

THE/LE BULLETIN



Volume 30, No. 1

President's Message

This is my last submission to our Bulletin as your president. I have had that great honour and privilege for eight years.

During that time I have seen OMMC evolve to better position itself for the future; an evolution made possible by the foresight and hard work of a lot of good people. I will not attempt to thank them individually because my biggest fear would be to forget someone. To all of them I say thank you very much. I leave you in good hands.

To all members of our general membership I say become involved, vote good people to our Board of Directors and hold them accountable. Keep fighting the good fight to preserve our country's military history and military museums.

I look forward to seeing you all face-to-face in Sackville this June and across our great country for many more years to come.

Merci beaucoup et à la prochaine.

Léon

Commentaires du président

Ceci est ma dernière soumission à notre Bulletin en tant que votre président. J'ai eu ce grand honneur et ce privilège pendant huit ans.

Au cours de cette période, j'ai vu OMMC évoluer pour mieux se positionner pour l'avenir; une évolution rendue possible par la prévoyance et le travail acharné de beaucoup de bonnes personnes. Je n'essaierai pas de les remercier individuellement parce que ma plus grande peur serait d'oublier quelqu'un. Je dis à tous un grand merci. Je vous laisse en bonnes mains.

À tous les membres de notre assemblée, je vous dis impliquez vous, votez pour de bonnes personnes à notre conseil d'administration et tenez les imputables. Continuez à mener le bon combat pour préserver l'histoire militaire et les musées militaires de notre pays.

J'ai hâte de vous voir tous en personne à Sackville en juin et partout dans notre grand pays pour de nombreuses années à venir.

Thank you very much and until next time.

Léon

OMMC Course 2022 Update

By Anne Lindsay-MacLeod, Course Director

I think we can be cautiously optimistic and say the course will be going ahead in Sackville from 12 – 18 June 2022. We will continue to keep a watchful eye on COVID restrictions/outbreaks and be flexible on virtual vs onsite. Our host museum is the Canadian Military Engineers Museum in Gagetown, headed by Sandra Johnson Penney.

We're finalizing the program speakers - we have Dr. Sarah Lockyer, Casualty Identification Coordinator with DND to speak about finding and identifying the remains of service personnel Sarah Hart, a PhD student from Western University to talk about war photography, Shawn McCartney from Beaubears Island to entertain us around 1st person interpretation, Renee Belliveau, the archivist at Mt. Allison to talk about the preservation and care of photographs and provide a tour of their archives, Seana Jones from Petawawa to speak about the use of artifact firearms, Sandra Johnson Penney and the Gregg Centre on STEM in our museums, Rory Cory and Jennifer Denty to lead a discussion on involving your community, and a round table discussion on handling difficult requests and topics. This is, of course, in addition to the usual presentations from DHH, NPF, TMS and the Army, Navy and Air Force breakout sessions. Bruce Tascona is looking at other activities/presentations for non-DND museums which will run concurrently to the mandated DND presentations. Tours will include CFB Gagetown and the New Brunswick Military History Museum, Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Mt. Allison Archives, Forts Beausejour/Cumberland and Ft Lawrence. The course photograph will occur at Ft Beausejour and the memorial service will be held at the Protestant Chapel at CFB Gagetown. The formal dinner will be held at Tweddie Hall at Mt Allison.

For the first time ever, we have concurrent sessions and a keynote speaker! We are planning a two day trade show, and the Annual Members Meeting will be moved to Thursday to give outgoing Board members an opportunity to complete their term on a high note and for participants to talk to Board nominees.

Most meals, with the exception of the meet and greet breakfast, box lunches, dinner on your own and the formal dinner, will occur in a reserved area in the student dining hall. This means participants will have a wide range of dishes to choose from.

We are also in early planning stages for an additional day for an optional field trip post course. This will be in addition to the course costs and the cost of the field trip will be borne entirely by the participant. We are currently looking a trip to St John which will include a walking tour of Uptown and a visit to the New Brunswick Museum. There will be maximum number of participants allowed and a minimum number for a "go; no go". Costs to attend the field trip, including an additional night at Mt. Allison, will be paid for upfront and to the OMMC. More details and costs on the field trip will be provided in the coming weeks.

