



AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

783 (CALGARY) WING

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2010



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As elected at the Annual General Meeting held June 28, 2010. (* Non-elected positions)

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#783 WING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Nothing to submit.

Robert Clarke
President 783 (Calgary) Wing AFAC

Per Ardua Ad Astra

ALBERTA GROUP PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Nothing to submit.

Gilles McDermott
AB Group President
(780) 594-7767
gmc1@telus.net

I.P.P. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dakota Montgomery presented with a Continuation Flying grant from the Air Cadet League. Presenters were Dave Watson, Pat Sulek, Peggy McAlister and RJ Roe.

Dakota Montgomery presented with the AFAC Top Alberta Air Cadet award – 2nd place by RJ Roe I.P.P. President 783 (Calgary) Wing AFAC



Respective submitted,
RJ Roe
I.P.P. President 783 (Calgary) Wing AFAC

Per Ardua Ad Astra

PAST PRESIDENTS REPORT

November 22, 2010

The Past Presidents met November 7. We discussed a number of things that included:

1. There was discussion about the payments to Legion and how to ensure that we protect the our support that we provide from our Casino funds. I have had a conversation with the past president of our branch and discussion how best to handle this. I will discuss with our treasurer how to deal with it.
2. We have started planning for projects that we might undertake when we receive our next Casino money. Some of the things that we are considering are:
 - a. Grant will look into the possibilities for supporting the Family Resource Centre.
 - b. Pat will checkout the Col Belcher to see if there is anything in there to support.
 - c. Bev will investigate if there is a way that we can support perhaps a hospital.
 - d. I will look into the possibility of setting up a bursary for an aviation student at a post secondary.
 - e. We are interested in any ideas that might interest the Wing.
3. You are asked to consider your fellow members for Awards. Bev is the chair of our Awards committee and really needs our assistance in recognizing our fellow members.
4. Steve is working on a charter that will assist the Wing in making decisions about how we distribute our Casino money.
5. Grant reminded us that he has one commemorative plaque to erect. That is for Natook, the Air Cadet Gliding Centre just north of Olds. He will investigate the cost for this and report back to provide us with the information.
6. The committee discussed supporting two needy families for Christmas this year and we would like to propose that we spend \$2,000 to make the lives of two families a little better this Christmas.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenn Nixon

WEBSITE INFORMATION & NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

783 (Calgary) Wing website is up and running. This is your original website that we are always tweaking and revising. Want to publish an event on the website calendar? Submit in writing (snail mail or email) to Brian Lewis.

www.783afacwingcalgary.ca

Distribution of this newsletter is either by e-mail or Canada Post. In an effort to be fiscally responsible and eco friendly, e-mail is the preferred method of distribution. (It will continue to be mailed to those for whom we have no e-mail addresses.) If anyone who receives the mailed copy but now has an e-mail address, please contact Anna Lewis with your new email address.

We encourage all members to become active in this newsletter by submitting ideas, recipes, news stories, pictures or general comments. I'll even take some good "clean" jokes. Feedback will help in the development of your newsletter and website.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of our last meeting, we have 80 regular and 5 life memberships for a total of 85 wing members.

Invoices were mailed out in June/10 for this year's membership fees. \$18.00 for singles and \$25.00 for couples. If you have not received your invoice, please contact Kendal Spielman as the due date for payment was June 30/10. Remit payment to #783 (Calgary) Wing AFAC, c/o Kendall Spielman, 95 Shawcliffe Circle SW, Calgary, AB T2Y 1J3 or phone 403-256-3612.

If you have any changes to your membership information, such as address, phone or email addresses, please contact her to update your file.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

This has been "some" winter so far.....water running down the streets to digging out from under snow banks. The start to 2011 has been challenging to say the least and I hope this is the case of "in like the lion and out like a lamb" and not a taste of what is to be expected this new year.

