



April 2024

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.



RMR members firing a COORD ILLUM mission during a live fire exercise held in Valcartier from 08 – 10 March 2024.

Greetings,

There has been a set-back in the plans for the RMR's armoury to remain within Westmount, as the City of Westmount has been forced to ask the Province of Quebec to extend the RMR's emphyteutic lease by another year in order to deal with the new delays being imposed by the Province of Quebec. The deal in question is for Westmount to sell the land on which the armoury resides to the Minister of Defence (who owns the armoury). Appreciative of Westmount's efforts to help, it is disappointing to see the delay being imposed at the last minute given the Province has had the complete file for more than 9-months, and this file has been worked on for over a decade now. Full details can be read in the [Westmount Independent article](#) linked below.

Cited as a 'safety measure': Mayor Smith

City asks province to extend 99-year lease for RMR armoury

By LAUREN SWEENEY

In a series of ongoing efforts to ensure the Royal Montreal Regiment remains in Westmount past the end of April, city council February 26 asked the Quebec government to extend the city's 99-year lease regarding the armoury by one year. The emphyteutic lease was to expire April 28.

While the armoury itself was built in 1925 with publicly raised seed money, it sits on city land adjacent to the Westmount recreation centre (WRC), for which the regiment pays \$1 a year in rent.

According to details of the council resolution, which were not read out before the council vote, under the Quebec civil code the maximum term of an emphyteutic lease "is now" 100 years.

This could make it possible to extend

the expiry date regarding the armoury to April 28, 2025.

As a result, Mayor Christina Smith told the *Independent* the next day, the reason for delaying the expiry of the lease resulted from federal/Quebec relationships in which Quebec "controls" the armoury issue.

"Quebec has had everything in its hands since last July," she explained, but only two weeks ago had informed the city of the need for additional information.

As a result, the city is taking advantage of the change in emphyteutic terms to seek a lease extension "as a safety measure."

Previously approved

It was at the council meeting April 17, 2023, that a city resolution had been approved unani-

continued on p. 16

Armoury, cont'd from p. 1

mously to sign an agreement for the Department of National Defence (listed as His Majesty the King) to purchase the armoury from the city.

The approaching expiry of the lease had been raised at the council as recently as December 4 when a change in signing officers for the agreement was adopted following the departure from the city of Legal Services director Denis Ferland.

The position is now held by Julia Levitin, appointed December 18 (see story January 16, p. 1).

It was in May 1937 that the lease was transferred from the RMR Foundation in a notarized deed to the Department of National Defence.

The regiment has been described as now the only "remaining" bilingual one in Canada.

Long negotiation

Negotiations regarding expiry of the lease have been ongoing for some years, over which an agreement had been reached between the city and DND. This agreement was hailed by the city as meaning the regiment itself would remain in Westmount and not be possibly relocated elsewhere by DND.

Aside from military use of the armoury, it is used by many local community groups including activities by the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf, some of city's own sports programs, cadets, Scouts and also rented out to charitable groups.

In more positive news, the Regiment has qualified 14 members (auspicious number!) on the 81mm mortar task. You can read more about the training and the weapon system below. As well, the RMR's affiliated Cadet units were busy collaborating in various inter-unit competitions. This was a direct result of the RMR Foundations strategic plan being put into action, which is helping fund the Cadets extracurricular activities with a view to fostering a deeper connection to the RMR. You can see from the pictures that participants received Regimental t-shirts in the appropriate Regimental colours, winners received trophies, etc. A big thanks to Captain John Wylie from 2806 Pointe-Claire (RMR) who has contributed the articles describing the Cadet activities, they make us proud.

Speaking of making us proud, we've heard word that a certain RMR NCO has been nominated for the Medal of Bravery for their actions during a fire in 2022. Watch this space for updates!

April is the start of the new fiscal year for the serving battalion, so training will ramp up again briskly as they close out the training year. With the WO's & Sgt's and JRC mess dinners, along with the RMR Association (Branch 14) sponsored Canadian Citizenship Ceremony added into the mix, April will be a busy month. Before you know it, May will be here with Church Parade, Cadet unit annual reviews, Last Post Fund ceremonies, and then the soldiers & Cadets will be heading out for summer taskings and individual training courses. Anyone miss Covid lock-downs yet...? Didn't think so!