We hope to get all documentation (in English and French), including the program, registration form, etc. to the members by the first week of April. Please understand that the OMMC must follow and respect the COVID requirements of Mt. Allison University, the Province of New Brunswick and the Government of Canada, therefore we will require proof of vaccination, and the requirement to wear masks and social distancing may still be required. If you are flying in, we also strongly recommend that you consider obtaining cancelation insurance. We will have masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and rapid tests on hand during the course week. I'm certain I've forgotten to brief you on something, but this will give you a good idea of where we are in the planning process. It's a strong, diverse training program - it will be a great week!

Many, many thanks to Sandra Johnson-Penney and George Romick for volunteering to assist with planning and taking on the responsibility of local arrangements, registration and the formal dinner.

If you have any questions, please send them to me!

Mise à jour du cours de l'OMMC 2022

Par Anne Lindsay-MacLeod, directrice de cours

Je pense que nous pouvons être assez optimistes et déclarer que le cours se poursuivra à Sackville du 12 au 18 juin 2022. Nous continuerons à garder un œil vigilant sur les restrictions / éruptions de Covid et à être flexibles par rapport à la question virtuel ou face-à-face. Notre musée hôte est le Sapeurs canadiens musée militaire de Gagetown, dirigé par Sandra Johnson Penney.

Nous finalisons la liste des conférenciers du programme - nous avons la Dre Sarah Lockyer, coordonnatrice de l'identification des victimes au MDN, pour parler de la recherche et de l'identification des dépouilles du personnel militaire, Sarah Hart étudiante au doctorat de l'Université Western pour parler de la photographie de guerre, Shawn McCartney et Thomas Daley de Beaubears Island pour nous parler de l'interprétation à la 1ère personne, Renee Belliveau, l'archiviste de Mt. Allison pour parler de la préservation et de l'entretien des photographies et nous offrir une visite de leurs archives, Seana Jones de Petawawa pour parler de l'utilisation d'artefacts d'armes à feu, Sandra Johnson Penney et le Gregg Centre concernant STEM dans nos musées, Rory Cory et Jennifer Denty pour animer une discussion sur notre participation dans nos communautés et une table ronde sur le traitement des demandes et des sujets difficiles. Ceci s'ajoute, bien sûr, aux présentations habituelles de DHP, FNP, TMS et des séances en petits groupes de l'armée, de la marine et de l'armée de l'air. Bruce Tascona envisage d'autres activités et présentations pour les musées autres que ceux du MDN qui se dérouleront en même temps que les présentations mandatées par le MDN. Les visites incluront la BFC Gagetown et le Musée d'histoire militaire du Nouveau-Brunswick, la Galerie d'art Beaverbrook, les Archives du Mt. Allison, les forts Beauséjour/Cumberland et Fort Lawrence. La photo du cours aura lieu au fort Beauséjour et le service commémoratif aura lieu à la chapelle protestante de la BFC Gagetown. Le dîner formel aura lieu à Tweedie Hall à Mt. Allison.

Pour la première fois, nous avons des sessions simultanées et un conférencier d'honneur! Nous prévoyons un salon professionnel de deux jours, et l'assemblée annuelle des membres sera déplacée à jeudi pour donner aux membres sortants du conseil d'administration

l'occasion de terminer leur mandat sur une bonne note et aux participants de parler aux candidats au conseil d'administration.

La plupart des repas, à l'exception du petit-déjeuner de rencontre et d'accueil, des boîtes à lunch, du dîner à nos frais et du dîner formel, auront lieu dans une zone réservée de la salle à manger des étudiants. Cela signifie que nous auront le choix d'un large éventail de plats.