Since our November's meeting, we have all been busy with the Christmas season, wrapping gifts, over eating, putting up and then taking down decorations. Our family once again celebrated the Orthodox Christmas on the Jan 8 weekend and had a house full of friends and family who all tried to make a dent in the supply of food that just seemed to go on endlessly.

I hope that while you are reading this newsletter, you take time to thank those who have worked so hard and have done us proud representing the 783 Wing at various events. One way to show your appreciation is to nominate them for one of the various National or Provincial awards. Please see Bev Spielman in regards to the awards and to submit your nomination.

Yours truly,

Anna Lewis

Editor-in-Chief



AIR FORCE MUSEUM SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

The Air Force Museum of Alberta (AFMSA) is an equal partner in the new Military Museums at the location of the former Museum of the Regiments on Crowchild Trail. The Museum needs volunteers to be Tour Guides, so please consider volunteering by contacting Kenn Nixon. Official opening was on May 7, 2009.

The AFMSA website is www.airforcemuseumalberta.ca. Comments and suggestions should be directed to Kenn Nixon. Wing members are encouraged to become members of the museum. The AFMSA is an approved charitable organization, and can provide official receipts for tax purposes for all donations. For further information and applications for memberships, please call Don Norrie, the membership chairman, at 403-949-2579.

NOTICES

- Please save your used stamps for Marion Mascaro, to be donated to the Alberta Cancer Society. You can bring them to the monthly meeting or send them to:



- #783 (Calgary) Wing, c/o 100 Rosevale Drive NW, Calgary, AB T2K 1N5
- Eleanor Berlin requests notification of any wing member who is ill so that she can send them a card from the Wing. Phone: 403-244-8217



CADET LIAISON REPORT

Air Cadet Reports November 22, 2010

All the squadrons in Southern Alberta played an important role in a wide variety of Remembrance Day service throughout Southern Alberta. Each seemed to participate in several services, including the Legion or community events. The observance of Remembrance Day that 783 Wing hosted at Mewata Armoury was well attended by about 250 cadets. There was a significant number of parents who attended as well. This is unusual but the parents who attended were grateful for our efforts.

Alberta Group awarded cheques to three Alberta cadets 604 Sqn WO2 Valliani the Top Alberta Air Cadet, a Sgt from Cold Lake as second and WO1 Montgomery from 878 Banff Canmore as third place. WO2 Valliani represented Alberta and all Canadian Air Cadets at the National Remembrance Day services in Ottawa.

The squadrons are busy trying to get all their training in. Capt Mary Helmer announced that she will be leaving 781 Sqn as the CO to move to Nova Scotia before Christmas. This leaves the squadron without a CO. If anyone knows someone who might consider becoming a CO please have them contact either Pat Sulek or Randy Fisher.

If anyone is interested in attending this year's Air Cadet scholarship boards 19 and 20 February please contact me and will get you in contact with Stan Monkman. The boards will take place at the Lacombe High School and we will be housed in Red Deer.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenn Nixon

SPECIAL EVENTS TOURS

Special Events/Bus trips - Pat Sulek, our event coordinator, welcomes all suggestions and comments.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



General Meetings are usually held on the fourth Monday of each month, except in July, August and December, when there are no meetings. They will continue to be held at 1930 hrs at the #285 Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, on Horton Road, for the foreseeable future. Members may enjoy dinner at the #285 Legion before the meeting (last call for the kitchen is around 1815 hrs).

All members are encouraged to attend the Wing Meetings to not only find out what's going on, but also to have input into the decisions and activities. Summer dress attire is from May 1 to Sept 30.

Date missing? Wrong information? Let us know! We're always looking ahead, so all dates (even a year in advance) are most welcome.