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:



RMR Association to Host Citizenship Ceremony

Westmount, Quebec – 23 March 2024: Branch 14 (RMR Association) of the Royal Canadian Legion is honoured to announce it will be hosting a Canadian Citizenship Ceremony on 23 April 2024. This momentous event will take place at the regiment's armoury, located at 4625 Ste-Catherine Street West, Westmount, Quebec. The ceremony will take place on the parade square and begin at 11h00 sharp.

As a symbol of our commitment to inclusivity and community engagement, the ceremony is open to the public and will welcome new citizens into the Canadian family, embodying the values of unity, diversity, and strength that Canada stands for. The RMR Association is proud to facilitate this important milestone in the lives of new Canadians and to celebrate the enriching diversity they bring to our nation.

[Read the full article here.](#)



RCACC 2806 POINTE-CLAIRE (RMR) FINISHES IN 5TH PLACE AT MARKSMANSHIP COMPETITION

Story by: Captain John Wylie, UPAR RCACC 2806 Pointe-Claire (RMR)

CÔTE-DES-NEIGES – RCACC 2806 Pointe-Claire (RMR) competed at the Montreal-West Zone Marksmanship Competition held at the Royal Hussars Armoury on Saturday, March 9, 2024. The cadet corps sent 1 team and five individual competitors this year's competition. Overall, this year there were 16 teams and 88 individual competitors from all across the western half of Montreal fighting competing for a chance to qualify for the provincial marksmanship competition.

[Read the full story here.](#)



RMR Members Qualify on 81mm Mortar

Westmount, Quebec, 23 March 2024 – Some lucky members of the RMR had the opportunity to train with the 2nd Field Artillery Regiment qualify to operate the 81mm mortar in a variety of shooting tasks. There are now 14 members of the RMR qualified on the 81mm mortar. The weapon is a versatile and potent indirect fire weapon used by the Canadian Army, including both regular and reserve units. This medium mortar system is designed to provide infantry units with high-angle fire support, bridging the gap between the maximum range of hand-thrown grenades and the minimum range of artillery.

[Read the full story here.](#)