Nous en sommes également aux premières étapes de la planification d'une journée supplémentaire pour une excursion facultative après le cours. Cela s'ajoutera aux frais de cours et le coût de cette excursion sera entièrement à la charge du participant. Nous envisageons un voyage à St John qui inclura une visite à pied de Uptown et une visite au Musée du Nouveau-Brunswick. Il y aura un nombre maximum de participants autorisés aussi qu'un nombre minimum pour un « go/no go ». Les frais de participer à cette excursion, y compris une nuit supplémentaire à Mt. Allison, seront payables d'avance à l'OMMC. Plus de détails et les frais de cette excursion seront fournis dans les prochaines semaines.

Nous espérons fournir tous les documents (en anglais et en français), y compris le programme, le formulaire d'inscription, etc. aux membres d'ici la première semaine d'avril. Veuillez comprendre que l'OMMC doit suivre et respecter les exigences COVID de l'Université Mt. Allison, de la province du Nouveau-Brunswick et du gouvernement du Canada, par conséquent, nous exigerons une preuve de vaccination, et l'obligation de porter des masques et la distanciation sociale pourront toujours être de rigueur.

Si vous arrivez par avion, nous vous recommandons fortement d'obtenir une assurance d'annulation. Nous aurons des masques, des gants, du désinfectant pour les mains et des tests rapides disponibles pendant la semaine de cours. Je suis certaine d'avoir oublié de vous informer de quelque chose, mais ceci vous donnera une bonne idée de notre progrès dans le processus de planification. C'est un programme de formation solide et diversifié - ce sera une excellente semaine!

Un grand merci à Sandra Johnson-Penney et George Romick pour leur bénévolat afin d'aider à la planification et à la prise en charge des arrangements locaux, de l'inscription et du dîner formel. Je n'aurais pas pu le faire sans eux !!

Si vous avez des questions, envoyez-moi les!

A Handmade Mystery from the First World War

By Anne Ward

In November 2018, I was in a charity shop in Wales, UK, rummaging in a bag of white goods for a tablecloth for Christmas Day, when I came across this unusual embroidered double bedspread.

Unusual because the embroidery was not of baskets, seasons, flowers or bonneted ladies. There wasn't even a bird or bow! The embroidery was of regimental badges! Twelve in total representing assorted units from seven commonwealth countries!



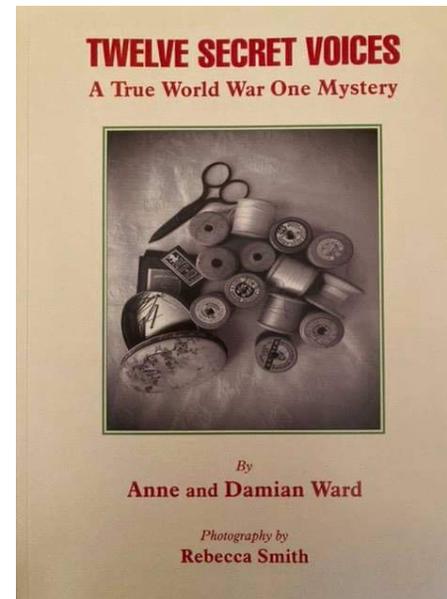
Full bedspread (left), detail of Canadian embroidery panel (above).

When my husband Damian and I identified them, another unique fact came to light - they were all active in the First World War! Now we were really intrigued!

This amazing bedspread helped us through 2020 by taking us on an international and often time-travelling adventure including 1914 Ypres, a British actor in Hollywood, an Irish Convent, the Prime

Minister's residence of Chequers and to numerous professional historic organisations.

And all because there is no clue on it of who, where, why etc. it was made! Nothing at all!



These questions inspired us to self-publish a book about our research so far entitled "Twelve Secret Voices" and we are delighted to announce that this beautiful embroidery has been donated to a museum where it can be enjoyed - and puzzled over - by everyone.

You can join the conversation about this book on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/448902116425497/> or a video we created on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYeKoFvRIT8>.

Valour Canada Update

By Aaron Curtis, Valour Canada

Valour Canada has been busy finishing up the FWW Internment Camp Virtual Tour (Parks Canada, Banff), creating and posting educational videos on YouTube, and preparing for spring museum programming.