- **January 24, 2011** **Wing Meeting**
- **February 28, 2011** **Wing Meeting**
- **March 28, 2011** **Wing Meeting**
- **April 25, 2011** **Wing Meeting – date change ?as this is**
 Easter Monday
- **May 30, 2011** **Wing Meeting**
- **June 27, 2011** **Wing Meeting & AGM**
- **Sept 16-18, 2011** **#1 Air Division Reunion, R.C.A.F. in**
 Edmonton, AB

LAST POST



MR. G. LESLIE TALBOT of Lethbridge, beloved husband of Mrs. Gertrude Talbot passed away at the Chinook Regional Hospital on Wednesday, December 22, 2010 at the age of 85 years. He was a member of the #702 Lethbridge Wing.

CATCH UP ON PAST EVENTS.....

REMEMBRANCE DAY COMMITTEE REPORT NOV 11, 2010



A very successful Remembrance Day Service was held at Mewata, with approx, 750 people in attendance, including over 250 cadets and officers, from 604, 781, 538, and 52 squadrons. By all accounts, everyone was very impressed with the service.



(L Col Brodeur, RSCU Prairie Command, Wpg flew in to join us along with his aid, Sgt Brens.)

Our VIPs and invited-guests numbered approx 80 people, with 15 wreaths presented.



(Vern McKeague laid a wreath representing the Veterans while Vice President Keith Mann laid the #783 Wing wreath)



52 Military Band, 781 Pipes and Drums, and cadets from 538 provided music, and sounded awesome. The co MC Flt/Sgt Mah from 781 did an exemplary job, along with Flt/Cpl Qin from 604 and WO 11 Tran from 538 assisting in the readings.



Col Matthews added his quiet dignity as our MC. His words throughout the ceremony were heartfelt, and uplifting.

Padre Lees also added spiritual warmth to our service.

Also huge thanks to the Mess Manager and staff of Mewata, who really looked after us at the reception after the service. Their generosity with food pricing kept our budget from skyrocketing, as our numbers of invited guests was much higher than anticipated.

We actually came in under budget with a total of \$2,345.39 from the original budget of \$2,500.00.

We also collected for the Veteran's Food Bank, and also \$456.00 thanks for the efforts of Anna Lewis, for the Veteran's Food Bank.

My personal thanks to Brian and Anna Lewis, Randy Fisher, Kenn Nixon, Barb and Keith Mann, and Lorne Flemming for their passionate commitment and many dedicated hours of planning for this event.



(“Pinning of the Poppy” at the end of the ceremony for cadets, veterans and the general public. As you can see, the pillow is completely overflowing. It was an honour to watch as many lined up and waited patiently to pin their poppy and pay their respects.)

It has been a great honour for me to have chaired this committee, and look forward to hopefully presenting this ceremony next year...

Respectfully submitted
Pat Sulek, chair, Remembrance Day Committee

783 Wing CHRISTMAS PARTY

Santa must have thought there were some good boys and girls there that night. Hmmm....Grant, hurry up you're holding up the line!



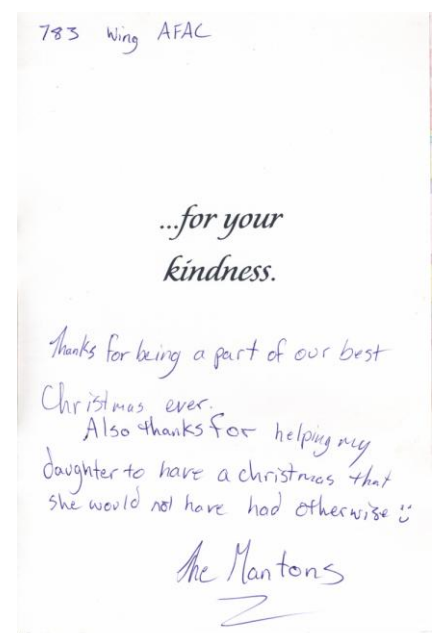
We celebrated two birthdays that night, Kenn Nixon along with one of our newest member, Charlie-Mae Marlatt.



Lots of fun, food and good company. Many thanks to the efforts of Sue Clarke and Bev Spielman.

