

THE RANGER FOUNDATION



# The Ranger Foundation

# THE TALKING STICK

## 2021/2022



Flanked by Junior Canadian Ranger assistants to the Governor General for the presentation: Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel John Newman, Group Sergeant Major Jim Currier, Her Excellency the Governor General, and Commanding Officer of 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group Shane McArthur.

*Photo credit: Captain Camilo Olea*

3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group



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# **The Talking Stick**

## **The Annual Review of the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group**



**John B Newman, MSM, CD**  
**Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel**  
**3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group**  
**Chairman, The Ranger Foundation**



**S.R.A. McArthur, CD**  
**Lieutenant-Colonel**  
**3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group**  
**Commanding Officer**

We are pleased to present the fifth edition of The Talking Stick, the Ranger Foundation's review of the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group during 2021-2022. It is a compilation of newsletters detailing the operations of the Canadian Rangers in Ontario reproduced here with the kind permission of the Commanding Officer.

This review is published and distributed as part of the Ranger Foundation's Operation Awareness, an initiative to raise the visibility of the members of the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group. Canadian Rangers serve their country in 29 locations situated in Ontario's most northern and austere regions.

For many years various individuals, charities and other entities have donated goods and services

to communities located within the territory of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation, including those which have Canadian Ranger and Junior Canadian Ranger patrols.

In 2018 we introduced the Moccasin, a special newsletter that highlights the actions and efforts by others that align with the objectives of the Ranger Foundation and is distributed both internally and externally. Recent editions of the Moccasin are reproduced herein, including covering certain events and activities of CR75 the Year of the Canadian Rangers; including the Corps National event hosted by 4 CRPG in Victoria, British Columbia on May 24, 2022; as well as 3 CRPG's signature exercise and celebration during September in Ontario.

J.B.N.



*Canada's Army in Northern Ontario*



# 2020-2021 A YEAR OF ACTIVE SERVICE



**Sergeant Byron Corston and Ranger Nathaniel Keesic wear protective gowns while assisting a medical team delivering COVID-19 vaccinations in Moose Factory.**

**3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group**



# CANADIAN RANGERS ASSIST IN EVACUATING EABAMETOONG

*(This article appeared in the media in August, 2020.)*

Canadian Rangers are helping to evacuate sick and vulnerable residents from Eabametoong First Nation, a remote Ojibway community threatened by a growing forest fire.

The Rangers, who are part-time army reservists, are members of the First Nation's local Ranger patrol. Eabametoong is 370 kilometers north of Thunder Bay and has an on-reserve population of almost 1,800. The out of control fire is about 50 kilometers from the remote community.

The Rangers were ordered to provide assistance after the First Nation declared an emergency and asked for help from the provincial government and the Canadian Army.

"We are drawing up passenger manifests," said Master Corporal Karen Meeseetawageesic, "and assisting vulnerable people onto the evacuation planes."

Evacuation planes began evacuating residents on Wednesday and continued on Thursday, taking evacuees to Thunder Bay and Timmins.

The priority evacuees include the elderly, the chronically sick, disabled, pregnant women, and mothers with children under five.

Wanda Sugarhead, a band councillor, said she was working with Master Corporal Meeseetawageesic in drawing up passenger manifests. "The Rangers are a lot of help to us in emergencies," she said, "and they are in this one."

She said smoke from the fire was less severe on Thursday but could easily get worse if the wind changes direction and the fire gets closer.

The Rangers helped passengers with their baggage and wheelchairs. The evacuation planes have up to 30 seats and several hundred people have been evacuated in two days with more scheduled to fly out of the community on Friday.

Several Rangers have been on full-time duty in Eabametoong to assist the chief and council in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. "That was



**Master Corporal Karen Meeseetawageesic, left, works with Wanda Sugarhead, an Eabametoong band councillor, in preparing lists of the sick and vulnerable who need to be evacuated on a priority basis to escape the forest fire.**

extremely valuable in enabling the good passage of information and rapid support for the community in a rapidly progressing situation," said Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, the army officer who commands the Rangers in the Far North of Ontario. "We are prepared to increase our support if it becomes necessary. The Rangers continue to have a positive impact in their community and reflect well on the Canadian Armed Forces."



**3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group**  
**The Company Sergeant Major Francis Pegahmagabow, MM Building**  
**Canadian Forces Base Borden,**  
**Borden ON L0M 1C0**



**Canadian Rangers are reserve soldiers who provide a military presence in Canada's remote and isolated regions, including Northern Ontario. They provide assistance in emergencies such as searches, plane crashes, forest fires and floods. They also mentor the Junior Canadian Rangers, a youth program for boys and girls aged 12 to 18.**



# RANGERS COMPLETE HISTORIC YEAR OF SERVICE IN NORTHERN ONTARIO

The Canadian Rangers of Northern Ontario went on active service on April 3 last year to help combat the COVID-19 crisis.

They have since completed the busiest year in their history in the province. The first Canadian Ranger patrol in Northern Ontario opened in Moose Factory in 1994.

"At one time we had more than 170 Canadian Rangers on active duty," said Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, the commanding officer of the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group, which commands the Canadian Rangers of Ontario from its headquarters at Canadian Forces Base Borden, near Barrie.

The unit has about 600 Rangers, who are part-time army reservists, in 29 First Nations across the Far North of Ontario. Most of them are remote and isolated "fly-in" communities with no year-round road access.

"I would say 40 to 45 per cent of the Rangers volunteered in one capacity or another for a period of time in the past year," Lt-Col McArthur said. "That's about 250 in total."

For many recent months 3CRPG was the most active unit on domestic operations in the Canadian Armed Forces, receiving accolades from Nishnawbe Aski Nation, the minister of national defence, and top military commanders. The prime minister commented on its Rangers in nationally broadcast media conferences.

The Rangers assisted Ornge, the province's air ambulance and emergency medical service, in providing COVID vaccines to 34 First Nations in Northern Ontario.

They also responded to a number of other emergencies while supporting the fight against COVID.

They played a leading role when Neskantaga First Nation evacuated most of its population to



**Corporal Dennis Sutherland helps an Elder in Kashechewan into a wheelchair accessible vehicle to take her to the vaccination site.**

Thunder Bay during a tainted water crisis. Rangers from several First Nations helped keep the nearly deserted community functioning by performing a range of duties over a period of 57 days.

They assisted in the evacuation of Eabametoong First Nation when it was threatened by a forest fire.

They played a leading role in supporting Muskrat Dam First Nation when its diesel generators broke down in winter.

They saved lives in numerous search and rescue missions for missing hunters and residents of First Nations.

None of the work the Rangers achieved in Northern Ontario could have been achieved without the dedicated work of the headquarters staff at CFB Borden, said Lt-Col McArthur.

"The headquarters staff accomplished the near impossible," he said. "They are the people who plan, organize, and support and sustain our efforts. What we do is a whole team effort that allows the Rangers to do what they do in the North."

"Since April 3rd of last year we have had an exceptional and historic year. What the Rangers and the headquarters staff have achieved in that time should make them proud of themselves. I know I am proud of them."

**SAFETY  
FIRST!**

- ➡ **WEAR A MASK**
- ➡ **WASH HANDS**
- ➡ **6 FEET APART**



2020-2021 A YEAR OF ACTIVE SERVICE

**Canadian Rangers from several First Nations were on duty from October 30 to December 14, 2020 during the tainted water crisis in Neskantaga First Nation.**

*(These pictures were published in the media in December, 2020.)*



**Top: Taking a quick snack between Ranger duties are, from left, Petty Officer Second Class Kevin McCue, an instructor, Corporal Sandi Moose, Ranger Clayton Peters, and Corporal Eli Owens.**

**Bottom: Rangers feed dogs left behind when residents evacuated Neskantaga because of water problems.**





Top: Corporal Eli Owen and Ranger Nadine Strang load freshly cut fire wood into a truck.  
Bottom: Corporal Randy Jones relaxes after a hard day's work in Neskantaga.



# CANADIAN RANGERS BRACE FRIGID COLD TO ASSIST A FIRST NATION IN COVID-19 CRISIS



**Rangers Jody Grenier and Curtis Waboose deliver food to homes in Ginoogaming in bitterly cold temperatures.**

*(This article was published in the media on February, 2021.)*

A small group of Canadian Rangers who responded to a First Nation's call for military assistance in a COVID-19 crisis made a huge impression on the small Ojibway community.

"We're sad to see them leave," said Sheri Taylor, a Ginoogaming First Nation band councillor and health director. "It's been a great experience working with them."

On January 31 the community reported nine active cases of COVID-19. It asked for military assistance and the Canadian Armed Forces authorized the use of Canadian Rangers, who are part-time army reservists, to aid the distressed community and its exhausted health workers. Six Rangers and two full-time members of the Canadian Army were dispatched to provide the community with assistance for 10 days.

"We assessed the situation and came up with a strategy," said Warrant Officer Carl Wolfe, a Ranger instructor. "We said we're going to give the community the best 10 days that we can and we would make as much difference as we could in those 10 days and, regardless, we'd know we'd put forward our best effort."

The team did just that, according to Councillor Taylor.

"They were a friendly bunch of guys," she said, "and they did a lot of good for our community. They were willing to do whatever we needed them to do. They weren't fussy about anything. They were there. Despite the temperatures (which dropped into the low minus 40s) they braved the elements. The cold meant nothing to them."

Among other tasks, the Rangers delivered food and other items to residents who were restricted to their homes because of the COVID lockdown. The number of COVID cases dropped from nine to one and with the assistance of the Rangers over the 10-day period of their mission the community was able to recover from its exhaustion and resume running its affairs again.

Ranger Curtis Waboose, one of the Ranger team, was from nearby Long Lake No. 58 First Nation, which was also in lockdown. "The best thing was delivering stuff for the kids," he said. "We gave them extra milk and cereal. The Elders were happy to see us. We cleared the snow from the paths to their homes."

Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, the Canadian Army officer who commands the Rangers in Northern Ontario, said: "Our Rangers did a fantastic job and provided great service to a community that needed help. It just goes to show we can react and help out when we are needed."



# RANGERS ASSIST IN FIRST VACCINATIONS FOR A REMOTE NORTHERN FIRST NATION



**Sergeant Matthew Gull and Master Corporal Pamela Chookomoolin were part of the Canadian Ranger team that assisted a medical team from Ornge provide COVID vaccinations in Peawanuck.**

Canadian Rangers provided support for a medical team that flew on Tuesday into Peawanuck, a remote Cree community near the Hudson Bay coast, to give the first COVID-19 vaccinations to a First Nation in the Far North of Ontario.

The Rangers, who are part-time army reservists and members of the Peawanuck Ranger patrol, transported the medical team and the vaccine from the airport to the community hall, where the Rangers had helped to set up the vaccination site.

The Rangers transported elders to the site and provided language and cultural assistance to the medical team. The Rangers also transported members of the medical team to the residences of elders who were housebound and unable to get to the community hall. The elders were inoculated in their homes.

The vaccines were flown to Peawanuck by Ornge, the provincial air ambulance service, which is providing air transportation and the medical personal to do vaccinations in 32 First Nations within Nishnawbe Aski Nation.

The Ornge team in Peawanuck consisted of a nurse and five paramedics.

The 32 remote First Nations are a priority group

for vaccination against COVID. At the request of the Ontario Government, the Canadian Armed Forces authorized the use of Rangers to assist Ornge with the vaccination program. The Rangers will not be vaccinators but will assist Ornge's medical teams when requested.

"It was a trial run for Ornge, who we will be assisting," said Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, who commands the Rangers of Northern Ontario. "It was a learning experience for the Rangers. Their co-ordination with Ornge and the community worked extremely well."

Seventy five of Peawanuck's population of about 250 were vaccinated.

Sergeant Matthew Gull, who commands the Peawanuck Ranger patrol, was one of those who received the vaccine.

"I was talking to the paramedic who was going to give me the shot," he said, "and I was kind of surprised when he said I was all done. He'd given me the shot while we were talking and I didn't feel a thing."

Ornge will fly a vaccination team into Peawanuck again on February 22 to administer second doses of the Moderna vaccine used in the First Nations' vaccination program.