New Project: Canadian Military History Presentations on YouTube

Through the winter we have been working on the creation of youth-targeted educational presentations that will be accessible on YouTube. Our plan is to release a new video with an associated activity each month beginning in February and ending in May, with possibly more being released in the autumn. Llandovery Castle Torpedoed (11m52s) was released last month. The Battle of Vimy Ridge will be released in mid-March and D-Day will be released in early May! Watch our playlist: Presentations for Schools & Youth Groups for updates.



- Hospital ships must have 3 things
 - The hull must be painted with Red Cross markings
 - They must not travel in a convoy (a group of ships)
 - It must have bright red and green lights on at night

New Virtual Tour

Valour Canada has launched a new virtual tour. Parks Canada's Banff Internment Camp Exhibit aims to engage and educate Canadians about the treatment of Ukrainian and other Eastern European Canadians by the Canadian government during the First World War. Additionally, we are currently in the final editing stage of the Mission:

Afghanistan virtual tour (VT). Stay tuned this spring for a VT of the Naval Museum of Alberta.

To browse our VTs, please visit valourcanada.ca/virtual-reality/.



Youth Education in Museums

Valour Canada's The Character of our Canadian Military History (CCMH) program is ready to go for the spring semester at The Military Museums (TMM) in Calgary. This is our second set of in-person presentations since the beginning of the pandemic way back in early March 2020. We have a full suite of days scheduled in late March and early April, and we're hopeful that we can begin presentations again in other provinces come the autumn.

If you would like to learn more about how your museum can add a free, youth-targeted education option to its education repertoire please contact Valour Canada's lead educator (aaron.curtis@valourcanada.ca) or visit our CCMH webpage.

History & Heritage Scholarship 2021-22

The aim of Valour Canada's History and Heritage Scholarship (VCHHS) is to support final-year Canadian high-school students in their college or university pursuits by providing an engaging, thought-provoking, and memorable scholarship contest. This year's VCHHS competition launched in September and will finish in mid-June 2022.

For information about the scholarship (e.g., eligibility, past winners, etc.), please visit our VCHHS page.

The Ontario Regiment and the Oshawa Airport

By Rod Henderson, Ontario Regiment Museum

The Ontario Regiment's connection to the Oshawa Airport began in late 1947 with the acquisition of two former British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP) buildings at the south end of the airport. The Regiment made extensive use of these buildings and the surrounding land for the remainder of the 20th century.

The Ontario Regiment was assigned new Sherman tanks in 1947, which necessitated the acquisition of the BCATP buildings to securely store and maintain these armoured vehicles. The north building was converted for classroom and office use, while the south building became a tank hanger to facilitate vehicle maintenance. A secure vehicle compound was created by erecting fences between the tank hanger and the classroom building. In 1972, the tanks were retired and the Regiment focused on reconnaissance training, employing jeeps for the role. The jeeps were kept in the compound while their related equipment was stored in the hanger.

In the late 1940s and 1950s, the area around the airport was wide open, with residential development still in the future. The Regiment made use of the surrounding five acres to conduct elementary driver instruction on the tanks and wheeled vehicles. Even after the airport vicinity became ringed with houses basic driver training took place on the airport roads before new drivers were allowed to enter the public streets.

A 30-yard shooting range existed on the east side of the buildings for many years where pistols and sub-machine guns were fired. As the aircraft traffic increased and houses were constructed near the airport, the shooting was eliminated.

Instead of the usual practice of conducting the summer training exercise at a training base, the 1958 camp was conducted at the Oshawa Airport. It was a combined civilian-military exercise that utilized the airport and other local areas to test civil defence procedures. This exercise was the first municipal-level civil defence exercise to be conducted in Canada.



One of the Regiment's Sherman tanks is positioned near the entrance of the tank hanger, out of sight to the viewer's right, in the early 1960s.

