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Fondation RMR Foundation



RMR soldiers preparing for a door entry drill

# 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,

March was a tough month for the RMR family as we lost a dear friend: Honorary Colonel **David Hart**, MM, CD who died on 27 March 2019 at the age of 101.

'Colonel Dave' Hart was a friend of the Regiment since the early 1950's when he first began attending the RMR officers' mess annual reunion dinners which had begun in 1920. He first attended the 34th annual reunion dinner, and his last dinner with us was a few months ago in November 2018, which would have been our 98th edition. Math has never been my strong suit, but knowing that he never missed one our dinners, I estimate that he had attended 64 of 98 RMR officers' mess annual reunion dinners... I am pretty sure that no RMR ever came close to that record!

To give the reader an idea of the esteem that the RMR officers held him, when the RMR's last remaining WW2 officer veteran (LCol Ernest Skutesky) died in 2011, the RMR officers' mess asked Colonel Hart - **who had never served with the RMR** - to assume the duty of proposing the traditional toast to the RMR's 'Fallen and Missing Comrades' at the next annual reunion dinner in 2012. Humbled by the request, and did not acquiesce immediately as he had personally known many of the **original** RMR officers from WW1 (1914-18) who were still attending the reunion dinners up until the 1980's. He eventually in the end and performed this duty flawlessly every year.

The funeral for Colonel Hart, the Honorary Colonel of the 34th Signals Regiment, and the **longest serving Honorary in the Canadian Army's history** (40+ years), was well attended with 30+ serving and former RMR's, of the several hundred in attendance to pay their respects. Of special significance was the great honour and privilege extended to two RMR individual's: Former Honorary Colonel **Peter Trent** was one of the eulogists selected by the family, and Sergeant **Flickringer Oidi** carried - with poise and dignity

- Colonel Hart's medals on a black cushion as part of the funeral party. **Lest We Forget.** 

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.

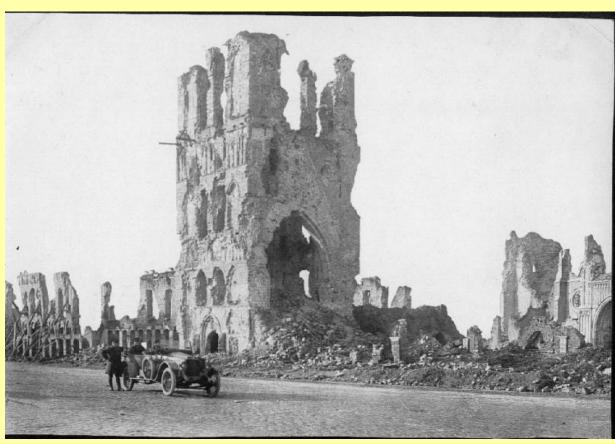
On behalf of Honorary Colonel Andrew Molson, the Regiment's Commanding Officer,

Lieutenant-Colonel John Shone, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Master-Warrant Officer Stephen Leroux, please accept our continued best wishes.

Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.



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



Ypres after the war

## NCO's MESS YPRES DINNER: 13 APRIL 2019

103rd Edition of the annual mess dinner commemorating the RMR at YPRES

Westmount, Quebec - 07 March 2019: Calling all former RMR NCO's! The Regimental Sergeant Major, Master Warrant Officer Stephan Leroux, CD, and the senior NCO's of the regiment, request the pleasure of your company at the Home Station of The Royal Montreal Regiment, for the 103rd edition of the annual Battle of Ypres Dinner, to be held Saturday 13 April 2019 at 18h00. RSVP no later than the 5th of April either online or by cheque. The cost for the dinner if paid in advance (early-bird before 05 April 2019) is \$90, which includes wine and cocktails.



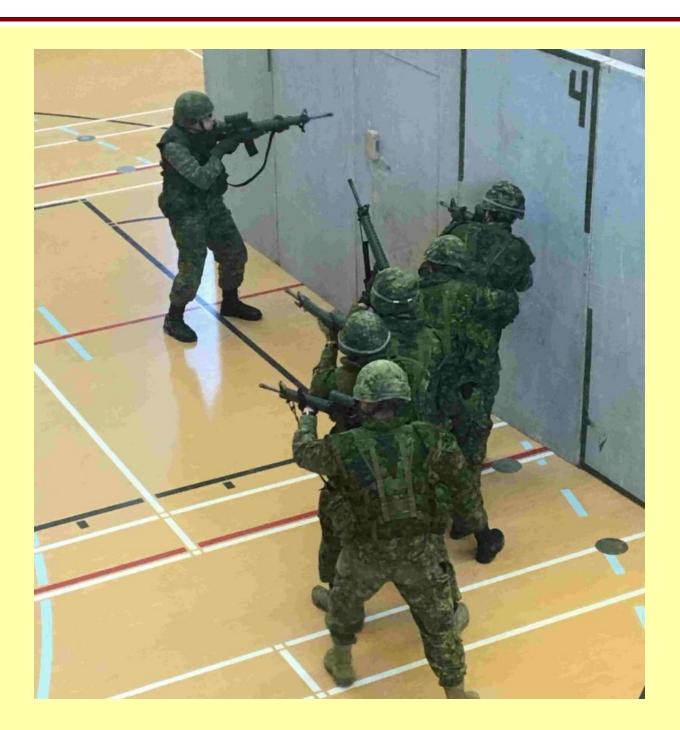
Extract from Private Duval's original diary

# RIP: HONORARY COLONEL DAVID HART, MM, CD

Decorated for bravery on the Dieppe Raid in August 1942

Westmount, Quebec - 27 March 2019: The RMR Foundation regrets to report the death of a dear friend of the RMR Family: Honorary Colonel David Hart, MM, CD of the 34th Signals Regiment. He was 101 years old and had been awarded the Military Medal for bravery on the battlefield as a young Sergeant at the battle of Dieppe in 1942 before being commissioned as an infantry officer. He was the longest serving Honorary Colonel in the Canadian Army, and was a good friend of the RMR since the early 1950's.

Read about Colonel Hart's life here



"B" Company professional development

Casualty extraction, urban warfare, etc.

Westmount, Quebec - 23 March 2019: On Friday, 8 March 2019 members of Bravo Company presented themselves to the armoury where they were treated to a professional development session

given by Mr. Kevin "Yoda" Whitenect of Tier1SOF, a Canadian military contracting company. Whether lecture, storytelling or demonstration, the instructor had the infanteers attention from his first words until the very last. B-Coy soldiers came away with a new understanding of the importance of situational awareness and even more impressively, the survivability of soldiers in combat based off these simple life saving techniques.

Read more about the training here



Wounded veteran learning to ski again

### WHERE DO YOUR POPPY DONATIONS GO?

#### Adaptive Sports Foundation is a great example of supporting veterans

Westmount, Quebec - 18 March 2019: Every fall, Canadians see members of the Royal Canadian Legion, serving soldiers and cadets selling poppies to commemorate the service of those who have sacrificed for Canada and help fund worthy causes, especially those connected to veterans. Since Comrade Mike Fitzgerald rejuvenated Branch 14 about 10 years ago, it has raised a lot of money. Comrade Sue Guerin has continued Mike's good work, assisted notably by members of the Royal Montreal Regiment [RMR], local cadet corps and many stalwart regulars.

Read about the impact of the poppy fund donations here

### Contact

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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."

RMR Association Facebook Page

RMR Museum Instagram

Please DONATE to support the RMR Family.