



## December 2023

*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 "Intercomm" ("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.*



Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel David Bensadoun lays a wreath on behalf of the RMR at the Pointe-Claire cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday, 05 November 2023. Photo by Chad Rabkin.

Greetings,

November was another busy month for the Regimental Family, particularly with the Poppy Campaign, multiple Remembrance Day parades, the demands of collective & individual training, and of course, the ramp up for upcoming deployments for many RMR soldiers in the New Year. There is a good collection of stories below, I encourage you to read them - particularly if you want to be inspired by the difference that one person can make on future generations. The story about Chantal Clabrough winning the Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching History is precisely that kind

of inspiration!

In less pleasant news, during the Westmount Remembrance Day service a number of folks reported on a potential "Stolen Valour" incident of an individual misrepresenting himself as a highly decorated USMC veteran. Photos were taken of the, well, ridiculously bemedalled individual, and he was reported to Stolen Valour Canada who investigated it and have [published their findings here](#). Their conclusion is summarized as "*He's no Gunny Highway*". Thank you to everyone who reported their concerns.

Originally supposed to be published in 2014, the Canadian Army has finally gotten around to publishing a three-volume history of The Canadian Army in Afghanistan. There is a link below where you can download each of the volumes as a PDF, they are available for free.

In the coming weeks the training tempo will begin to slow down a bit, and after the traditional holiday activities will take place, most folks will be able to relax a bit, catch their breath, and rest up in preparation for what will certainly be a busy and challenging 2024. The RMR Association has booked their holiday party for 18h30 on Friday 08 December 2023 in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. Of course, a true sign of the holiday season is - like when Mayor Drapeau used to announce at the start of the Stanley Cup playoff season that the '*Victory parade for the Montreal Canadiens will follow the traditional route*' - the Junior Ranks Club has confirmed they will be hosting a victory party after beating the combined officers & NCO hockey team in their upcoming game... feels like a bit of psychological warfare at play!

Of course, not everyone has a great time during the holidays. I encourage everyone to reach out to someone from the regimental family they haven't spoken with in awhile just to see how they're doing. Reaching out can go a long way.

On behalf of the Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel, David Bensadoun, the Regiment's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Maciej Jonasz, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Master-Warrant Officer Jim Quesnel, please accept our continued best wishes.

*Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.*



LCol (ret'd) Colin Robinson, CD  
Editor

## Articles from the past month:



**Chantal Clabrough wins Governor General's Award**



## for Excellence in Teaching History

The Royal Montreal Regiment Foundation is pleased to report that Chantal Clabrough, the Westmount High School educator who has been producing educational content for the ***Je Me Souviens*** history program since its inception, has received the Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching History. Specifically recognized for her project titled "Honoring WWII Heroes: Westmount High School Memorial Project". For a decade, Chantal Clabrough guided grade ten students through the Westmount High School Memorial Project, a poignant endeavour to honour alumni who served and perished during WWII.

[Read the full article here.](#)

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## RMR Marches: Kahnawake Remembrance Day Parade

The RMR Association (Branch 14) of the Royal Canadian Legion, were accompanied by the RMR's Command Team, Lieutenant-Colonel Maciej Jonasz and Master-Warrant Officer James Quesnel, as they marched in the annual Kahnawake Remembrance Day parade on Saturday 04 November 2023.

[Read the full article here.](#)

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## Tackling the Obstacle Course on EX LYNX AVENTURE

ARTICLE WRITTEN BY SECOND-LIEUTENANT JOEY CARRIER

As a Primary Reserve infantry officer, I can confidently say that the training offered by The Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) has been an incredibly enriching experience for me. This training is rigorous and demanding, requiring physical and mental strength, but the skills, knowledge, and experiences I gain from them are invaluable. The

training involves various activities ranging from weapons training, drill, and physical fitness exercises, all aimed at honing my military skills. Furthermore, the extensive instruction on military ethics and operational standards has instilled in me a deep understanding of discipline, respect, and responsibility in order to enhance my readiness for deployment.

[Read the full story here.](#)

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## RMR Supports Hampstead Remembrance Parade

During an early blast of the coming winter, soldiers and veterans of the RMR led students from Solomon Schechter Academy, JPPS, United Talmud Torah, Bialik High School, Herzliah High School and Hampstead School to the Cenotaph and Holocaust Memorial in Hampstead Park for the 2023 Hampstead Remembrance . This annual tradition sees hundreds of students attend the ceremony with some students actively participating by singing and reading prose.

[Read the full story here.](#)

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Cie. No.7  
ROYAL MONTREAL REGIMENT - *Boris*  
14<sup>th</sup> BATAILLON  
SALISBURY PLAIN, DEC, 1914

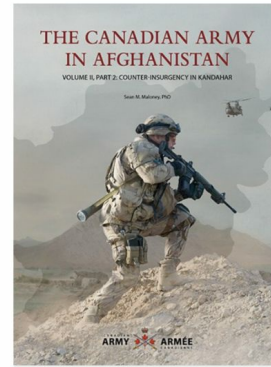
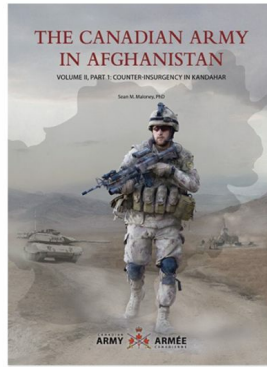
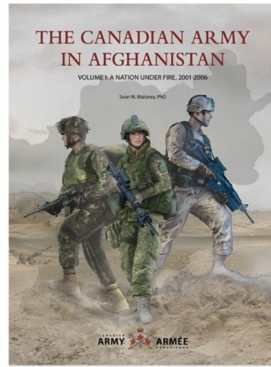
## Rare Photos of No 7 Company 14th CEF (RMR) Found

Thanks to the thoughtfulness of retired Black Watch Sergeant Hugh Lawson, another piece of the RMR's historical puzzle is being fitted into place with the recent donation of two rare World War I photos of the RMR's French-Canadian soldiers serving in Number 7 Company, 14th Battalion (CEF).



[Read the full story here.](#)

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## History published: Canadian Army in Afghanistan

DND has published the official history of the **Canadian Army in Afghanistan**. The War in Afghanistan is unlike any conflict that Canada has ever been involved in. The duration of the war generated continual stresses on the Army and put soldiers, units, and leaders at all levels to the test. Readers can download all three volumes of the history as a PDF.

[Read the full story here.](#)

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## RMR Thanks Another Volunteer

The RMR's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Maciej Jonasz, and the Regimental Sergeant-Major, Master Warrant Officer James Quesnel, have been formally recognizing RMR members who are on Class B callouts and are volunteering their time to help out the unit with administrative and operational duties.

[Read the full story here.](#)

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## 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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**[royalmontrealregiment.com](http://royalmontrealregiment.com)**



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