# CANADIAN RANGERS ASSIST IN FORT ALBANY COVID EMERGENCY



**Master Corporal Ruby Edwards-Wheesk, left, shows a box containing personal protective equipment to her son Wendell. The boxes are being distributed to every resident of Fort Albany during the crisis.**

*(This article appeared in the media in January, 2021.)*

Canadian Rangers are distributing personal protective equipment to every resident of Fort Albany First Nation, which has been forced into a lockdown with the discovery of a second positive case of the COVID-19 virus.

Chief Robert Nakogee of Fort Albany, a small Cree community on James Bay, said he is grateful to the Canadian Army for authorizing the use of members of the community's local Ranger patrol. Rangers are part-time army reservists.

"We began distributing boxes with PPE to all the homes on Thursday and we should have them distributed to everyone by Saturday," said Master Corporal Ruby Edwards-Wheesk. "The boxes contain hand sanitizer, masks for an adult and a child, disinfectant swipes, a thermometer, and a pamphlet on how to use and dispose of the PPE, and how to isolate yourself.

"People are happy to take the box. They say thank you and they are happy to have it. We explain what's in it and

how to use it."

The boxes contain a sign in them saying "No Visitors," which can be placed on a door or in a window to reinforce the lockdown.

There are 184 households in the fly-in community.

"The Rangers in Albany gave us an early heads-up on the situation so that we were ready to respond immediately to the province's request for help when it came to us," said Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, the Canadian Army officer who commands the Rangers across the Far North of Ontario. "The chief wanted their help and I'm very pleased that we had Rangers who were ready to help support their community in this emergency. They are doing a good job."

Chief Nakogee said he was impressed by the army's swift response to his appeal for its help.

"The Rangers are really helping when our local resources are committed the way they are," he said. "They do a lot for their community. They will be finished distributing the boxes by tomorrow."



# RANGERS ASSIST IN SECOND ROUND OF VACCINATIONS IN PEAWANUCK



**Sergeant Matthew Gull helps Elder Elizabeth Koostachin, 86, get to the vaccination centre in Peawanuck.**

*(This article appeared in the media in February, 2021.)*

Canadian Rangers provided support for a medical team that administered second doses of the COVID-19 vaccine in Peawanuck, a remote Cree community near the Hudson Bay coast.

The doses made the Weenusk First Nation the first of 31 across the Far North of Ontario to get the second of the two shots required by the Moderna vaccine. The community got its first doses on January 26. Peawanuck is the small settlement in Weenusk First Nation.

The vaccine shots were given in February by paramedics from the Weeneebayko Area Health Authority, which is working with Ornge, the province's air ambulance service, to administer the vaccine to 31 First Nations across the Far North of Ontario.

"We worked with the local vaccination team to set up the vaccination facilities in the community hall," said Sergeant Matthew Gull, commander of the Peawanuck Ranger patrol. "We provided translation, transport for elders who needed it to get from their

homes to the community hall, and one Ranger did data entry for the medical team.

"It was minus 30 without the wind chill this morning when the medical team landed at the airport and some of the elders needed help in those temperatures to get to the community hall."

He said some in the community of about 280 remain nervous about the COVID crisis. "Some of them are still nervous because of the number of people who have tested positive in Moose Factory and Moosonee, to our south," he said. "So they're glad to have their second shot. I was glad to get mine."

"It's starting to come full circle," said Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, the Canadian Army officer who commands the Rangers, who are part-time army reservists, in Northern Ontario. "It's going to be great to see the other First Nations getting their second shots. Peawanuck got great support from its Rangers and the same Ranger support will be there for the other First Nations as they get their second doses.

"We expect to have 120 to 130 Rangers involved in those second doses getting out."



## RANGERS PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT IN VACCINE ROLLOUT



**Ranger George Kakekaspan watches Master Corporal Mary Miles get her vaccination in Fort Severn.**

*(This article appeared in the media in February, 2021.)*

The Canadian Rangers have completed their first full week of support for the delivery of COVID-19 vaccinations in Northern Ontario.

The vaccines are being delivered and administered in 32 remote First Nations across the province's Far North by Ornge, Ontario's provider of air ambulance and critical care transport services. The Rangers, who are part-time army reservists living in their communities, provided the medical teams with support in the delivery of the program.

The Rangers set up vaccination sites in schools and community halls for the teams, provided them with cultural and language support, transportation for the elderly and disabled, and encouraged residents, some of them apprehensive, to get vaccinated.

"The feedback we've got from Ornge makes me proud," said Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, the Canadian Army officer who commands the Rangers in Northern Ontario. "They recognize the work the Rangers are doing."

"The Rangers were very, very good, very reliable, and they did the most important job in the community in encouraging people to come out and get vaccinated," said Chief Leo Friday of Kachechewan, a Cree community with a population of 1,825 on the James Bay coast, where 73 percent of residents aged 18 and over got vaccinated.

"It was a lot of work but the Rangers did their job and the results were good," said Sergeant John Sutherland, who led the four-person Ranger support

team in Kashechewan.

"I just want to let you know that I think the Rangers are awesome!" said Arden Penner, a critical care paramedic with Ornge, in an email to some of the Rangers. "I had not worked with Rangers before and meeting them today was a real pleasure. They had everything set up so well in both Cat Lake and Summer Beaver. The work they are doing in the communities to prepare for the vaccine rollout is very significant. The guys and gals in Summer Beaver basically created a field hospital in the gymnasium... impressive!"

The Rangers assisted Ornge last month in a weeklong trial in which the residents of Peawanuck, an isolated Cree community on Hudson Bay, received COVID inoculations. The program began in earnest last week when Ornge medical teams flew into six First Nations to deliver vaccines to more than 2,000 people. This week the Rangers will be supporting Ornge teams in another six First Nations.

There are currently 70 Rangers on full-time duty in support of the vaccination rollout program. They are supported by seven members of the Canadian Army from the Rangers' headquarters for Ontario at Canadian Forces Base Borden.

"That could increase from 100 to 120," said Colonel McArthur. "The feedback we are getting on the Rangers makes me proud and reinforces the importance of the role the Rangers play in their communities. It is a long list and includes search and rescue, floods, fires, and things like support for the Covid-19 vaccine roll-out. They do all of it well."



# ARMY EXTENDS RANGER SUPPORT FOR MUSKRAT DAM IN POWER EMERGENCY



**Master Corporal Shaun Kakegamic uses a wood splitter to prepare firewood for elders in Muskrat Dam.**

*(This article appeared in the media in February, 2021.)*

The Canadian Armed Forces have authorized Canadian Rangers to continue providing military support for Muskrat Dam First Nation while the remote community waits for a back-up diesel generator to be put on line.

The remote Oji-Cree community, with a population of about 300 and located about 570 kilometers north of Thunder Bay, has been without two of its three generators after two of them failed on February 6th in the middle of a period of extremely low temperatures.

The tiny community declared an emergency and requested military assistance. The Canadian Armed Forces authorized the use of Canadian Rangers to assist the First Nation. The Rangers are part-time army reservists. There are Rangers in 29 First Nations cross the Far North of Ontario, most of them in remote and isolated communities.

On Monday the remaining functioning generator broke down for three hours in the middle of the night. The temperature at the time was -24C with a wind chill of -30C. Only 25 of the 110 homes in the community are heated by wood. The remainder rely on electricity for heat.

"The Rangers were critical," said Stan Beardy, a spokesman for the First Nation. "They helped get elders without heat to heated houses in the pitch dark. We need help and the Rangers have been

helping out in the community. If we have to evacuate it will take six to ten hours for the first evacuation planes to arrive here."

A small team of five Rangers, who are part-time army reservists, have been placed on full-time duty to assist the community. They are cutting and distributing wood for homes that depend on it for heating. They are also liaising with the community's emergency command post and making plans to evacuate the community if it becomes necessary.

"When the power went out we met and talked about what we would do if the power did not come back on," said Sergeant Emily Beardy, the local Ranger patrol's commander. "We had the evacuation lists ready if we had to evacuate. We had to check on the elders because some of them didn't have wood stoves and without electricity they had no heat. We got them to family or friends who had wood heat."

Work crews are in the community maintaining the sole generator and working on getting two new generators installed and tested. A spell of bitterly cold weather has hampered the work.

"The Rangers have done an outstanding job in Muskrat Dam," said Major Charles Ohkle, a Canadian Army officer. "In the middle of the night they went door to door conducting wellness checks and helping the elderly and disabled."

"With the extension they will now remain on duty until February 20th."



# CANADIAN RANGERS GO TO THE AID OF AN ATTAWAPISKAT HUNTER



**Steve Paul-Martin, centre, with the two Canadian Rangers who went to his aid, Master Corporal Antoine Kataquapit, left, and Ranger Jack Linklater, right.**

*(This article appeared in the media in March, 2021.)*

Steve Paul-Martin left his home in Attawapiskat, an isolated Cree First Nation near the shore of James Bay, on a Wednesday in March for what he thought was going to be a routine snowmobile trip to recover a broken down snowmobile at his hunting camp.

He told people he would be back that evening. He had little in the way of food or emergency supplies and he did not have a satellite phone. The overnight temperature was going to dip to -20C with a windchill of -28C.

So when it got dark and he had not returned his worried family notified the local Nishnawbe-Aski Police detachment in Attawapiskat, which called the Ontario Provincial Police. The OPP, with none of its members nearby and unable to respond quickly, called the Canadian Army for help.

"The hunter wasn't able to contact anybody and we can't make the judgement call that he'll be all right until we know," said Major Douglas Ferguson, the acting commanding officer of the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group at Canadian Forces Base Borden, near Barrie. "We have to assume the worst and go to his aid."

Two Canadian Rangers, who are part-time army reservists, left Attawapiskat at about 10 p.m. on Wednesday and reached Mr. Paul-Martin's camp at about 1.30 a.m. on Friday morning, said Master Corporal Christopher Kataquapit, who manned the search command post in Attawapiskat. The two

Rangers found the overdue hunter sound asleep in his camp". I was surprised when they arrived and woke me up," said Mr. Paul-Martin.

By the time he reached his camp, he said, he was tired and cold and, even though he had no food, he decided to spend the night at the camp. Once the Rangers realized Mr. Paul-Martin was not in need of medical help they gave him hot tea and food.

All three rested before setting out around 6 a.m. for the return trip to Attawapiskat, carrying Mr. Paul-Martin's broken down snowmobile on a sled. And then the snowmobile the hunter was driving broke down and they could not get it restarted. One of the Rangers towed it until they got back to Attawapiskat.

In the end it was a routine mission for the Rangers, who carry out a variety of search and rescue missions every year. They do regular search and rescue training with the army and the OPP.

"Once you leave an isolated community in the Far North of Ontario you are at risk," Major Ferguson said. "It's not a gentle environment up there. So if you're not prepared when you go out of the community and something happens you need someone there that you can count on to bring you back."

"That's the role the Rangers play. They're the ones who want to help and they go out to help no matter what it takes to make sure you come home safely."

The two Rangers who went to Mr. Paul-Martin's aid were Master Corporal Antoine Kataquapit and Ranger Jack Linklater.



## NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS



Lieutenant-Colonel Matthew McArthur, 3 CRPG's commanding officer, left, presents the Soldier of the Year award to Corporal Nicholas Mailloux of the headquarters staff.

## CAMP LOON CANCELLED BECAUSE OF COVID

*(This article appeared in the media in March, 2021.)*

Camp Loon, the popular Junior Canadian Ranger camp that provides more than a week of advanced leadership training, will not be held in July because of concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It's with a lot of regrets that I have to say it can't take place for a second year in a row because of COVID," said Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, the Canadian Army officer who commands the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group, which runs the Junior Canadian Ranger program in Northern Ontario.

The Junior Canadian Rangers is an army program for boys and girls aged 12 to 18 in remote and isolated communities across the Canadian North. There are about 750 Junior Rangers in 24 First Nations across the Far North of Ontario.

Camp Loon is held in the bush on Springwater Lake, 50 kilometers north of Geraldton. The first Camp Loon was held in 2000 at Constance Lake First Nation and later at several other First Nations before being held for the last several years near Geraldton.

Planning for this year's camp would have provided training for 150 to 200 Junior Rangers. Up to 50 soldiers and volunteers would have set up and operated the tent camp.

The camp provides selected Junior Rangers with a range of activities that are not normally available to

them in their small communities. They include specialized instruction in shooting, boating, mountain biking, driving all-terrain vehicles, first aid, and traditional arts and crafts. The camp emphasizes the importance of safety on the land and water and in personal lifestyles.