The airport land was also used for other training as well. New recruits need to learn the basics of soldiering, which includes foot patrols and infantry tactics. Again, the open space was advantageous to the Regiment as this type of introductory training could take place there, thus saving the time and effort of traveling to a base or other training area. The trained soldiers of the Regiment also conducted dismounted training at the airport, allowing useful and practical exercises to take place even during the limited time of evening training.

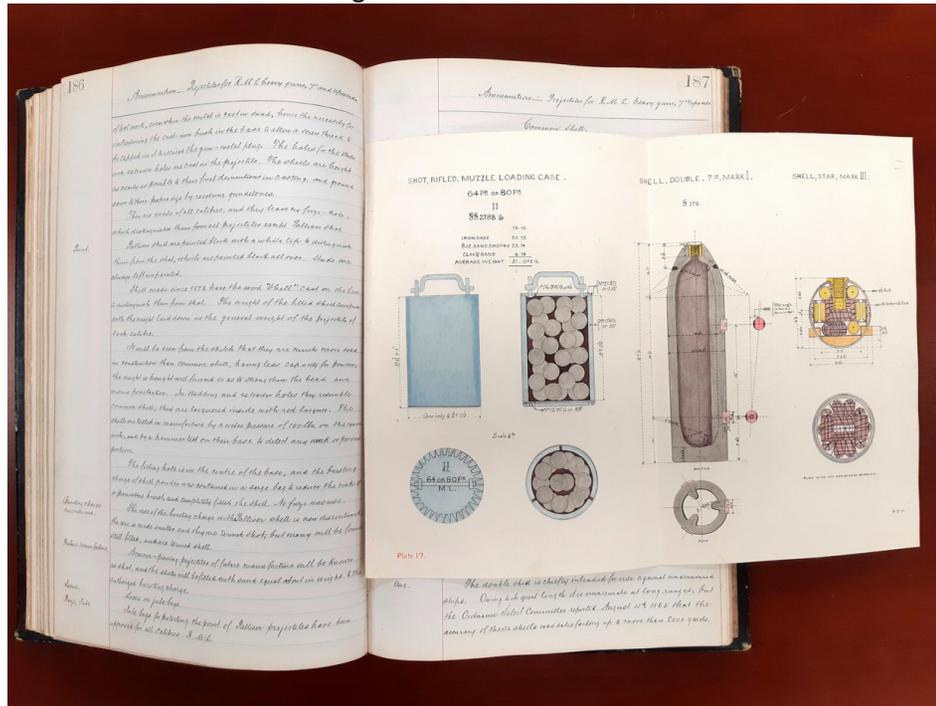
The Ontario Regiment moved into a new facility at the north end of the airport in 2000. It serves the same purpose as the south end buildings: vehicle storage, classrooms and offices. The Ontario Regiment Museum now uses the tank hangar and vehicle compound for a portion of its extensive collection of historic military vehicles.

For over fifty years the land and buildings at the south end of the Oshawa Airport provided the Regiment with a multifunctional facility to augment the Colonel R.S. McLaughlin Armoury in downtown Oshawa to quickly and efficiently train its soldiers in a manner that would have otherwise been impossible.

Artillery Notes – A Mystery Artifact

By Andrew Oakden, Royal Canadian Artillery Museum

The RCA Museum receives approximately thirty to fifty donations per year, some having unknown provenance. In some cases, an outside appraiser may review the artifact to determine its cultural significance, connection to the Canadian Artillery, and monetary value for a potential tax receipt. In 2014, the museum accepted an 1890s bound collection of Artillery Notes from past CFB Shilo Base Commander, Colonel (retired) Charles Simonds, but the provenance of the donation was ambiguous.



In 2021, after careful research, with the assistance of a rare book specialist, we determined that Quartermaster Thomas Maxwell from the Montreal Brigade of Garrison Artillery compiled the bound manuscript from unpublished and published sources from 1889 to 1892. The handwritten compilation contained 431 pages, including 143 blank pages and two pages of original introductory remarks. It includes 27 pages of guns, shells, fuzes, sights, and other artillery equipment, all masterfully drawn.

