

SPIRIT

783 (Calgary) Wing Newsletter

***ROYAL CANADIAN
AIR FORCE
ASSOCIATION***

www.783afacwingcalgary.ca



***Wing Meets every
4th Tuesday at 7pm
285 Legion Horton Road***



MEET THE TEAM

<http://783afacwingcalgary.ca/>

Chairperson	Rob Caswell
Honorary Chairperson	Col (Retd) Don Matthews
Immediate Past Chairperson	Randy Fisher
First Vice Chairperson	Michelle Gerwing
Second Vice Chairperson	Scott Deederly
Treasurer	Kenn Nixon
Secretary	Cecilia Brugma
Past Chairs Advisory Council	Pat Sulek
Casino Chairperson	Darlene Laroche
Friends of Col Belcher	Pat Sulek
Membership	Anna Lewis
Newsletter	Bev Spielman/Michelle Gerwing
Health and Wellness	Michele Henderson
Sergeant at Arms	Art Hill
Entertainment Chair	Muriel Mymko
Public Relations	Bob Wade
Military Museum Liaison	Bob Wade
Cadet Liaison	Kevin Knight
Advocacy	Scott Deederly
Historian	Grant Whitson
Webmaster/Social Media	Kent Anderson






Message from the Chairperson



Greetings! We have a number of events planned for you and we look forward to seeing you in person once more. Here is the list:

- ◆ Our Remembrance Day Ceremony will be held at a new venue this year. Please join us at 1000 hrs on 11 Nov at the Genesis Centre, 7555 Falconbridge Blvd NE. There is ample parking on both sides of the building.*
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- ◆ We hope to see you at the Christmas party on the 18th of Nov at the Blackfoot Inn. If you attending, please let Kenn Nixon know soonest.*
 - ◆ Our next meeting will be at the Legion on Horton Road on 22 Nov. Please note the day of our meeting has changed to the 4th Tues of every month.*
 - ◆ If you do not make it to any of the events prior to the holidays, we would like to wish you very happy holidays and a happy new year.*

Per Ardua Ad Astra

Rob Caswell CD, AdeC

Chairman

783 (Calgary) Wing

Royal Canadian Air Force Association



Happy Birthday to you (Nov/Dec)

Garry Mellor	2 Nov
Ruth Mascaro	8 Nov
Betty Wonnacott	9 Nov
Cheryl Griffiths	13 Nov
Kearra Peterson	13 Nov
Walter Wakula	15 Nov
Andrea Chant	16 Nov
Donald Ward	18 Nov
Dylaney Thompson	22 Nov
Nadine Spielman	22 Nov
Don Matthews	24 Nov
Doug Eaglesham	26 Nov
Lorne Fleming	27 Nov
Cindy Guidinger	27 Nov
Fran McCarthy	27 Nov
Mike Ricketts	28 Nov
Joan Embleton	30 Nov
Eugene Kushnir	2 Dec
Kenn Nixon	3 Dec
Adriano Fisico	4 Dec
David Leggo	5 Dec
Charlie-Mae Wilson	5 Dec
Mike Ter Kuile	6 Dec
Thom Gordon	9 Dec
Michele Henderson	13 Dec
Keith Spielman Jr	16 Dec
Arline Chartier	31 Dec



Battle of Britain

Due to the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, our celebration of her Platinum Jubilee and the Battle of Britain parade were not held as planned. The Jubilee Tea will be held at a later date as a celebration of her life. In lieu of the Battle of Britain parade, Rob, Scott, Grant and Michelle laid flowers at the BCATP monument outside the McDougall Building.





We will remember them



Coleen (Ayers) Cook Oct 24, 1932—May 24, 2022

It is with deep sorrow and much love that we mourn the passing of our mother and grandmother, Maybelle Coleen (Ayers) Cook of Calgary, Alberta who joined her parents, brothers and sisters on May 24, 2022. Coleen was born in Demaine, Saskatchewan on October 24, 1932 and was raised on the family farm near Lucky Lake, Saskatchewan. She passed away at the age of 89 at the South Health Campus Hospital in Calgary, Alberta.