"Due to the lengthy preparation and planning and the extreme cost that it takes to deliver and run Camp Loon we had to make an early decision on whether the camp could be held in July," Lt-Col McArthur said. "The camp costs a lot of money and we didn't want to squander it when we could deliver a different type of program with less risk of COVID."

"What we are planning now for the Junior Rangers may not be as rewarding for them as Camp Loon but we can still give them training and skill sets that they require and are interesting and that they can utilize."

The pandemic forced the suspension last year of the Junior Ranger training program in Northern Ontario "but the chiefs and council are all interested in getting it going again," Lt-Col McArthur said. "Where we are able, we will endeavour to get it going again."

Two new Junior Ranger patrols were to have opened last year in Long Lake Number 58 First Nation and Aroland First Nation, both near Geraldton. "Sometime this spring when it is safe to do so we are going to open those new patrols," Lt-Col McArthur said.



# RANGER SERGEANT MAJOR WILL MISS THE FAR NORTH OF ONTARIO



**Chief Warrant Officer Robert Patterson learned a lot from the Canadian Rangers of Northern Ontario.**

Robert (Rob) Patterson is a Canadian Army veteran with 38 years of military service that he has enjoyed immensely.

But ask him what has been the best part of those years and he will tell you it has been the last 16 years he has spent working with the Canadian Rangers of the Far North of Ontario. It is a job he is about to leave. But the good news is that he is being promoted to captain and moving to serve with the Canadian Rangers of Newfoundland and Labrador.

He is currently a chief warrant officer and the group sergeant major for the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group. From its headquarters at Canadian Forces Base Borden the group commands 600 Canadian Rangers, who are part-time army reservists, in 29 First Nations across the Far North of Ontario. His position takes him to all 29 First Nations and beyond in Northern Ontario.

"This has been one of the most fulfilling jobs that I've had in my entire life," he says, "because the Rangers are actually doing real live things that help people. They help their communities and their people in more than one way. Just introducing search and rescue to those First Nations was absolutely phenomenal with the number of lives that they've saved in recent years.

"They're doing everything from humanitarian work to flood and fire evacuations to search and rescue and all sorts of things. They don't have the normal services up there that other parts of Ontario have. Their chiefs recognize the range of services the Rangers bring to their communities and their ability to respond in emergencies. Life in the Far North is hard and the world they live in is not understood by most people in the south."

He said he continues to be amazed by the skills the Rangers bring to the army.





**Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, 3CRPG's commanding officer, left, consults with Chief Warrant Officer Robert Patterson.**

"They have taught me and other members of the army so much about how to survive in the harshest of conditions with a minimum of equipment and absolutely nothing around them for hundreds of kilometers. If something happens to you up there it can be dangerous and there's no phoning 911."

He said he will miss many of the Rangers. "I'm going to miss the relationships and friendships that I've established in their communities. I consider many of them to be my friends. They've taken care of me in their territories, in their communities, and on the land. When they come to Borden I've brought them to my house because otherwise they'd be stuck at Borden for a weekend by themselves. They can teach you so much when you talk with them and get to know them."

He is continually impressed by the female Rangers. "We've almost a 50-50 ratio of female Rangers to male Rangers," he said. "They do everything side by side, men and women. A lot of our female Rangers are far better in the bush than many of the males."

He joined the army at 18 and served in the field artillery until he moved to the Rangers. In 2012-13 he served a tour in Sierra Leone, during the West African country's recovery from a devastating civil war.

"I've loved the army," he said, "but I could never go back to the regular army after the Rangers. I've loved being with them because you are never bored with them."

His first job with the Rangers was working with Junior Canadian Rangers, an army program for boys and girls aged 12 to 18 in remote and isolated communities across the Canadian North. "It was a very rewarding experience working with the kids," he said. "I was amazed by their familiarity with firearms, their ability to go on the land, and to operate boats."

Two years ago he received a national award from the Canadian Safe Boating Council for his "incredibly special" work promoting safe and responsible boating in Indigenous communities.

"He was deployed for about 150 days a year in the North," said Ted Rankine, the council's manager of safety programs, "that's more than half a working year, where he worked, trained, and educated others in some of Canada's harshest environments."

When Patterson became a sergeant major he use the position to continue promoting boat and water safety in Indigenous communities across Canada.



# CANADIAN RANGER HEADQUARTERS STAFF COMPLETE FIRST AID TRAINING COURSE



**Master Corporal David Chartrand performs CPR during first aid training.**

Fifteen members of the headquarters staff of the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group completed a two-day first aid course at CFB Borden in March.

All members of the Canadian Armed Forces must complete a standard St. John Ambulance first aid course and re-certify their qualification every three years.

"First aid training is always useful," said Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, 3CRPG's commanding officer, who completed the course with the staff members. "Knowledge of first aid is always beneficial to everybody, no matter who you are. But skill sets can fade. So that's why we had the training and I loved it."

The course instructors were Master Warrant Officer Fergus O'Connor and Sergeant Janet Butt, who both travel to remote and isolated First Nations across the Far North of Ontario to provide training for Canadian Rangers and Junior Canadian Rangers.

First aid is an important component of their training.

The refresher instruction for the headquarters staff included how to perform CPR and use a fibrillator, how to treat severe bleeding, and how to help a patient while awaiting more qualified medical help.

"The most important part of it was how to deal with exposure to the cold," Master Warrant Officer O'Connor said.

At the end of the two days he asked the headquarters staff to complete written reviews of the training. The responses were all positive, he said.

"Sergeant Butt did an excellent job doing a complex first aid scenario at the end of the course," he said. "That's when we did the casualty simulation. There were three simulated casualties and everybody had to treat them. Then they had to deal with a mass casualty event with treatment, triage, and evacuation of the patients."

"They absolutely enjoyed themselves."





# *Junior Canadian Rangers* CAMP LOON 2022



The Camp Loon tipi and fire pit are set up in preparation for the arrival of the Junior Canadian Rangers.

## 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group



## Camp Loon 2022



**Sergeant Robert Pye reviews safety points with Junior Canadian Rangers prior to a challenging trail ride during Camp Loon.**



**Junior Canadian Ranger Madison Hughie from Peawanuck learns first aid and CPR techniques.**



**3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group**  
**The Company Sergeant Major Francis Pegahmagabow, MM Building**  
**Canadian Forces Base Borden,**  
**Borden ON, LOM 1C0**



**Canadian Rangers are reserve soldiers who provide a military presence in Canada's remote and isolated regions, including Northern Ontario. They provide assistance in emergencies such as searches, plane crashes, forest fires and floods. They also mentor the Junior Canadian Rangers, a programme for youth aged 12 to 18.**



# CAMP LOON 2022 A SUCCESS FOR BOTH JUNIOR AND SENIOR CANADIAN RANGERS



**Master Corporal Redfern Wesley of Kashechewan First Nation smudges Junior Ranger Summer Southwind of Lac Seul First Nation during the closing ceremony for Camp Loon.**

Cancelled for the last two summers due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Camp Loon, the popular Junior Canadian Ranger event that provides a week of advanced leadership training, was back last month.

"It was a great camp," said Captain Courtney Giles, the provincial Junior Ranger training officer. "It was a successful training event for the Junior Rangers and the Canadian Rangers alike. They both learned a lot from it.

"I believe they enjoyed being able to finally attend a training event out of their home communities after the last two-and-a-half years of COVID restricting them from doing that."

The tent camp was held in the bush on Springwater Lake, 50 kilometers north of Geraldton. The Junior Rangers is a Canadian Army program for youth aged 12 to 18 in remote and isolated communities across the Canadian North. In Ontario there are more than 700 Junior Rangers in 19 First Nations. The camp has been hugely popular with First Nation chiefs and councils.

The camp places great emphasis on safety on the land and water and in personal life styles.

"I believe that the safety aspects that are taught at Camp Loon in the skills training, like life jacket and helmet safety, will definitely be taken home by the Junior Rangers and be employed back in their home communities, knowing the importance of those safety skills," Captain Giles said.

The camp provides the Junior Rangers with a range of

activities that are not normally available to them in their small communities. They include specialized instruction with air rifles, boating, driving all-terrain vehicles, first aid, and traditional arts and crafts.

"The Junior Rangers also enjoyed meeting people from different communities across Northern Ontario," Captain Giles said, "and participating in the different training sites like the boat site, canoe site, and the ATV site and learning how to properly practice those safety skills."

There are no ATV driving courses available to people living in remote First Nation communities. As a result injuries and deaths occur. "We teach the Junior Rangers, some of whom have never ridden an ATV, how to drive an ATV safely," she said. "We teach them things like proper turning and leaning techniques, and how to use brakes safely. They take that home with them."

The camp is usually attended by around 150 Junior Rangers but concerns about COVID in many of the First Nations reduced the number of youth who attended it. This year the camp was attended by 59 Junior Rangers from 17 First Nations, as well as 22 Canadian Rangers, who are part-time army reservists and acted as instructors, and 45 other military personnel to run it.

The first Camp Loon was held in 2000 at Constance Lake First Nation with others following at several First Nations before moving to its current location near Geraldton.



# THUNDER BAY POLICE ARCHERY PROGRAM A HIT WITH JCRs AT CAMP LOON



**Constable Ian Scott advises a Junior Canadian Ranger on the archery range.**

Thunder Bay Police Service (TBPS) hit the bull's-eye when five community outreach officers brought TBPS's popular youth archery program to a summer camp for Junior Canadian Rangers.

Camp Loon is located on Springwater Lake, 50 kilometers north of Geraldton, and is part of a Canadian Army program for youth aged 12 to 18 in remote and isolated communities across the Canadian North. In Ontario there are more than 700 Junior Rangers in 19 First Nations.

From July 18 to the 22, certified National Archery in Schools Program police officers taught basic archery principles to Junior Canadian Rangers during the week of training that also included first-aid, arts and crafts, and safe boating and ATV operation, and according to TBPS Community Outreach Staff-Sergeant Jason Anderson, the camp was a success for both officers and Junior Canadian Rangers (JCR).

"We hope we are invited back next year. It was a great experience. To see how the army puts this together was really special. The kids loved it too. They were shy at first but by the end of the week, they were all smiles," said Anderson.

Known as On Target Archery, the program visits Boys and Girls Clubs and high schools in the Thunder Bay area in hopes of building a positive relationship between First Nations youth and police.

"We take the show on the road year-round. It's about mentorship, for both the kids and officers. Often, they see us in uniform, this is about mentoring the kids for the future," said Anderson.

Junior Canadian Ranger Training Officer Courtney Giles said the archery training enhances JCR training. Similar to the national cadet program, JCRs learn outdoor skills, sports, arts and crafts, all taught with a First Nation perspective.

"The kids really enjoyed it. The Junior Canadian Rangers train on The Three Circles, life skills, traditional skills and Ranger skills. These will be taught to them by the Canadian Rangers supporting the JCR patrols," said Captain Courtney Giles.

Camp Loon was attended by 59 Junior Rangers from 17 First Nations, as well as 22 Canadian Rangers, who are part-time army reservists and acted as instructors, and 45 other military personnel to run it.

*Photo Credit: Thunder Bay Police Services*



## Camp Loon 2022



Archery was very popular with the Junior Rangers at Camp Loon.



A Junior Ranger takes careful aim at a wildlife target.





The Junior Canadian Rangers get creative at the traditional arts and crafts table during Camp Loon. One of the three core circles of training, art is a traditional and cultural skill offered to the JCRs.



Camp Loon gives JCRs from across Northern Ontario the opportunity to connect with one another.



## Camp Loon 2022



The quality and variety of the meals provided at Camp Loon was much appreciated.



Instruction in how to operate a canoe safely was a popular part of the daily training at Camp Loon.





Junior Canadian Rangers learned new skills, made new friends, and had lots of fun at Camp Loon.



Cooling off on a hot summer day with a plunge in the lake.





# Bulletin

## 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group

*"Canada's Army in Northern Ontario"*



December  
2022



A plaque commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Canadian Rangers is unveiled by 4th Canadian Division Commander Brigadier-General Josh Major and 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group Commanding Officer Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur at 3CRPG Headquarters CFB Borden.

Canadian Rangers are army reservists who provide a military presence in Canada's remote and isolated regions, including Northern Ontario. They provide skilled assistance in emergencies such as searches, plane crashes, forest fires and floods. They also operate the Junior Canadian Rangers, a program for youth aged 12 to 18.