Quartermaster Thomas Maxwell from Montreal created this work to demonstrate the need for new guns and technology in the Garrison Artillery. The Montreal Brigade of Garrison Artillery had six batteries outfitted with obsolete rifled guns and smoothbore cannons during this timeframe. Maxwell said, “the Canadian Garrison Artillery is not receiving the attention its vast importance requires.” He intended to use the document to convince the military and the Canadian government to rearm the Canadian Artillery.

From 1875 to 1895, the Canadian Artillery, including Field Artillery and Garrison Artillery, was severely underfunded and suffered from a lack of uniform gun systems and technology. In 1876, for example, the Inspector of Artillery stated the Garrison Artillery was “in a demoralized condition,” suffering from antiquated equipment and poor working conditions. The Garrison Artillery used a variety of outdated rifled muzzleloaders and rifled breech-loading Armstrong guns, such as the 64 Pounder R.M.L. or the 20 Pounder R.B.L.

Maxwell emphasized the need for new rifled guns, particularly rifled howitzers, which did not exist in Canada in 1890. He said Gunners in garrison were mere “blue-coated infantry”, without rifled howitzers that would allow them to take up arms. He said the current state of artillery technology was a complicated and misunderstood topic, with the Garrison Artillery holding much of the collective knowledge.

After completion, what became of this one-of-a-kind document is unknown, and we don't know if senior military leadership or federal government officials read it. However, in 1895, the Venezuela Boundary Dispute between Great Britain and the United States threatened a potential Anglo-American war, which pushed the Canadian government to rearm the Canadian militia. In 1897, some field batteries received 12 Pounder BLs, and some militia units received 5-Inch Howitzers and 4.7 Inch QF Guns. The new guns and funding advanced the Canadian Artillery with new technology, recruits, training and summer camps.

The bound collection of Artillery Notes compiled by Quartermaster Thomas Maxwell outlines the need for more funding and new rifled howitzers in the Garrison Artillery after a prolonged period of austerity from 1875 to 1895. It's an important topic that deserves more attention, and we thank Charles Simonds for this generous donation and appreciate its historical significance to the RCA.

Treasure Trove of Cold War Photos and Clippings for North Bay

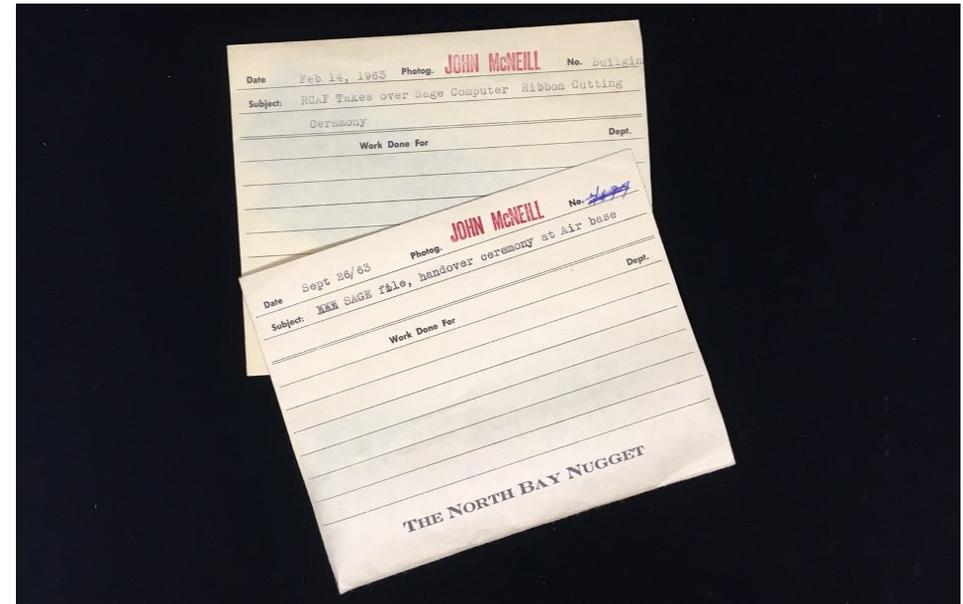
By Bethany Aitchison, Canadian Forces Museum of Aerospace Defence

The local newspaper in North Bay, Ontario, the North Bay Nugget, recently sold its building that it had inhabited since the 1950s as it downsizes its operations. With reduced space available, the decision was made to not keep their archive. Area museums, libraries and community groups were invited to explore their collection of photos, negatives, newspaper clippings, and more.