Adopt Two Families – by Bev Spielman - Approved at our November #783 Wing Meeting

The first family we chose was a single mom and her seven-year-old daughter. This young woman has had a pretty rough go this year. Her younger brother ended up committing suicide by jumping into the Bow River. She was called to identify him for the family as the mother broke down. A month later, her grandmother passed away and she was left to make the arrangements for the family. In the early part of November, her mother and pregnant sister were going to the doctors and a truck in the crosswalk hit them after getting off a bus. We felt she needed a break. Bob Clarke delivered to her home.



The second family we got through the YWCA. They are Sudanese and have only been in Canada three years. They have six children, ranging in age from 13 years to 3 months. When we interviewed the mom, she only asked for a couple of things for the kids. Had a bit of time convincing her that the **WHOLE** family **WAS GETTING SOMETHING**. Keith and Barb took their parcels to them. We furnished each one of them with clothes, household items (pots/pans), toys and each family got \$100 gift certificates for Super Store. I think Bob/Sue, Kendall and Karen shopped very frugally and got exceptional bargains. The wrapping went well and the deliveries smoothly.

I hope the Wing can continue to choose to help out again next year. It costs the Wing so little and means so much for the people on the receiving end.

EFFECTIVE SPEAKING



Kenn Nixon conducting an effective speaking workshop for the 52 Air Cadet Sqn on December 4, 2010.



RECIPE SWAP



Chicken Penne Casserole

Submitted by Pat Sulek (#783 Wing)

- 1 ½ cups uncooked penne pasta
- 1 pound boneless skinless chicken thighs, cut into 1 inch pieces
- ½ cup each chopped onion, green pepper and sweet red pepper
- 1 ½ teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 teaspoon each dried basil, oregano and parsley flakes
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

1 tablespoon canola or vegetable oil
1 can (14 ½ ounces) diced tomatoes, undrained
3 tablespoons tomato paste
¾ cup chicken broth
2 cups (8 ounces) shredded mozzarella cheese
½ cup grated Romano cheese

Cook pasta according to package directions and drain. Meanwhile, in a large saucepan, saute the chicken, onion, peppers, garlic and seasonings in oil until chicken is no longer pink.

In a blender, combine tomatoes and paste and process until blended. Add to chicken mixture. Stir in broth. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat: cover and simmer for 10-15 minutes or until slightly thickened.

To the drained pasta, toss with chicken mixture. Spoon half of the mixture into a greased 2 quart baking dish. Sprinkle with half of the mozzarella cheese and Romano cheese. Repeat layers.

Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake for 15-20 minutes longer or until heated through.



COMEDY CORNER



A young man named John received a parrot as a gift. The parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary.

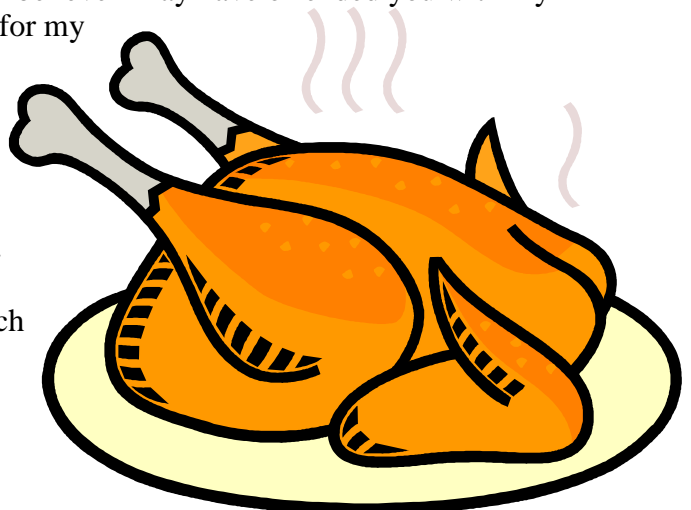
Every word out of the bird's mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity. John tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to 'clean up' the bird's vocabulary.