## CANADIAN RANGERS UNVEIL PLAQUE AT BASE BORDEN HQ HONOURING 75 YEARS OF SERVICE



**3 CRPG staff, military members, Canadian Rangers, dignitaries and guests assemble outside the unit headquarters.**

Representatives from various levels of government and the military celebrated 75 years of Canadian Ranger service at Base Borden when a commemorative plaque was unveiled at the Ontario home of the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (3CRPG) on September 20.

The plaque unveiling was the culmination of a monumental 13-day canoe trip that married annual Canadian Ranger training with public outreach as part of 75th anniversary celebrations. Known as Exercise Ranger Tracker 22, the voyage from Parry Sound to Ottawa from September 4 to 17 saw 32 Canadian Rangers of 3CRPG travel through the Trent-Severn Waterway and the Rideau Canal in nine large, motorized freighter canoes as they practiced water navigation and safe watercraft operation drills.

3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group Commanding

Officer Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur said both events were held to educate and highlight the unique life-saving work Rangers routinely conduct.

Canadian Rangers are part-time army reservists who serve in remote, isolated and coastal communities, with most in Ontario located above the 50th parallel. In total, there are 700 Rangers in 29 First Nation communities operating in Ontario. This year a host of national events were held across the country to recognize the creation of the Canadian Rangers in 1947 who were first stood up in British Columbia.

So far this year, members have participated in 17 ground search-and-rescue missions, rescuing 23 people, including two stranded truckers on an ice road, an injured Attawapiskat First Nation snowmobiler and two young hunters whose ATVs



### **3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group**

The Company Sergeant Major Francis Pegahmagabow, MM, Building  
Canadian Forces Base Borden, Borden, ON L0M 1C0  
Phone (toll-free in Ontario): 1-877-902-4534 Fax: 705-423-3634







**From left to right: HLCol John Newman, 3 CRPG Commanding Officer LtCol Shane McArthur, Canadian Ranger Sgt Peter Moon and 3 CRPG Group Sergeant Major CWO Jim Currier.**

broke down, leaving them stranded about 100 kilometres from their communities.

The canoe expedition was greeted by well-wishers as they traversed waterway locks in various communities, including Orillia, Peterborough and Kingston, before ending in Ottawa. A total of 94 waterway locks were traversed.

"A lot of people have never seen anything like it. It was an educational experience. I am very pleased. We did an education piece to a lot of people," said LtCol McArthur.

For many Rangers, living in isolated First Nation communities including Fort Albany and Peawanuck, it was their first time visiting southern cities, while navigating unfamiliar water reinforced their basic Ranger skills.

"Exercise Ranger Tracker 2022 was an amazing experience travelling in the southern waters and seeing how old the lift-locks are and the mechanisms used for boats to travel up and down. It was part of a water world that you don't see, and don't realize you can discover in Ontario," said Ranger Sgt Jocelyne Sutherland who resides in Fort Albany.

Before the plaque was revealed, about 200 guests were treated to traditional First Nation dance performed by Canadian Ranger Master

Corporal Redfern Wesley, sacred prayers, and a smudge, where sage and sweetgrass is burned to purify body and spirit. The event kicked off with the singing of O Canada in Ojibwe.

"There are five groups across Canada celebrating the 75th, with the national event held in Victoria, British Columbia in May. This is our Ontario event to recognize 75 years. It was two-fold to mark the end of Exercise Ranger Tracker 2022 and to commemorate the 75th year of the Canadian Ranger with a plaque at our headquarters," said LtCol McArthur.

The ceremony also paid tribute to 3 CRPG's oldest active member, Sgt Peter Moon, who retired at the end of October at the age of 88. After a long and successful career as a reporter at The Globe and Mail, Moon served as 3 CRPG's Public Affairs representative, travelling across northern Ontario to cover numerous events and training activities.

"We gave Peter a ceremonial, decorated Canadian Ranger axe. It is a rare honour. The axe is for exceptional, long-serving members," said LtCol McArthur.

3 CRPG is based at Canadian Forces Base Borden near Barrie and is staffed by military personnel and army instructors who travel regularly to northern Ontario to train Canadian Rangers.



## CANADIAN RANGERS CELEBRATE DOING WHAT THEY DO BEST



**JCR Daniel McKay of the Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwig Patrol smiles with delight at being on horseback.**

A group of seven Canadian Rangers from five First Nations from across Northern Ontario have participated in a national celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Rangers in 1947.

The four-day event attracted almost 50 Rangers, who are part-time army reservists, from across the Canadian North to Victoria, BC, to meet and train together.

They practised marine search and rescue, transportation of patients and cargo by helicopter, all-terrain vehicle safety, and were also introduced to the use of horses.

"I was excited about the horses," said Ranger Conrad Kamenawatamin of Bearskin Lake First Nation, a small and remote Oji-Cree community in Northern Ontario. I've never been close to one before."

Like all the Ontario Rangers, Master Corporal Leo Oskineegish of Nibinamik First Nation was thrilled by the horses.

"It was mission accomplished," he said. "I finally got on a horse for the first time. We don't have them up North. I'd only ever seen a horse in a movie before."

The Rangers in British Columbia train with horses to help them negotiate the province's rugged terrain.

The celebratory event was held to honour the formal establishment of the Rangers 75 years ago, to commemorate their history, and pay tribute to their continued service to Canada. There are more than 5,000 Rangers in more than 200 small and remote communities across the Canadian North. Most are Indigenous and they operate in 26 languages.

"The Rangers in Ontario are not 75 years old," said

Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, the Canadian Army officer who commands 700 Rangers in 29 First Nations across the Far North of Ontario.

"Our first patrol opened in Moose Factory in 1994. We share the history, the heritage, and the recognition awarded Rangers because no matter where they are, they all wear the same red hoodie and red ball cap and perform the same types of missions and tasks.

"Our Rangers in Ontario have held their own and have performed above and beyond, particularly during the past couple of years of COVID."

"Coming and meeting Rangers from all over Canada made me proud to wear my red Ranger sweater," Oskineegish said.

For most of the Rangers from Ontario the visit to British Columbia was their first.

"I'm really enjoying myself," Kamenawatamin said. "It's really beautiful out here. The mountains are nice, the views are nice, the flowers are nice. I just got off a helicopter flying around an island. I got to see some seals. I've met Rangers from other parts of Canada. I've seen how they handle tasks. I'm learning a lot."

The Rangers representing northern Ontario at the 75th celebration were Master Corporals Tyson Duncan from Wapekeka, Jean Rabbit Waboose from Eabametoong, Leo Oskineegish from Nibinamik, Corporals Harriet Cutfeet from Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwig and Yolanda Winter from Wapekeka, Rangers Charlie Jacob from Webequie and Conrad Kamenawatamin from Bearskin Lake.

Two Junior Canadian Rangers from Kitchenuhmaykoosib, Daniel McKay and Nadia Shooman, accompanied the Rangers on the trip.



# JUNIOR CANADIAN RANGERS FROM ONTARIO IMPRESS AT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP EVENT



**Left to right, Junior Canadian Rangers Madden Taylor of Constance Lake, Thunder O'Keese of Kasabonika Lake, Ryan Kakekaspan of Fort Severn, Summer Southwind of Lac Seul, and McCartney Beardy of North Caribou Lake.**

The hunting and outdoor survival skills of five Junior Canadian Rangers from Northern Ontario made an impression on Junior Rangers from across Canada at a national leadership training event in Quebec.

"Their outdoor skills impressed," said Sergeant Steven Botelho, a Junior Ranger instructor who accompanied the five to the event. "They passed their skills along and it was nice to see them doing it."

The five representing Ontario at the event were among 36 top Junior Rangers who completed an eight-day annual leadership course, called the National Leadership Enhanced Training Session (NLETS), at Canadian Forces Base Valcartier, just north of Quebec City. The Junior Rangers is a Canadian Army program for youth aged 12 to 18 living in remote and isolated communities across the Canadian North.

The five were McCartney Beardy of North Caribou Lake, Ryan Kakekaspan of Fort Severn, Thunder O'Keese of Kasabonika Lake, Summer Southwind of Lac Seul, and Madden Taylor of Constance Lake.

"They all enjoyed their time and they all learned something new about leadership skills that they can take back to their communities," Sergeant Botelho said. "They had a good time and they learned a lot."

The training included instruction in classrooms and in the outdoors. They were kept busy for eight days.

Outdoor events included a challenging but fun zip line, shooting, canoeing, a visit to a bowling alley, a shopping mall, and one to the cultural centre at the Huron Wendat First Nation.

A highlight of the training was a two-day canoe trip on the spectacular Jacques-Cartier River in Jacques-Cartier National Park, 50 kilometers north of Quebec City. It included challenging portages, negotiating white water rapids, and working together.

"It was the best thing we did," said McCartney Beardy, whose canoe partner was a Junior Ranger from Nunavut. "Connecting with her was great. We talked about our different backgrounds, how we hunted, and how we lived differently. We learned from each other."

The Junior Rangers from Ontario and those from elsewhere in Canada encountered, some for the first time, living with the French language. "Yes, I wasn't used to it," McCartney said. "I found it fascinating to find out how different some lives were to mine."

"The kids helped each other in communicating with Junior Rangers who either could not speak English well or spoke no English," Sergeant Botelho said. "It was nice to see. It was all part of their learning process."



# CANADIAN RANGERS COMPLETE A UNIQUE AND CHALLENGING MISSION



**Canadian Rangers arrive at the National Aboriginal Veterans Monument after a 13-day long expedition.**

A group of Canadian Rangers from the Far North of Ontario have completed a unique 750-kilometer voyage by freighter canoe from Parry Sound to Ottawa in recognition of 2022 as the Year of the Ranger.

"This mission has been an outstanding success," said Major Charles Ohlke, the expedition leader.

The Rangers, who are part-time army reservists, were founded in 1947 and serve in remote and isolated communities across the Canadian North. They are celebrating the 75th anniversary of their founding.

There are 700 Rangers in 29 First Nations across the Far North of Ontario. The crews that made up the Parry Sound to Ottawa trip were 32 Rangers from 15 of those remote communities. They travelled in canoes from Fort Albany and Kashechewan, two First Nations on James Bay. The 24-foot craft, powered by outboard engines, travelled to Parry Sound along river routes and did a similar trip at the end of the celebratory mission. They travelled a total of 1,650 kilometers.

"I felt completely ecstatic when they reached Ottawa," said Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, the commanding officer of 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol

Group, which commands the Rangers of Ontario.

In Ontario the Rangers save lives in search and rescue operations, assist in forest fire and flood evacuations, help prevent suicides, and provide support in other emergency situations. They run the Junior Canadian Rangers, a successful army youth program for youth aged 12 to 18.

"I am proud of my Rangers and everything that they have accomplished up North and during this exercise," LtCol McArthur said.

During the 13-day, 750-kilometer voyage from Parry Sound to Ottawa the Rangers boated across Georgian Bay, along the Trent-Severn Canal, Lake Ontario, and the Rideau Canal, before reaching the Ottawa River. Two of the 94 waterway locks they passed through were the Peterborough Lock and the Big Chute Marine Railway, near Port Severn. At 65 feet the Peterborough lock is the second highest hydraulic lock in the world. Big Chute is almost as high.

"The Rangers had an amazing time," Major Ohlke

**continued on page 7**





**The Canadian Ranger flotilla enters the City of Ottawa through the historic Rideau Canal.**

**continued from page 6**

said. “They live in the wilderness of Northern Ontario and in a lot of cases they had never seen a lock or a buoy before. All of this was a great new experience for many of them.”

“The stuff I’ve seen on the rivers, the locks, the different canals, is very different from up North,” said Master Corporal George Edwards from Fort Albany, a remote community on James Bay, 975 kilometers north of Toronto. “This is the first time I’ve done anything like this in my life. I was in shock when we got to Big Chute. I was nervous at going so high.”

“I’ve had a fabulous time,” said Master Corporal Jean Rabbit-Waboose of Eabametoong, a remote Ojibwe community 370 kilometers north of Thunder Bay. “It has been an adventure. When I get home I’ll say I had a really amazing trip and I learned a lot of new stuff that will make me a better Ranger.”