The Canadian Forces Museum of Aerospace Defence at 22 Wing/CFB North Bay was delighted to receive a few boxes of items of interest relating to the Wing or the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), including negatives taken by Nugget staff photographers since the mid-1950s, newspaper clippings painstakingly cut, glued, and sorted by Nugget librarians, and miscellaneous media kits, press releases, official photos and more sent out by the Air Force, from local to national news items.

Some of the moments captured by Nugget staff photographers include the first CF-100 to arrive in North Bay, the building of the underground Semi-Automated Ground Environment (SAGE) facility, the midnight arrivals of the BOMARC nuclear warheads, and other significant events. While all of the newspaper clippings would be available on microfilm at the North Bay Public Library, having such organized clippings in-house will greatly increase the ease of research for some topics.

There are dozens of envelopes and folders organized by theme, and museum staff and volunteers have only scratched the surface of their contents. One volunteer, who is an enthusiast for local newspapers, has offered to take the lead on accessioning all of the clippings and is enjoying learning more about military history with his favourite medium, the local newspaper. It will likely take him months to adequately sort and accession each piece, but our research collection will be stronger for it, and we look forward to seeing what we can learn from these new pieces.



Dozens of neatly-labelled packs of negatives from the 1950s-1980s were retrieved, containing images of significant events, including the acceptance of the underground SAGE facility in 1963 (below).





A CC-177 Globemaster aircraft arrives at Lviv Airport, Ukraine carrying non-lethal military equipment for the Ukrainian Security Forces, February 4, 2022.

Photo: Sergeant Alexandre Paquin, Canadian Armed Forces photo

Un avion CC-177 Globemaster transportant du matériel militaire non létal destiné aux forces de sécurité ukrainiennes se pose à l'aéroport de Lviv, en Ukraine, le 4 février 2022.

Photo : Sergeant Alexandre Paquin, Forces armées canadiennes

OMMC Board of Directors Conseil administratif de l'OMMC

Executive/ Exécutif

Léon Chamois
President/Président
claymore68@yahoo.ca

Anne Lindsay-MacLeod
Vice President/Vice présidente
annie.lindsay50@yahoo.ca

Brad Froggatt
Secretary/Secrétaire
ommcinc2@gmail.com

Richard Ruggle
Treasurer/Trésorier
richarderuggle@gmail.com

Directors/Directeurs

Jeremy Neal Blowers
jeremy@ontrmuseum.ca

Rory Cory
Mor-curator@telusplanet.net

Sandra Johnson Penney
Sandra.johnsonpenney@forces.gc.ca

George Romick
romickg@tbaytel.net

Georgiana Stanciu
director@thercrmuseum.ca

Bruce Tascona
tasconaba@gmail.com

Grant Tyler
grant.tyler@pc.gc.ca

Past President
Stuart Beaton (Past President)
sbeaton1@gmail.com

OMMC Inc. Head Office
6449 Crowchild Trail SW
PO 36081 Lakeview
Calgary, Alberta
T3E 7C3

"The Bulletin" is the official publication of OMMC. Articles may not be reproduced without permission. Please forward all article submissions or inquiries to Bethany Aitchison, Editor at bethany.aitchison@live.ca.

"Le Bulletin" est la publication officielle pour l'OMMC. Les articles ne peuvent pas être reproduits sans autorisation. Veuillez transmettre toutes les soumissions d'articles ou demandes de renseignements à Bethany Aitchison, rédactrice, à bethany.aitchison@live.ca.