Coleen was a proud, loving and caring mother, grandmother, great grandmother and aunt. She will be remembered with love and affection by her husband of 67 years, Bill Cook; her son Howard and daughter-in-law Valerie; daughter Susan and son-in-law Brian; grandchildren: Tamara, Alexis, Shalyn and Lucas; and great grandchildren: Tayla, Aiden and Ryker as well as her many nieces and nephews.

Coleen was the youngest of ten brothers and sisters who she loved dearly. She was the glue of her family and made sure to be in contact with every one of her sisters, brothers, nieces and nephews as much as possible. She loved the history of her family, visiting and sharing stories and genuinely felt the deep connection that family brings.

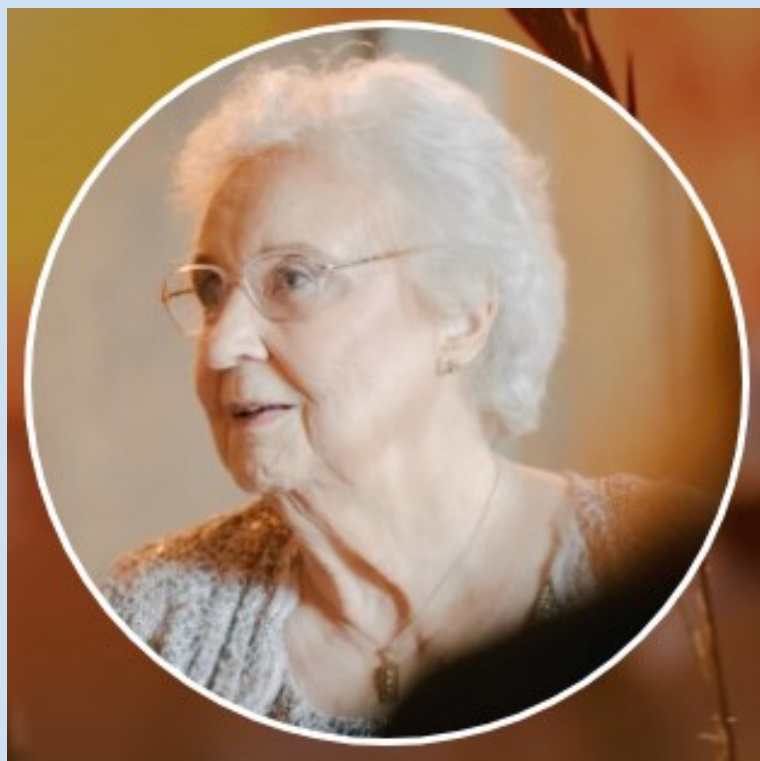
Coleen met Bill while living and working in her first job as a nurse at the Fort Qu'Appelle Hospital. Bill was an insurance agent and traveled around the province. He had met Loretta (Coleen's sister) and Norm in his travels. Knowing that Bill would be traveling one weekend to Midale, Loretta asked him to bring Coleen along as she had the weekend off. The two began dating and married in December 1954.

Coleen believed that women had to be ever ready to take care of themselves and their families. She started her work life as a bank teller in Regina, Saskatchewan as a young woman then went into nursing school at the Regina Grey Nuns Hospital, graduating in 1954. She was a member of the Regina Grey Nuns Nurses Alumni and attended many of their yearly Alumni Reunions. She went on to spend the rest of her career working in hospitals and later, until her retirement, in the Dalbrent Doctors' Office. She had a shining career, and in the 1970's when her family moved to Calgary she was hired at the Foothills Hospital and helped open the new Burn Ward as assistant head nurse.

Coleen will be missed by her family and many friends, and will be cherished forever.