Apart from being an enjoyable experience the trip was an important training exercise, Major Ohlke said, it taught the Rangers how to work together with Rangers from different communities and travel safely. It was also an opportunity to provide them with training in such things as first aid.

But it could not have been done without tremendous

support from the staff of 3CRPG’s headquarters at Canadian Forces Base Borden. “They did an outstanding job,” LtCol McArthur said. “They showed an outstanding capability to organize, plan and execute a very complex mission. It took an entire effort by the unit to accomplish this.”

A support team of up to 11 soldiers travelled by vehicle to provide fuel, food, hot evening meals, and carry out repairs to the boats and engines.

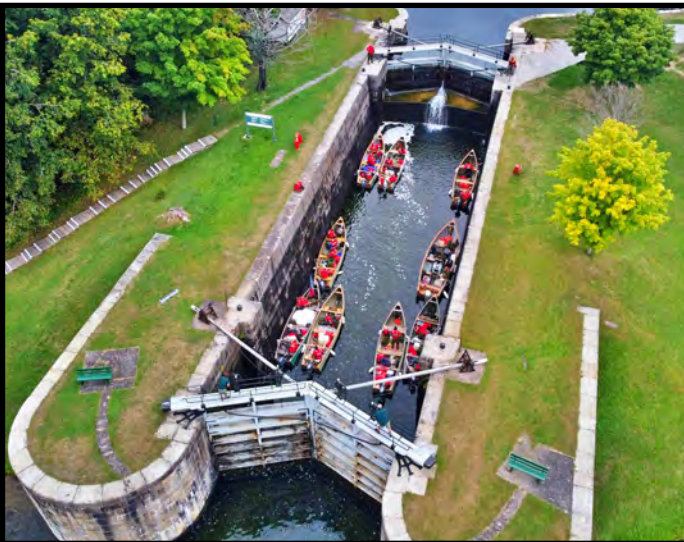
The Rangers camped each night in tents alongside the waterways they were travelling on.

One of the biggest challenges the Rangers had was complying with frequent speed limits of 10 kilometers an hour. In the northern wilderness they typically travel at 20 to 30 km/h. The slower speeds allowed them to talk with curious spectators and other boaters.

“Their interactions with people was awesome,” LtCol McArthur said. “People lined up to ask them questions. We purposefully came south so we could have the opportunity to interact with ordinary Canadians who would not otherwise know who we are in Northern Ontario and what we do up there.”

“The Rangers of Northern Ontario have provided years of outstanding service to Canada.”





The Canadian Ranger freighter canoes passed through 94 locks along the 750 kilometre journey from Parry Sound to Ottawa.





The view from the top of the Big Chute Marine Railway.



The Canadian Ranger flotilla is lowered on one of the many waterway locks through their expedition.



## JUNIOR CANADIAN RANGERS WIN MEDALS AT NATIONAL MARKSMANSHIP COMPETITION



**Junior Canadian Rangers in the indoor range at CFB Winnipeg.**

Members of Ontario's 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group's Junior Canadian Ranger program hit the bull's-eye recently and came home from Winnipeg with medals after participating in a national marksmanship competition.

The Junior Canadian Rangers National Marksmanship Competition was held October 7-10, in Winnipeg, Manitoba at Canadian Forces Base Winnipeg, and played host to competitors from all five Canadian Ranger Patrol Groups in Canada.

According to 3CRPG Junior Canadian Rangers Training Officer Captain Courtney Giles, Ontario sent two five-member teams to the air rifle competition and one individual competitor who was attached to another team.

"The Junior Canadian Rangers competed in a prone shooting position and a standing. Electronic targets were used for this competition. It allowed competitors to see in real time exactly where their shot hit and their score," said Captain Giles.

Captain Giles added that 3CRPG's competitors prepared for the competition by practicing the principles of marksmanship, including shooting positions, shot release, alignment and breathing control.

The practice paid off with 3CRPG Junior Canadian Ranger Amelia Gull from the Peawanuck Patrol placing

third in the turkey shoot from the standing position, a competition that required participants to score shots on a paper target resembling a turkey in recognition of Thanksgiving. Junior Canadian Ranger Thunder O'Keese from the Kasabonika Patrol and his team placed third in the team turkey shoot.

"It's an opportunity for our Junior Canadian Rangers to get together, meet other Rangers and go somewhere they may not have been before. It's much more than a competition. They represented us extremely well," said 3CRPG Commanding Officer LtCol Shane McArthur.

Ten teams comprised of 70 Junior Canadian Rangers from across Canada participated in the competition, hosted by the 4th Canadian Ranger Patrol Group.

Similar to the national cadet program, the Junior Canadian Rangers program is open to youth between the ages of 12 to 18 who live in remote isolated locations, and is managed and facilitated by army personnel, local Canadian Ranger Patrols and community volunteers.

The Junior Canadian Rangers are taught "The Three Circles," life skills, traditional skills and Ranger skills. Marksmanship and safe firearms handling are part of the Ranger skills.



# CANADIAN RANGER INSTRUCTORS RECEIVE ROPE RESCUE TRAINING NEAR PARRY SOUND



**Setting up the lines used for a rope rescue operation.**

A group of 14 Canadian Ranger instructors and army support staff from Ontario's 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group spent five days north of Parry Sound recently dangling from a cliff as they completed a challenging Technical Rope Rescue Technician course.

Lead by Dan Kirvan from the Ottawa-based company Raven Rescue, participants spent time both in the classroom and perched atop a cliff.

Canadian Ranger Instructor Warrant Officer Ron Wen said the course is important because it ties in with other rope rescue training Ranger Instructors receive, including ice and swift water rescue techniques.

"It gives the instructors the ability to work and operate with rope on a high angle while performing rescues," said Warrant Officer Wen.

Once completed, Ranger Instructors receive an international rescue certification from the National Fire Protection Association.

So far this year, members of 3 CRPG have participated in 17 ground search-and-rescue missions, rescuing 23

people, including two stranded truckers on an ice road, an injured Attawapiskat First Nation snowmobiler and two young hunters whose ATVs broke down, leaving them stranded about 100 kilometres away from their communities.

During the course, Raven Rescue staff taught participants a host of rope rescue skills and techniques, including:

- Knots
- Intermediate and advanced anchor systems
- Compound and complex pulley systems
- Placing artificial anchor points
- Installation of horizontal change of directions
- Passing knots, anchors and deviations while ascending/descending
- Performing rope transfers/changeovers
- Casualty care and packing for horizontal and vertical transport



## RANGER FROM MUSKRAT DAM AWARDED TOP CANADIAN HONOUR



**Master Corporal Kathleen Beardy, right, participates in a group training discussion in a 2020 file photo.**

When a friend told her 20 years ago that the Canadian Army was about to start a new Canadian Ranger patrol in her small First Nation in Northern Ontario Kathleen Beardy decided to go to the first organizing meeting and volunteered.

“My friend told me the army and the Rangers were coming to Muskrat Dam,” she said. “I didn’t know what the Rangers were but I went along and joined. It’s been interesting. The army teaches you how to be organized and to be on time. Being on time was the hard part. That was hard sometimes. But I’ve learned a lot.”

Two decades later she is the master corporal in charge of her community’s Junior Canadian Ranger patrol and a new recipient of the Order of Military Merit, the military equivalent of the civilian Order of Canada.

The prestigious award was created in 1972 to recognize outstanding service and devotion to duty by members of the Canadian Armed Forces. She has already been awarded the Special Service Medal and the Canadian Forces Decoration for her military service.

“The Order of Military Merit is an honour she deserves,” said Lieutenant-Colonel Shane MacArthur, the Canadian Army officer who commands the 700 Rangers in 29 mostly remote and isolated First Nations across the Far North of Ontario. Rangers are part-time army reservists.

“She has many years of service, is an active Ranger, and a non-stop volunteer in her community,” he said. “She has also served as a member of her band council.”

Two years ago five people – an adult and four young children – died in a house fire in the nearby First Nation of Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug, devastating the

community, which declared an emergency to try and cope with the resulting widespread mental stress. The community asked for help from the Canadian Army and Master Corporal Beardy was a key part of a Ranger team that went to provide support.

“Her compassion, dedication, and support for the families and support for the community was outstanding during the emergency.” LtCol McArthur said.

Master Corporal Beardy is one of four female members of the 10-person Ranger patrol in Muskrat Dam, a small Oji-Cree settlement of about 250 people 590 kilometers north of Thunder Bay. Her lead job as a Ranger is running the community’s popular Junior Ranger patrol. The culturally appropriate program teaches safety on the land and water and in personal life styles for boys and girls aged 12 to 18.

She was raised on her father’s trap line. “We were raised on traditional food, moose, beaver, rabbit,” she said. “I snared rabbits for food and I started doing that when I was five years old.”

As a child she used a .22-calibre rifle to shoot ptarmigan and grouse for food. When she joined the Rangers the army taught her to shoot with a larger calibre rifle and she harvested her first moose with a .308 rifle.

“She’s a really good shot, we hunt together, really good on the land, and very good at getting the kids on the land,” said Sergeant Emily Beardy, a distant relative and the Muskrat Dam Ranger patrol leader. “She’s well liked in the community. She’s a good Ranger.”

Governor-General Mary Simon will present her with the insignia of the Order of Military Merit at a future date.



## **RANGERS RESCUE INJURED SNOWMOBILER**

An Attawapiskat resident rescued by four Canadian Rangers on January 30 after losing control of his snowmobile while gathering firewood is now at home recovering from an injury.

The man, 22, and two other relatives were gathering firewood 40 kilometers south-west of the community when the victim lost control of his snowmobile while breaking trail in a remote area around 6:18 pm.

The trio used a satellite phone to call for help and the Ontario Provincial Police subsequently contacted the 3rd

Canadian Ranger Patrol Group to direct the search in an isolated area near the community.

“(The injured man) said his head and back hurt when they found him,” said Master Corporal Christopher Kataquapit, a Ranger who directed the search from an emergency command post in the First Nation.

The Rangers found the injured man and provided first-aid before moving him to a rural road where they were met by police and paramedics around midnight. He was subsequently taken to hospital in Moose Factory for treatment.

## **RANGERS ASSIST FATHER AND SON AFTER THEIR BOAT ENGINE FAILS**

Canadian Rangers in a remote Northern Ontario First Nation quickly organized a successful search and rescue mission after a boat engine broke down and left two hunters stranded in the wilderness.

The hunters were a 51-year old father and his 22 year-old son. The father requires daily medicine for a medical condition and he did not have it with him.

The two men are both from Bearskin Lake First Nation, a small and remote Oji-Cree community 625 kilometers north of Thunder Bay.

The men left Bearskin Lake on Wednesday in a boat that was known to have occasional engine troubles to a place on the Severn River known as Tommy’s Cabin to hunt for moose. The cabin is about 26 kilometers northeast of Bearskin Lake.

When the men failed to return to the community as expected family and friends alerted the Bearskin Lake Canadian Ranger patrol. The Canadian Army authorized the Rangers, who are part-time army reservists, to go the rescue of the two men.

Master Corporal Randy Fiddler, accompanied by Archie McKay, a civilian volunteer, left Bearskin Lake by boat and arrived at the cabin site in less than two hours. “The engine on their boat had broken down and they could not fix it,” he said. “The father was all right without his medicine. They were happy to see us. They were expecting the Rangers would come looking for them when they were overdue.

“Yes, it makes you feel good when you can help people like this. I’ve been a Ranger for about 15 years and I’ve lost count of the rescues I’ve done.”

He said Archie McKay, the civilian volunteer who went on the rescue with him is a former Ranger as is the rescued father. “I think his son was a Junior Canadian Ranger when he was younger as well,” Master Corporal Fiddler said.

Sergeant Linda Kamenawatamin, the Ranger patrol commander in Bearskin Lake, manned the temporary command post established in the community for the rescue. “The rescue shows how useful the Rangers can be to a community.” She said. “It all worked out well.”

## **RANGERS RESCUE TWO 17-YEAR OLD HUNTERS**

Two Canadian Rangers and a civilian volunteer went to the rescue of two 17-year-old youths whose all-terrain vehicles broke down and left them stranded 100 kilometers east of their home community.

The boys were hunting for caribou when their ATV engines broke down in an area with an abundance of polar bears near to Hudson Bay.