Finally, John was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back. John shook the parrot and the parrot got angrier and even ruder. John, in desperation, threw up his hand, grabbed the bird and put him in the freezer. For a few minutes the parrot squawked and kicked and screamed. Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute.

Fearing that he'd hurt the parrot, John quickly opened the door to the freezer. The parrot calmly stepped out onto John's outstretched arms and said "I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behaviour."

John was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude.

As he was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in his behaviour, the bird spoke-up, very softly, "May I ask what the turkey did?"



GETTING TO KNOW YOU.....

John Melbourne

(see Page 19 for an announcement)

John served in the RCAF from 1953 to 1964, primarily on Search and Rescue units. Upon leaving the RCAF to pursue a civilian career, which has lasted for 40 years, he joined the Purchasing Department of a Canadian subsidiary of Bechtel Corporation, a large E.P.C. (Engineering, Procurement, Construction) Company. He held several procurement positions during his 25-year career with the company, working on numerous construction projects.

John has lived in Montreal, Toronto, Edmonton, Calgary, Halifax, Los Angeles and Houston. His job entailed many years of world travel. In 1989, he decided the nomadic life had to end and settled down in Calgary. He became involved in a number of construction projects both domestic and international. In 1997 he joined Alliance Pipeline as Procurement Manager and was responsible for heading up procurement for construction and subsequent operation of a new high-pressure gas transmission pipeline from Fort St. John, British Columbia to Chicago, Illinois. He was responsible for a budget of \$2.5 Billion for pipe, compressors and other equipment during the construction phase.



John retired from Alliance Pipeline in December 2003. From January 2004 to April 2009 he was on contract to provide E.P.C. services on a heavy- oil projects as well as pipeline projects in Alberta. John once again retired from the business world.

John is involved in numerous business and community activities. He is an active volunteer with the world famous Calgary Stampede. He has held the positions of Chairman of the Hospitality Room; Chairman of Strategic Planning for Down Town Attractions and has supported the Parade Committee acting as a Street Marshall. He now sits on the Promotions Committee. He has arranged the flyovers by CF 18's at the start of the annual Stampede Parade as well as the annual Canadian Football League Labour Day Classic between Edmonton and Calgary at Calgary's McMahon Stadium. He also is on the Stampede Military Steering Committee, representing 4 Wing Cold Lake, and has assisted in arranging to have a CF18 Hornet and a Griffon Helicopter on static display on the Stampede Grounds as part of the military display.

John was awarded the Queens Jubilee Medal in 2002 for his work as part of the Air Force Association of Canada for his advocacy roll for a strong and efficient Air Force. In 2005 John received the Alberta Centennial Medallion in recognition of his work, achievements and volunteering efforts on behalf of the people, communities and the Province of Alberta. In 2009 John was awarded the Minister of Veterans' Affairs commendation for his work in veterans advocacy.

He is Past Director of the Calgary Aerospace Museum, a founding Director of the Air Force Museum Society of Alberta, a Director of The Royal Alberta United Services Institute (RAUSI). John is also a member of The Royal Canadian Legion and The Army, Navy, Air Force Veterans in Canada. John was the Vice Chair on a committee to have a commemorative statue erected and unveiled in Calgary in September 2004. The statue is a part of the BCATP, which

commemorates Albertans who gave their lives during wartime. He is currently involved in a memorial honouring Army, Navy and Air Force involvement in World War II, which will be housed on the site of the old Currie Barracks in Calgary. As a strong supporter of the Air Cadet movement he has served as a Provincial League Representative of the Air Cadet League of Canada and regularly participates in the annual Provincial Scholarship Boards.

John has been an active member of Air Force Association of Canada for more than three decades. He has held positions as Wing Director, Wing Vice President, Wing President, Group Vice President, Alberta Regional Director and Alberta Group President (on two separate occasions). He has also held the positions of National Vice President and the National President's position of The Air Force Association of Canada from 2007 to 2009.