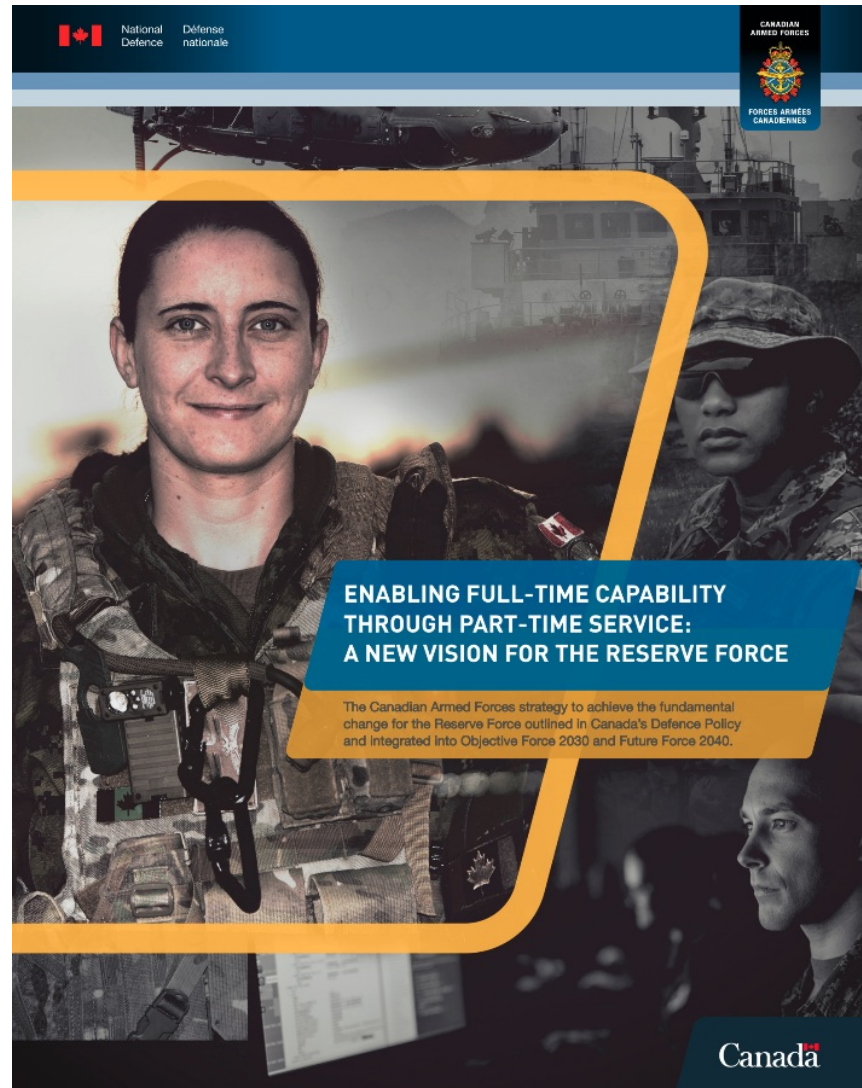
2806 POINTE-CLAIRE (RMR) WIN BADGER TROPHY

Story by: Captain John Wylie, UPAR RCACC 2806 Pointe-Claire (RMR)

POINTE-CLAIRE – On Saturday, March 2, 2024 the first The Royal Montreal Regiment (RMR) Affiliated Unit Marksmanship Competition took place at RCACC 2806 Pointe-Claire (RMR). The competition brought all four cadet units affiliated with the regiment together in the spirit of friendly competition and marksmanship prowess. Cadets competed using the Daisy 853-C and Avanti 853-C Cadet Air rifles, shooting in the prone position at a total of 40 targets located 10 metres away over the course of two

relays. For some, this may sound easy, but when faced with bullseyes no larger than a 2 mm in diameter, a time limit of 30 minutes to sight and hit all of your targets, and having to try to maintain your natural alignment while using a pump lever action rifle, the reality is that precision shooting with the cadet air rifle is quite the difficult skill to master.

[Read the full story here.](#)



CDS Announces New Vision for Reserve Force

Westmount, Quebec – 09 March 2024: The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) unveiled their transformative strategy for the Reserve Force, marking a pivotal move towards a robust, integrated future. This approach, detailed in ***“Enabling Full-Time Capability Through Part-Time Service: A New Vision for the Reserve Force,”*** aligns with Canada’s Defence Policy: Strong, Secure, Engaged. It sets the stage for a dynamic evolution of the Reserve Force, pivotal for achieving Canada’s strategic defence goals through Objective Force 2030 and Future Force 2040.

[Read the full article here.](#)



Time to apply for the Beaverbrook Vimy Prize

Westmount, Quebec – 17 March 2024: The **Beaverbrook Vimy Prize (BVP)** is a unique learning experience in Belgium and France, awarded to outstanding youth between 15-17 years of age. Through this 10-day experiential program, recipients from Canada, the United Kingdom, and France study the interwoven First and Second World War history of their respective countries. Through this immersive experience, recipients gain a unique, international perspective on the histories of the world wars and their impact.

[Read how to apply here.](#)



1 WEST WINS RMR BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Story by: Captain John Wylie, UPAR RCACC 2806 Pointe-Claire (RMR)

Westmount, Quebec – 12 March 2024: The first ever RMR Affiliated Unit Basketball Tournament was held on Saturday, February 17, 2024 at the Royal Montreal Regiment. This basketball tournament was open to all four cadet corps and squadrons affiliated with the regiment. This year all four units, RCACC 2806 Pointe-Claire (RMR), RCACC 2862 Westmount, RCACS 1 West Montreal and RCACS 588 Eric

Simms participated. The competition was actioned packed with all of the cadets putting in the best efforts, but at the end of the day there was a clear winner, with the undefeated team from RCACS 1 West Montreal walking away as this year's champions.

[Read the full story 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](#)

Tax receipts issued automatically.

Charitable BN: 891421844RR0001

royalmontrealregiment.com



Fondation RMR Foundation | 4625 Ste-Catherine Street West | Westmount, QC H3Z 1S4 CA

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!