They managed to use their cell phones to alert their parents in Fort Severn, Ontario’s most northerly community. Fort Severn is a small and remote Cree settlement 1,500 kilometers north of Toronto. It has a population of just over 400.

The two youths were Dakota Bunn and Zachary Kakekaspan, both experienced at living on the land.

Much of their community was locked down because of a COVID-19 crisis so the Canadian Army authorized the local Ranger patrol to go to the aid of the two youths. The search team consisted of Sergeant Christopher Koostachin, Ranger George Kakekaspan, and James

Kabestra, a civilian volunteer and an uncle to Dakota Bunn. They reached the youths late in the day as the sun was setting and decided to camp out overnight.

“They were very happy when they saw us arriving and carrying treats their parents sent for them with us,” said Sergeant Koostachin.

The rescuers repaired the two ATV engines and returned with the youths to Fort Severn late on the second day. Because it was dark when they got back they left their ATVs and all their gear on the far side of the wide River Severn and crossed it in canoes. “We did not want to risk crossing with our gear in the dark,” Sergeant Koostachin said. “We could easily have got swamped. We went back to get our gear the next day.”

It was the second time Rangers have gone to the aid of Dakota Bunn while he was on a hunting trip. Two years ago he and a friend got their ATVs stuck in mud. Sergeant Koostachin and Ranger Kakekaspan conducted a successful rescue. “I teased him about it,” Sergeant Koostachin said.



## RANGERS BRING POPULAR JCR YOUTH PROGRAM TO TWO MORE FIRST NATIONS



**New Junior Canadian Rangers assemble in Aroland First Nation.**

The Third Canadian Ranger Patrol Group have expanded its successful Junior Canadian Rangers (JCR) youth program to include the northern Ontario First Nation communities of Aroland and Long Lake 58.

Similar to the national cadet program, the JCR program is open to youth between the ages of 12 to 18 who live in remote isolated locations, and is managed and facilitated by army personnel, local Canadian Ranger patrols and community volunteers.

Following the successful launch in December 2021, there were 10 JCR recruits signed up in Long Lake 58 and 27 JCR recruits in Aroland First Nation.

Major Gary Johnson, Officer Commanding of the JCRs, said the JCR program plays a crucial role in promoting health and wellness within their host First Nation communities.

“The importance of bringing these Junior Canadian Ranger programs to these communities cannot be understated in the development and fulfillment of youth in their communities,” said Major Johnson.

Funded by the army, there is no cost to join the JCR program or for training, and participants also receive a uniform free of charge.

“The JCRs are trained on The Three Circles, life skills, traditional skills and Ranger skills. These are taught by Canadian Rangers supporting the JCR patrols,” said Captain Courtney Giles.

The Three Circles taught to JCR members include:

- Map and compass navigation
- First-Aid
- Hunting and fishing skills
- Conflict resolution
- Parenting
- Wilderness survival, and
- Arts and crafts

Aroland First Nation Chief Dorothy Towedo said the community and council believes the JCR program provides much needed opportunities for young people in the community. “It’s a great thing for the community. I am delighted with the turnout. We have wanted this for a long time. We are happy for the youth,” said Chief Towedo.

Suspended for the last two years due to COVID-19, the training year culminates with Camp Loon, a 12-day summer camp held at Springwater Lake north of Geraldton.

The camp offers a range of activities including instruction on air rifles, boating, ATVs, and traditional arts and crafts.

“I joined because I want to join the army. I think (the JCRs) are awesome for the community,” said Aroland recruit Makenna Mendowegan after receiving her new JCR uniform.



## EDUCATION BURSARIES AWARDED TO TWO OUTSTANDING JUNIOR CANADIAN RANGERS



**Summer Southwind from Lac Seul and Andrew (McCartney) Beardy from North Caribou Lake.**

Two exemplary Junior Canadian Rangers (JCRs) from Ontario have each received a \$1,000 education bursary from Canada Company – a registered charity that supports veterans and their families.

Members of the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group's Junior Canadian Rangers youth program, Summer Southwind from Lac Seul and Andrew (McCartney) Beardy from North Caribou Lake are this year's Ontario JCR bursary recipients.

Like the national cadet program, the Junior Canadian Rangers program is open to youth between the ages of 12 to 18 who live in remote isolated locations, and is managed and facilitated by army personnel, local Canadian Ranger Patrols and community volunteers. The Junior Canadian Rangers are taught "The Three Circles," life skills, traditional skills and Ranger skills.

"The JCR program really brought me out of my comfort zone and pushed me to try new things that I never thought I'd be doing. The JCR program is like a second home," said Southwind.

According to 3CRPG Junior Canadian Rangers Training Officer Captain Courtney Giles, both Southwind and Beardy always display a positive attitude and promote teamwork within the JCR program.

"(McCartney) Beardy is well-regarded by his peers and sets a positive example to his patrol. Summer models a positive example for her peers and in turn is setting the example of what it means to be a leader and Junior Canadian Ranger," said Captain Giles.

Created in 2006, Canada Company supports several philanthropic initiatives for Canadian veterans and their families with the assistance of more than 1,000 donors, including scholarships and children's summer camps.

The recipients will each receive a plaque and cheque later this month by the JCR command team. 3CRPG's Commanding Officer and the Group Sergeant-Major wish to congratulate these excellent JCRs (Summer and Andrew) on being recognized for their outstanding achievements.



## RANGERS PROVIDE EMERGENCY HELP IN JAMES BAY EVACUATIONS



**A team of experienced Canadian Rangers provided the necessary manpower.**

Canadian Rangers provided emergency assistance to three remote First Nations on James Bay as spring ice break-ups threatened to flood them.

"It's a good example of Canadian Rangers being able to assist their communities when required," said Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur, the Canadian Army officer who commands the 700 Rangers in 29 First Nations across the Far North of Ontario. Rangers are part-time army reservists.

A mobile support team, known as a Ranger Go Team, flew into Kashechewan on Sunday to assist local Rangers in the ongoing evacuation of the Cree community. The Go Team, composed of Rangers from Bearskin Lake, Moose Factory, Sandy Lake, and Pikangikum, all volunteered for the mission. The Albany River frequently forces the community to evacuate when the river floods during the annual ice break-ups.

Rangers are assisting in the evacuation of Fort Albany

which is on the south shore of the Albany River and also subject to frequent spring flooding.

In Attawapiskat local Rangers have been placed on active duty to monitor water levels on the Attawapiskat River and be prepared to help evacuees if a major evacuation takes place.

"The Go Team was formed for Kashechewan," LtCol McArthur said, "so we can support the local Rangers by bringing in additional forces when local Rangers are not sufficient to meet our tasks in an emergency in the community. Some local Rangers have been forced to leave the community because their family members have been flown out and they want to remain together."

"I'm always appreciative of being able whenever we can to provide help," he said. "When a request for assistance comes in we are always ready to do whatever is approved to support our communities as we are mandated to do."

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## RANGERS RESCUE FOUR STRANDED HUNTERS AFTER THEIR BOAT CAPSIZES

Members of Ontario's 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group rescued four boaters after their vessel capsized while navigating the Yellowhead Rapids east of the First Nation community of Nibinamik recently.

The boaters were stranded on the shore for the night before being rescued by three Canadian Rangers who live and serve in Nibinamik First Nation on October 25.

According to Canadian Ranger Master Corporal Leo Oskineegish, the party of young men were returning from hunting and fishing when their boat capsized.

"They were on their way back when their boat capsized. They built a shelter onshore until help arrived," said Oskineegish.

With the temperature dropping below zero degrees Celsius at night, it was decided to activate the Rangers to conduct a search and rescue.

The Ranger search team located the four men and returned them to the community without injury.

Nibinamik is an Oji-Cree First Nation located 500 kilometers north of Thunder Bay, with a population of about 400 people.



## **RANGERS AND OPP WORK TOGETHER TO RESCUE STRANDED FISHERMAN**

Canadian Rangers in an isolated First Nation in Northern Ontario successfully joined forces with the Ontario Provincial Police to rescue a stranded fisherman after his boat engine broke down.

The fisherman, Jericho Beady, 25, had gone by boat to his hunting camp, for a day's fishing but did not return as expected to his home in Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug, a remote Oji-Cree community about 580 kilometers north of Thunder Bay, that is often referred to as KI. His camp is about 20 kilometers west of KI.

The fisherman's family alerted the local Rangers, who are part-time army reservists with a patrol in KI, and the OPP detachment in the community. A helicopter leased by the OPP for emergencies was in KI and it flew to the hunting camp with Ranger Sergeant Spencer Anderson and OPP Constable Darryl Sainnawap, who is also a Ranger, on board.

"We got to the camp but we couldn't land because there was no area clear enough for us to get down," said Sergeant Anderson. "He waved to us and held up a fuel can. He might have been letting us know he was out of gas but we could also see the cover on

his boat engine was raised, so maybe he had engine trouble. The important thing was he seemed to be all right physically."

Unable to land, the helicopter and its passengers flew back to KI. Sergeant Anderson and Ranger Corporal Craig Sainnawap left shortly afterwards to go to the hunting camp by boat, taking tools and extra fuel with them.

"He was very pleased to see us when we got to his camp," Sergeant Anderson said. "He had engine trouble, a mechanical problem, and we could not fix it for him. So we brought him back to KI. I offered to take him back to his camp to get his boat when I was going fishing myself in a couple of days. That made him very happy. I also told him he should join the Rangers and I think he's maybe going to do it."

A joint command post was established for the rescue mission at the KI OPP detachment office. Corporal Harriet Cutfeet manned it for the Rangers.

"Everything worked out well," said Sergeant John Meaker, the OPP's provincial search and rescue coordinator. "The Rangers have excellent local knowledge of their areas."

## **STUCK TRUCKERS ASSISTED BY FORT SEVERN RANGERS**

Two truck drivers travelling to Manitoba on the Fort Severn First Nation winter road were forced to spend two nights in their tractor trailer cabs before being rescued by members of Ontario's Canadian Rangers after the rigs became stuck as a spring storm raged.

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) requested 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group assistance April 13 after two tractor trailers became stuck around 7 pm. Both the OPP and Nishnawbe Aski Police Service (NAPS) officials determined attempting a rescue was too dangerous with a storm approaching and also far enough for a timely response.

Canadian Rangers based in the Cree First Nation community of Fort Severn were activated, but after assessing the road and weather, they too determined a rescue at that time was unsafe.

"All three emergency response agencies, including the Rangers, determined that the incoming storm made a rescue attempt unsafe for emergency personnel," said 3 CRPG spokesperson Captain Camilo Olea.

The following day when the storm briefly subsided, the Rangers were informed that a helicopter would be sent to rescue the truckers and their assistance was no longer needed. However on Friday, April 15 they learned the helicopter would not be

coming after all, as it had already picked up other stranded motorists on the winter road, said Olea.

"The truckers had fuel, but their food and water supplies were getting low, so it was decided to send the Rangers," he added.

Three Rangers departed Fort Severn on snowmachines in 70 to 80 km/h wind gusts and snow to make the 12-hour round-trip journey to rescue the truckers, who had now spent two nights in their truck cabs.

The Rangers, carrying warm clothes, food and First-Aid gear, reached the truckers around 6 pm and reported back to a command post in Fort Severn that the drivers were in good spirits.

"We wanted to go because we heard one of the truckers had a medical condition. Visibility was less than 100 metres, and we had to snowmobile through four feet of loose (snow) powder at times," said Fort Severn Patrol Sergeant Chris Koostachin.

When the Rangers reached the truckers, Sergeant Koostachin said they had exhausted their food and water. The group decided to proceed 35 km towards Fort Severn and stop at a vacant cabin for the night. Once at the cabin the group then decided it was best to proceed back to Fort Severn, where they arrived safely around midnight.



## RANGERS ASSIST IN DELIVERY OF NEW AMBULANCES TO REMOTE FIRST NATION



**An ambulance is loaded into a C-130J Hercules at the Dryden Airport. Two ambulances were delivered to the northern community of Pikangikum First Nation.**

The Commanding Officer of Ontario's 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group says recent Canadian Ranger assistance during a Canadian Armed Forces operation to deliver two ambulances to a First Nation community shows again how adept Rangers are at responding to the needs in the North.

Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Shane McArthur stated five Rangers were stood-up on Saturday October 22 after the Royal Canadian Air Force was tasked with delivering two desperately needed ambulances to Pikangikum First Nation.