A Graveside Service will take place at Mountain View Memorial Gardens Cemetery (1605 100 Street SE, Calgary) for the internment of her remains on Friday, September 16, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. We will be celebrating Coleen's life at a backyard family BBQ on September 17, 2022 at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Howard and Val. Call or message either Howard or Susan for further details.

A deep gratitude is expressed to the nurses and doctors at the South Health Medical Emergency Centre who helped us through the difficult time of her passing. Their compassion and guidance were very much appreciated and the exceptional care during a difficult time was a great comfort.



Member Profile

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Ms. Joanna Howard - Alberta
Volunteer Extraordinaire

Joanna has been supporting the Air Cadet movement in Alberta for 42 years. Like many, she joined when her eldest son joined 781 Squadron as a Cadet, but unlike her Cadets, she has yet to leave! Within weeks of becoming an SSC volunteer, the Treasurer resigned, and she put up her hand and became Treasurer. This was the “old days” according to her, and the work she did was in a ledger book and all paper and pencil. Joanna’s “Cadet” career went on from there, never saying no to an ask that she could fulfill. After working for several years at the Squadron level, she joined the provincial committee in various roles including Wing Director and as Vice Chair. After retiring from Wing Director, she was Squadron advisor for 52, 538, 781, 187 and 903 Squadrons. She returned to the role as Southern Wing Director for another “stint” when the role could not be filled in the 200’s, and she continues to hold the role of Assistant South Wing Director, doing any job the current Director throws her way.

Although she has 100’s or more very proud moments, Joanna was instrumental in “standing up” 903 Squadron in Strathmore Alberta as a founding member.

She has been extremely active in preparing Cadets for scholarship boards and many Cadets have benefited from her encouragement and knowledge. Her expertise led her to being on the IACE interview committee for decades.

Although never a Cadet herself, she has seen how well so many Cadets have turned into responsible and well adjusted adults, including her own two children and so many others.

Joanna “bleeds” Cadets and her license plate is “AIRCDTS”. She promotes the program at every opportunity and loves sharing the story that she was in her car in a store parking lot one day and a former Cadet who she had worked with tapped on her window, came to attention and saluted her and thanked her for everything she had done for his success.





Its that merry time of year again!

783 Wing is holding its annual Christmas party

18 November 2022

At the Blackfoot Inn

Cocktails at 5:30 with dinner starting at 6:30 pm

Cost \$25.00 per person

Fun and Frivolity for all

RSVP by 13 November Kenn at 403-238-7311 or email kbnixon@shaw.ca

reminder

From your Membership Director:

Please contact Anna Lewis, our Director of Membership, if you change any contact info at bandalewis@shaw.ca

From your Health and Wellness Director

All Wing members already receive birthday cards. Do you know of anyone in our membership who would appreciate receiving a card of congratulations, or perhaps a card to raise their spirits? Greetings could be sent for many reasons, such as:

- a “milestone” birthday*
- best wishes for someone in hospital or convalescing at home*
- bereavement on the passing of a Wing member*
- retirement*
- graduation*
- marriage*
- a special wedding anniversary*
- receiving recognition and/or winning an award*

All members are encouraged to contact Michèle Henderson at

michlorr@shaw.ca at any time during the year with the person’s name, the event, and the date on which it is to be recognized.

783 Wing Members, the scam that was going around before has struck again and unfortunately, it has befallen on of our members. In short, I believe someone is using the contact email addresses on our website to manufacture fake emails from Rob asking for immediate payment of invoices by e-transfer. To be exceptionally clear, Rob will NEVER ask you to pay a Wing invoice like this. We run our transactions by cheque. As well, nothing we do is so urgent that it needs to be paid that day and if it did, Rob would take care of it. Please exercise diligence. We will be working with the banks and police to support the impacted Wing member. Wing finances are secure. We are removing direct contact emails from the website to prevent future attempts. The public can contact us through the existing webform on the “contact us” page. Thank you for your attention to this.