of the Julius Richardson Rehabilitation Hospital to visit on Remembrance Day.

The patients had expressed an interest in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the poppy campaign in Canada, and wanted to be able to still participate in a Remembrance ceremony. Drawing on his personal connection to the hospital, Corporal Townsend volunteered to visit a number of patients, distributing poppies and commemorative materials produced by Veterans Affairs Canada.



[Read more and see photos here.](#)



### 'POPPY BY MAIL' RELAUNCHED FOR 2021

Westmount, Quebec – 01 November 2021: Branch 14 (RMR Association), a Royal Canadian Legion branch located in Westmount, today launched “Poppy By Mail”, a website that allows Canadians to make a donation securely online and receive a poppy by mail: [www.poppybymail.ca](http://www.poppybymail.ca). This service is provided entirely by unpaid volunteers, with all proceeds going directly to the Legion Poppy Fund. Branch 14 (RMR Association) pledges to mail them the same day that donations are received, however delivery times will vary according to Canada Post.

[Read story and see images here](#)

**WELCOME TO THE REGIMENT,  
MASTER-WARRANT OFFICER**



## QUESNEL!

Westmount, Quebec – 06 November 2021: On the battalion review held in the armoury after the Remembrance Day service in Westmount today, Master-Warrant Officer James Quesnel was officially badged into the RMR by the Honorary Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel (ret'd) Colin Robinson.

It was a homecoming of sorts, given that he had spent nearly four years with Pointe-Claire Cadet Corps 2806 (RMR), attaining the rank of Cadet Regimental Sergeant-Major before he joined the reserves.

His extensive Reserve Army career has seen him qualify on pretty much everything an Infanterier can, from machine-guns to driving light armoured vehicles, to everything in between).

**[Read the full story and see images here.](#)**



## LIEUTENANT MOKHTAR FAIZ PROMOTED

Westmount, Quebec – 07 November 2021: As part of the battalion review following the Westmount Remembrance Day service, Lieutenant Mokhtar Faiz was promoted to his current

rank by the RMR's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Shone.

As a fully qualified Infantry Officer, Lieutenant Faiz will perform a wide range of duties, from commanding and leading soldiers as part of a team to occupying various staff positions involving planning, training, intelligence, logistics and personnel administration.

[Read the article here](#)



## **FRENCH VILLAGE STILL HONOURS THE RMR - 103 YEARS AFTER BEING LIBERATED BY THE REGIMENT**

Westmount, QC – 22 November 2021: The town of Sains-les-Marquion, France held their annual Remembrance Day service at 11h00 on a rainy 11 November 2021 where they specifically honoured The Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) who had liberated their town on 27 September 1918. Due to the initiative of Michel Gravel, a bronze commemorative plaque was positioned in the town in 2008, a gift from individual donors through the RMR Foundation, and every year the town continues to honour the sacrifices made by the Regiment in liberating them from the Germans.

[Read the full story and see images here.](#)

## **About the RMR 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 which provides free materials to supplement Quebec's history curriculum.

### **Please DONATE to support the RMR Family**

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