"Pikangikum Band and Council submitted a request for assistance to the Government of Canada because their ambulances were no longer serviceable resulting in potential health concerns within the community. Two ambulances were sourced from Kenora Ontario and were quickly moved to Dryden Ontario. Since most of the year the community is only accessible by ferry barge or ice road in winter, the ambulances needed to be flown in."

Pikangikum First Nation is home to 2,400 Ojibwe

residents north-west of Sioux Lookout. "The Ministry of Transportation did not have the size of aircraft needed" said LtCol McArthur. Therefore a request was made to the Royal Canadian Air Force to transport the ambulances using a C-130 Hercules, based out of Canadian Forces Base Trenton.

According to the Ministry of Public Safety, the aging ambulances simply wore out from use.

3 CRPG personnel were tasked with supporting the delivery of these ambulances and assisting with the safe unloading of the ambulances while the C-130 was on the taxiway.

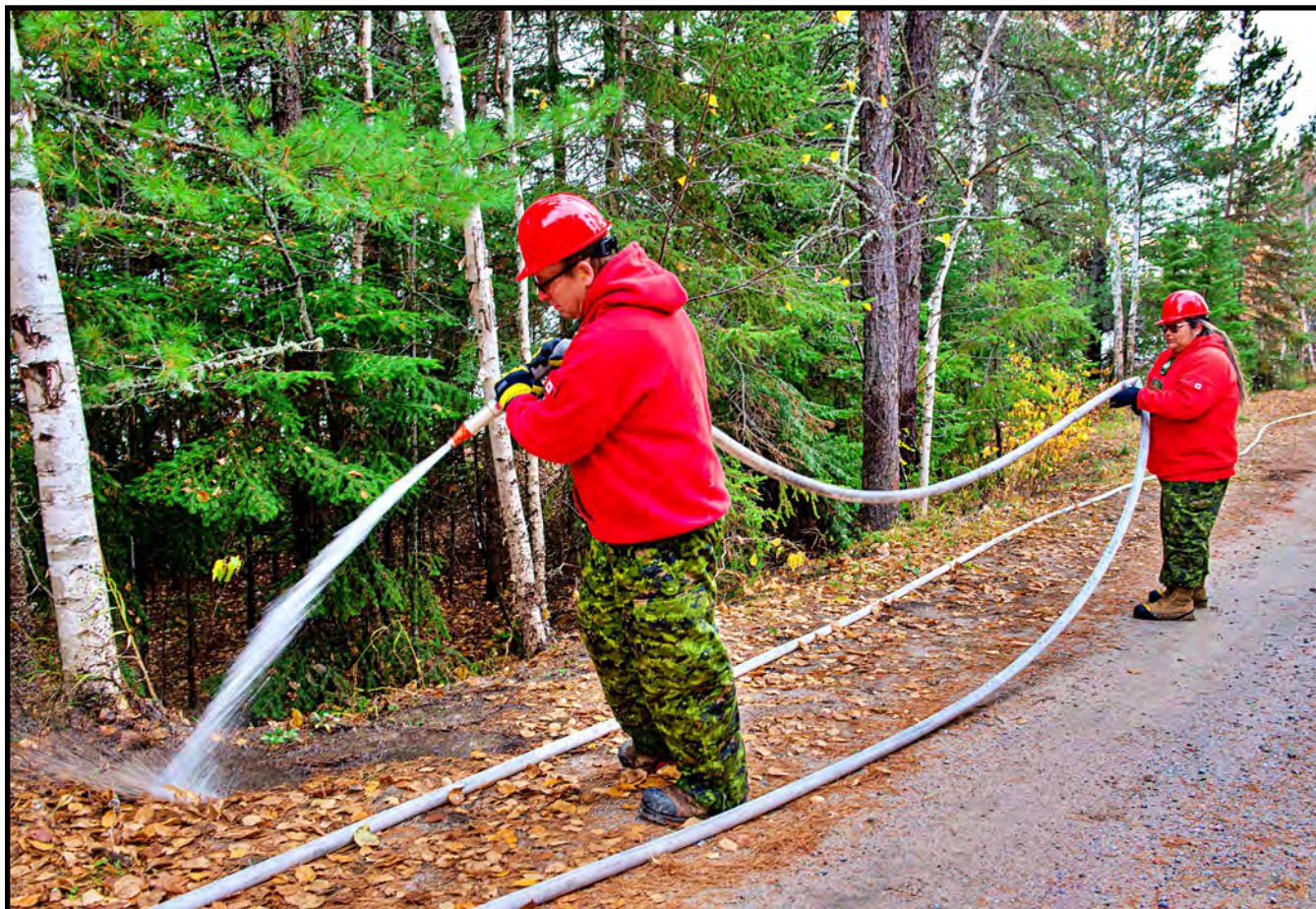
"It's a straight forward task for us. It's another example of how Rangers can be quickly stood-up to be part of a solution," said LtCol McArthur.

Canadian Ranger Eli Owen from the community's local Patrol participated in the operation and said the ambulance delivery went without incident.

"We were standing near the Hercules and were told not to let anyone near it. It went very smoothly," said Owen.



## CANADIAN RANGERS RECEIVE WILDFIRE FIREFIGHTING TRAINING



**Canadian Rangers practice their new firefighting skills.**

Following a successful pilot-project last year, Ontario's Canadian Rangers completed the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) modified SP-100 Forest Firefighter Training Course last month in Sioux Lookout.

Fourteen Canadian Rangers and two Army support staff from the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group received the training required to work as a wildfire firefighting crew member in Ontario. Last year was the first time the training was conducted as a pilot-project between the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and the MNRF.

Held at the Sioux Lookout Fire Management Headquarters, once Rangers complete in-class firefighting theory training they must then show that they have learned the concepts by completing several practical tasks outdoors.

"This is an entry-level firefighting course that all our new hires have to take before they can work for the MNRF. We modify it to take into consideration

the existing knowledge of the Rangers," said MNRF Fire Operations Supervisor Ryan Lacey.

Rangers must complete Canadian Ranger basic training and the SP-100 course before they are qualified to fight wildfires on a crew, and only while under the direction of a qualified fire officer. Also, without further training, Rangers can only fight wildfires classified up to and including Intensity Level No. 2.

During the training Rangers learned how to use pumps, how to connect firehoses, and safe firefighting techniques.

Master Corporal and Patrol second In Command Brandon Spence said the training is valuable for Rangers to have.

"It is important to have it in case we need it back in the communities. I am going to let my Rangers know this is a good course and push them to attend," said Spence, who lives and serves in the Cree First Nation community of Kashechewan.





**The Canadian Ranger flotilla cruises through the Trent-Severn Waterway, past the town of Burleigh Falls.**



**The Canadian Ranger freighter canoes are lowered into the Ottawa River by the famous Rideau Canal locks in Downtown Ottawa, marking the end of Exercise Ranger Tracker 2022.**



<https://www.facebook.com/3CRPG3GPRC>





# The MOCCASIN

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## CANADIAN RANGER CORPS STOOD UP DURING RANGER 75 CELEBRATION



***Her Excellency the Governor General inspects the 100 CR Guard of Honour. Minister of Defence, Anita Anand, and Chief of the Defence Staff, General Wayne Eyré in the background.***

*By Major-General (ret.) Ed Fitch OMM, MSM, CD  
Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel 4th Canadian Ranger  
Patrol Group*

### **Canadian Ranger 75th Anniversary (CR75)**

It is particularly appropriate that the premier event of the Canadian Rangers 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary was held in BC since that is where their WWII predecessors, the Pacific Coast Militia Rangers (PCMR) were raised in 1942 to detect and oppose any Japanese invasion. The PCMR reached a strength of approximately

15,000 volunteers before being disbanded at war's end in 1945. Two years later, on 23 May 1947, a Privy Council order stated: "Pursuant to the provisions of the Militia Act, His Excellency, The Governor-in-Council authorizes the formation of the Canadian Rangers to be a corps of the Reserve Militia not exceeding in total numbers 5,000 officers and soldiers. The organization, composition and duties of the Canadian Rangers shall be as may be laid down from time to time by the Minister."





***Her Excellency the Governor General inspects the Guard of Honour.***

Large parts of the history of the Canadian Rangers can be characterized as “out of sight, out of mind”. They are little known in the southern, populous regions of Canada. The 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary is being leveraged as an opportunity to help southern Canadians better understand and value the Canadian Rangers. The Canadian Army designated Fiscal Year 2022/2023 as “The Year of the Canadian Ranger”. The five CRPGs are conducting commemorative events throughout the year, in their respective regions. Canadian Rangers will be featured on Hockey Night in Canada and the 2022 Army Run will be Canadian Ranger-themed. The inaugural National event of the anniversary year was the Canadian Ranger Rendez-Vous (RV75), over the May long weekend when Canadian Rangers from all five groups assembled at Camp Albert Head, near Victoria, BC to train together, to march in the Victoria Day parade, and to provide the honour guard to Her Excellency, the Governor General of Canada.

#### **Canadian Ranger Rendez-Vous (RV75)**

The weekend started with the host unit, 4CRPG, receiving CRs, JCRs and RIs from all five CRPGs. Just getting there was half the fun for many members coming from the most remote locations across this wide country. The Friday reception day, included a full day council of the five CRPG commanding officers, their Group Sergeant-Major and the Group Honorary Lieutenant-Colonels. The newly appointed Army Staff, Director of Canadian Rangers (DCR),

Colonel Benoit Mainville, and DCR SM CWO Mike Egan also participated.

The Saturday and Sunday were used to rotate the 80 training participants (including 15 from the Australian Regional Force Surveillance Group here on a unit exchange) through four training stands professionally prepared by the host 4CRPG. Divided into syndicates, each participant experienced training on the employment of helicopters, all-terrain vehicles, boats, and horses. It is quite probable that some participants had never been on a horse before, and others may never have been on salt water!

Saturday evening there was a campfire with singing by Honorary Canadian Ranger, Jean Miso (3CRPG), some mental health coaching, a chance to get a closeup look at the Eagle Staff, and opportunities for CRs from the length and breadth of Canada to meet each other in an informal setting. The Sunday evening was given over to parade rehearsals including learning how to present arms with the new C19 rifle, something that had never been done before.

On the Monday morning, the Canadian Rangers, in honour of the CR 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, formed the lead marching contingent in the four-kilometer Victoria Day Parade in downtown Victoria. I can tell you that it was a thrill to see all those red hoodies come into view with the Naden Band playing the Corps of Canadian Rangers newly approved march past, “Vigilans”, and with the Eagle Staff in the forefront.





***Her Excellency Governor General Mary May Simon speaks with a member of the CR Guard of Honour.***

### **75th Anniversary Commemorative Ceremony**

After a quick return to Albert Head for lunch, more parade rehearsals, awarding of the CR75 commemorative coin, and group photographs, the contingent re-embarked on the busses to return to Victoria and Government House, home of the B.C. Lieutenant Governor. Once there, the 100-Canadian Ranger Guard of Honour formed up on the grass, once again led by the Eagle Staff, ready to receive Governor General Mary May Simon. The Governor General has a special connection with Corps of Canadian Rangers since her own father, Bob May, was one of the first Canadian Rangers serving in Canada's far north.

What a thrill it was to see Her Excellency approach the Guard, wearing her Canadian Ranger uniform of red hoodie and red ball cap. We noted that her cap was resplendent in gold braid, as befits the Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Armed Forces.

The audience for this historic event included the Lieutenant Governor of BC, the Minister of National Defence, the Chief of Defence Staff, CJOC Commander, Commander, Canadian Army, senior

Army staff, all four Canadian Division Commanders, MARPAC Commander, Representatives of First Nations, Inuit and Métis, and many other dignitaries. The ceremony commenced with general, ministerial, and royal salutes including a 21-gun salute provided by 5th (British Columbia) Field Artillery Regiment, RCA. During the inspection, it looked like Her Excellency had kind words for each one of the 100 Canadian Rangers on parade. That made for a very long inspection and personal moments never-to-be forgotten. Following the inspection, the common theme of the speeches was the vital work being done by Canadian Rangers every day, in the far reaches of this vast country.

Her Excellency presented camp flags and pennants to the CO, GSM, and HLCOL of each of the CRPGs. After the ceremony, The CR Guard of Honour and dignitaries were invited into Government House where they were hosted to a reception by Lieutenant-Governor Austin.