John is married to Beverly who is Past Chairman of the R.C.A.F Benevolent Fund. They own and care for two retired racing Greyhounds, JR and Tony, and an Australian Shepherd, Nordic.

OTHER NEWS

On Friday 10 December 2010, Ted Mahood and I traveled to Petawawa to surrender the Billy Bishop trophy to this year's winners - 427 Special Operations Aviation Squadron. LCol John Alexander, CD and Honorary Colonel R.G. "Bob" Middlemiss, DFC, CD participated in the event. Ted, you're such a handsome guy!

By Dean Black



Stricken Calgarian girds for another health battle

Below is a story that ran in The Calgary Sun on Dec 2, 2010. This young man is a brother to one of our former air cadets from the 52 City of Calgary Squadron.

By [JENNA McMURRAY](#), CALGARY SUN

Francois van den Broek, 25 yrs poses with his mother Anne in the family home in Calgary Nov 30, 2010. Francois was born with a rare birth defect and was treated but discovered a chronic kidney disease. His mother is donating a kidney and the surgery is planned in early 2011 in the U.S. Francois van den Broek has battled health problems for much of his life, and now the 25-year-old is about to wage a war for the second time.



Born in Montreal with a rare birth defect called cloacal exstrophy, which affects the pelvic area and organs, van den Broek underwent many surgeries to survive as well as reconstructive procedures to allow him to live a normal life.

When he was two, his family moved to Calgary where van den Broek grew up — eventually becoming an avid mountain biker who worked for American Airlines and was taking classes at Mount Royal University toward getting his commercial pilot's license.

But in 2006, van den Broek was diagnosed with stage 4 chronic kidney disease.

"Everything was going great until we were hit with this," he said, adding the disease may have been caused by the years of surgeries and medications he underwent when he was younger.

He was forced to stop taking classes and eventually stop working because he had no energy.

But his mother, Anne van den Broek, came to his rescue, offering to donate a kidney to her son.

"At first I said, 'Are you sure?' She did it without even thinking twice; it's amazing," said Francois.

In March 2008, mother and son went into hospital in Calgary for the transplant.

But because the doctors had difficulty finding their way around Francois' rearranged insides, they actually ended up damaging bowel tissue and had to abort the surgery, he said. Fortunately Anne's kidney had not yet been removed. Francois is now on dialysis to keep him alive.

Nearly two years after the failed transplant attempt, the van den Broeks received word they could travel to Los Angeles to have Dr. Bernard Churchill, a Calgarian who had worked with a young Francois in Toronto, perform the transplant. "It's the next 25 years of my life," said Francois of the second chance.

Anne and Francois are set to travel to L.A. at the end of January or start of February for the surgeries. Though they are grateful for the provincial coverage of their flights and taxi rides to and from the airports and hospital, the family is still short the \$10,000 or more it will cost them to stay in the U.S. for several weeks following the transplant for medical monitoring. Family friend Keith Peden, whose daughters were air cadets with Francois' younger sister, is now setting up a trust fund for the van den Broeks to help pay for the stay.

For more information or if you would like to help with a donation please call 1-866-959-7483 or email helpfrancois@brockhealth.ca

Increasing Focus on the Volunteer Sector

In early 2010, the Executive Director briefed members of the National Executive Council of the Air Force Association of Canada explaining that the new Not-for-Profit Corporations Act is the culmination of about 15 years' work by the government of Canada to sort out the volunteer sector. The sector has been in serious decline, for some time and because it involves 12,000,000 Canadians and generates close to \$90 billion for the Canadian economy, and touches over 161,000 organizations, of which the Air Force Association of Canada is one, the government is very serious about making things right. If the government fails, then running the country becomes all that more problematic, more expensive, less rewarding and less meaningful, for a lot of Canadians. Again, the government wants to get it right.

Getting things right is very important, but making them stick is even more important. Individual organizations can play a significant role, here. They do so by rewarding members who make the right things happen. As part of his presentations the Executive Director has mentioned how our awards system is in need of some change. For example, at the very moment the government, the economy and technology seem to be demanding it, we seem reluctant to add one or two awards to our collection that would recognize how proficient members and Wings are with new computer-based technology (communicating via e-mail, electronic bulletins, web-site creation, marketing and media processes on-line, etc...). It is interesting to see how Canada's Prime Minister reacts to a similar need, by introducing a new award for the volunteer sector at the

strategic level.

We are on the right track – the new Act, and government attention, and the PM’s new award, are all focused on enhancing governance throughout the volunteer sector. That is what we have been doing, for the past fourteen months, but we need to do a lot more. The executive director admits he is encouraged by the attention members of the NEC seem prepared to give to the requirement to amend our constitution, as an important first step in aligning our constitution to the federal legislation governing associations (new Not-for-Profit Corporations Act). We will eventually need to look at everything, though. The AGM theme in Quebec City will be “A New Beginning”. While reference is being made to the arrival of the first military aeroplane in Quebec City in 1914, and also to the original formation of the Royal Canadian Air Force Association in the province of Quebec (Montreal), when the association adjusts its processes and practices to be in line with government initiatives, it truly will be a new beginning for the association. The announcement made by the Prime Minister of Canada (below) is but one of the most important pieces to this important work, now underway.

Dean Black

Executive Director | Directeur exécutif

Publisher *Airforce* Magazine | Éditeur revue *Airforce*

Air Force Association of Canada | l'Association des Forces aériennes du Canada

PO Box 2460 Stn "D"

Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5W6

PM announces new awards program to recognize Canada’s volunteers

January 7, 2011

Welland, Ontario

Prime Minister Stephen Harper today announced a new volunteer awards program to recognize the outstanding contributions of Canadians who volunteer their time, energy and talents to helping others, as well as local business leaders and individuals from not-for-profit organizations that make a difference in their communities.

“Our Government is proud of the millions of volunteers and other everyday Canadians who generously give their time, experience and expertise to make their communities stronger,” said Prime Minister Harper. “These awards will celebrate their enormous contributions and we hope it encourages others to participate and make a difference in their own communities.”

A total of 17 Prime Minister’s Volunteer Awards will be presented annually. Fifteen regional awards will be presented to volunteers, business leaders and individuals from not-for-profit organizations. There will also be two national awards, one to recognize lifelong achievement and one for a young adult.

Regional award recipients will receive a \$5,000 grant for the not-for-profit organization of their choice, while national award recipients will receive \$10,000 for their organization of choice.

The first call for nominations will open in April 2011 during National Volunteer Week and the recipients will be announced later in the year.

The creation of the new awards program addresses a commitment made by the Harper Government in the 2010 Speech from the Throne.

Minister
of National Defence



Ministre
de la Défense nationale

DEC 10 2010

Mr. John E. Melbourne
Honorary Colonel
19 Strathaven Circle South West
Calgary AB T3H 2G4

Dear Honorary Colonel Melbourne:

Upon the recommendation of the Chief of the Defence Staff, I am pleased to approve your appointment as Honorary Colonel of 410 Tactical Fighter Operational Training Squadron.

The practice of honorary regimental appointments in Canada dates back more than a century. Although the tasks and roles of units have changed over the years, it remains the role of the Honorary to serve as a link between the community and the Canadian Forces. In this activity, distinguished Canadians, such as you, serve extremely well.

I am certain that over the next three years you will gain a heightened appreciation of the importance of your unit within the community. And in turn, this appointment will provide unique and satisfying experiences and will benefit the Canadian Forces.

I wish to congratulate you on your appointment and thank you for your interest in the Canadian Forces and the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Peter MacKay", with a stylized flourish extending from the bottom right.

Peter MacKay

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0K2