*Photo credits:*

*Captain Natasha Tersigni /4CRPG*

*Captain Camilo Olea /3CRPG*





***Her Excellency the Governor General with the 100 Canadian Ranger Guard of Honour, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, Janet Austin and other dignitaries.***



***Flanked by JCR assistants to the Governor General for the presentation: HLCol John Newman, GSM Jim Currier, Her Excellency the Governor General, and CO Shane McArthur.***





***Canadian Rangers march in Victoria.***



***Canadian Rangers practice safe use of ATVs.***



***Helicopter rescue landing.***



***Horses in support of Canadian Rangers.***



***Using small boats in the Salish Sea.***





# The MOCCASIN

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## THE CANADIAN RANGER 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY (CR 75) COMMEMORATIVE COIN



**Fig. 1 CR75 coin obverse**



**Fig. 2 CR75 coin reverse**

When planning started in earnest for CR75, the Honorary Lieutenant Colonels (HLCols), there is one appointed to each Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (CRPG), consulted to think about how they could contribute to this significant historic milestone. We knew that the CAF would fund what it could to make the anniversary a success, but a commemorative coin is normally not purchased from public funds.

HLCol John Newman of 3CRPG took the lead; in conjunction with The Ranger Foundation and St John Ambulance, he was able to secure the necessary non-public funding. Some further consultation among the HLCols gave us the elegant design you see depicted in Fig. 1 & 2. Logistical support for the procurement and production of the 5,000 coins was accomplished by a team from 3CRPG led by Major Tom Bell.

The head (obverse) of the coin depicts the identifying badge worn by all members of CRPGs along with the CR motto "Vigilans".

The tail (reverse) of the coin celebrates the completion of the first 75 years of service of the Corps of Canadian Rangers (CCR).

The intent is that every CR serving on 23 May 2022 will receive one of these coins. 5,000 coins were struck based on the requests of the CRPG Commanding Officers (COs) with a small surplus to allow the CCR to honour associated VIPs. Recipients of this coin include: Her Excellency, Governor General Mary May Simon; the Minister of National Defence, Anita Anand; the Chief of the Defence Staff, General Wayne Eyre; Commander, Canadian Army; and the four Division Commanders who have CRPGs under their command.

*Drafted by:*

*Major General E.S. Fitch, OMM, MSM, CD (retired)*

*Honorary Lieutenant Colonel,  
4 Canadian Ranger Patrol Group*

*26Aug22*





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## PLAQUE UNVEILED AT BASE BORDEN HQ HONOURING 75 YEARS OF CANADIAN RANGER SERVICE





Representatives from various levels of government and the armed forces celebrated 75 years of Canadian Ranger service at Base Borden where a commemorative plaque, donated by the Ranger Foundation, was unveiled at the Ontario home of the 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group (3 CRPG) on September 20.

The plaque unveiling was the culmination of a monumental 13-day canoe trip that married annual Canadian Ranger training with public outreach as part of 75th anniversary celebrations. Known as Exercise Ranger Tracker 22, the voyage from Parry Sound to Ottawa from September 4 to 17 saw approximately 32 3 CRPG Canadian Rangers travel through the Trent-Severn Waterway and the Rideau Canal in nine large, motorized freighter canoes as they practiced water navigation and safe watercraft operation drills.

3 CRPG Commanding Officer LtCol Shane McArthur said both events were held to educate and highlight the unique life-saving work Rangers routinely conduct.

Canadian Rangers are part-time army reservists who serve in remote, isolated and coastal communities, with most in Ontario located above the 50th parallel. In total, there are 600 Rangers in 29 First Nation communities operating in Ontario. This year a host of national events were held across the country to recognize the creation of the Canadian Rangers in 1947 who were first stood-up in British Columbia.

So far this year, members have participated in 17 ground search-and-rescue missions, rescuing 23 people, including two stranded truckers on an ice road, an injured Attawapiskat First Nation snowmobiler and two young hunters whose ATVs broke down, leaving them stranded about 100 kilometres away from their communities.

The canoe expedition was greeted by well-wishers as they traversed waterway locks in various communities, including Orillia, Peterborough and Kingston, before ending in Ottawa. A total of 94 waterway locks were traversed.

"A lot of people have never seen anything like it. It was an educational experience. I am very pleased. We did an education piece to a lot of people," said LtCol McArthur.

For many Rangers, living in isolated First Nation communities including Fort Albany and Peawanuck, it was their first time visiting southern cities, while

navigating unfamiliar water reinforced their basic Ranger skills.

"Exercise Ranger Tracker 2022 was an amazing experience travelling in the southern waters and seeing how old the lift-locks are and the mechanisms used for boats to travel up and down. It was part of a water world that you don't see, and don't realize you can discover in Ontario," said Ranger Sgt Jocelyne Sutherland who resides in Fort Albany.

Before the plaque was revealed, about 200 guests were treated to traditional First Nation dance performed by Canadian Ranger Master Corporal Redfern Wesley, sacred prayers, and a smudge, where sage and sweetgrass is burned to purify body and spirit. The event kicked off with the singing of O Canada in Ojibwe.

"There are five groups across Canada celebrating the 75th, with the national event held in Victoria, B.C. in May. This is our Ontario event to recognize 75 years. It was two-fold to mark the end of Exercise Ranger Tracker 2022 and to commemorate the 75th year of the Canadian Ranger with a plaque at our headquarters," said LtCol McArthur.

The plaque was unveiled in the presence of the 4th Canadian Division Commander BGen Josh Major, Commanding Officer LtCol Shane McArthur, HLCol John B. Newman, and GSM Jim Currier.

The ceremony also paid tribute to 3 CRPG's oldest active member, Sgt Peter Moon, who is retiring at the end of October at the age of 88. After a long and successful career as a reporter at The Globe and Mail, Moon served for decades as 3 CRPG's Public Affairs representative, travelling across northern Ontario to cover the numerous events and training activities for 3 CRPG.

"We gave Peter a ceremonial, decorated Canadian Ranger axe. It is a rare honour. The axe is for exceptional, long-serving members," said LtCol McArthur.

3 CRPG is based at Canadian Forces Base Borden near Barrie and is staffed by military personnel and army instructors who travel regularly to northern Ontario to train Canadian Rangers.

#### *Photo Credits*

Capt Camilo Olea, 3 CRPG

Marie Claire Ouellette, Managing Director for Canada Company

Peter Moon

Jean Miso



EXERCISE RANGER TRACKER 2022

***Parry Island Departure Ceremony September 4, 2022***





EXERCISE RANGER TRACKER 2022

***Parry Island Departure Ceremony September 4, 2022***





EXERCISE RANGER TRACKER 2022

***Parry Island Departure Ceremony September 4, 2022***





EXERCISE RANGER TRACKER 2022

***Parry Island Departure Ceremony September 4, 2022***





## EXERCISE RANGER TRACKER 2022

### ***The Voyage***





## EXERCISE RANGER TRACKER 2022

### ***The Voyage***





## EXERCISE RANGER TRACKER 2022

### ***Ottawa Finale***





## EXERCISE RANGER TRACKER 2022

### ***Ottawa Finale***





## EXERCISE RANGER TRACKER 2022

### ***Ottawa Finale***





## EXERCISE RANGER TRACKER 2022

### ***Ottawa Finale***





## EXERCISE RANGER TRACKER 2022

### ***Ottawa Finale***





## 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF CANADIAN RANGERS CELEBRATED AT 3CRPG HEADQUARTERS, CFB BORDEN





## 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF CANADIAN RANGERS CELEBRATED AT 3CRPG HEADQUARTERS, CFB BORDEN





## 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF CANADIAN RANGERS CELEBRATED AT 3CRPG HEADQUARTERS, CFB BORDEN





## 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF CANADIAN RANGERS CELEBRATED AT 3CRPG HEADQUARTERS, CFB BORDEN





## 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF CANADIAN RANGERS CELEBRATED AT 3CRPG HEADQUARTERS, CFB BORDEN





## 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF CANADIAN RANGERS CELEBRATED AT 3CRPG HEADQUARTERS, CFB BORDEN







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## NEW PERMANENT FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS AND INUIT EXHIBITS INSTALLED AT THE BASE BORDEN MILITARY MUSEUM (BBMM)



***The 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group display part A***

*By Andrew Gregory, Ph.D.*

*Director, Base Borden Military Museum*

On 18 June 2021, the Base Borden Military Museum unveiled new exhibits to a small audience (as we are closed by provincial health regulations). In attendance were local Elder Little Brown Bear, Capt J. McNeil, Adjutant of 3CRPG, Dr. Andrew Gregory, Director of the BBMM, Robin Robinson, BBMM Collections Manager, Dave Thompson, BBMM Assistant Curator, and our Georgian College Museum Studies Co-op students, Kaelyn Gregory (who designed the exhibit) and Bev Hill. These displays are our first new permanent displays in a decade. There are three displays:

- The Black Bear Training Program that was here at Base Borden from 2008 to 2013
- Timelines for "He Served Here - Sergeant Tommy Prince MM SS"
- "He is remembered Here - Company Sergeant Major Francis Pegahmagabow MM"
- 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group

The display unveiling was accompanied by a much appreciated Smudging Ceremony, performed by Little Brown Bear.

In Phase II, scheduled to open in June 2022, we will add a display to the contribution of First Nations, Métis and Inuit people to the defence of Canada.





***The 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group display part B***



***The Company Sergeant Major Francis Pegahmagabow MM and Sergeant Tommy Prince MM SS display***



***The Black Bear Training display***





# The MOCCASIN

*The Moccasin is published by the Ranger Foundation to raise awareness of actions and efforts by individuals and organizations that support the Foundation's objectives.*

## VANCOUVER'S NATIONAL ABORIGINAL VETERANS DAY CEREMONY SOLDIERS ON



**Left to right: Paul Lee (purple beret), HLCol Bill Diamond - BC Regiment and Chair of the National Council of Honorary Colonels, WO Brenda Morris, Dave Ward - former RCR, Col Scott Raesler- 39 CBG Commander, Chuck Davey - former PPCLI (blue beret), Robert Nahanee - former Engineer and PPCLI (red jacket), Dan Thomas - former BCR, Ted Hawthorne - former BCR HCol and VP of BCR Association, King Wan - former CO of HMCS Discovery**

*By Major (retired) Dan Thomas, CD*

Vancouver observed its 17th annual National Aboriginal Veterans Day Ceremony at Victory Square in cool and windy weather on Monday November 8th, 2021. For the second time, the event took place under COVID-19 precautions that limited in-person attendance and required masks. Live streaming and significant local media coverage, however, helped bring the service home to families, the public, and individuals unable to attend in person.

As co-founders, Elder Kelly White (Snuneymuxw and Musqueam First Nations) directed the logistics and sequence of the event, while Veteran and Elder Robert Nahanee (Squamish First Nation) led the Pipe Ceremony and observances. Dignitaries and wreath presenters represented multiple First Nations and Métis organizations, governments, first responders, unions, and Veterans' associations. (In fact, it was a challenge to keep attendance within the maximum permissible 50 participants in close proximity to the Cenotaph.)





**Chuck Davey - former PPCLI**  
**Ted Hawthorne - former BCR HCol and VP of BCR Association**



**Col Scott Raesler - 39 CBG Commander**  
**WO Brenda Morris**

"We are grateful to the families of our Aboriginal Veterans for the sacrifices they have made, and continue to make," wrote Ms. White prior to the ceremony. "We honour our Warriors of the past, and of today, for fighting for the rights of the People of Turtle Island and Mother Earth."

For the first time here, a senior serving member of the Canadian Armed Forces laid a wreath. Colonel Scott Raesler, Commander 39 Canadian Brigade Group and a United Nations veteran, was accompanied to the Cenotaph by Warrant Officer Brenda Morris, an Indigenous soldier from Labrador who has served overseas and as an instructor on the Bold Eagle Indigenous summer training program. Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Bill Diamond and Association Vice President Ted Hawthorne represented The British Columbia Regiment (DCO), including laying a wreath.

"Aboriginal Veterans fought for the freedoms most other Canadians enjoy today, and we honour the great sacrifices and contributions they have made," added Ms. White. Unfortunately, they also faced injustices and discrimination when returning from past wars. Nowadays, Canadians are increasingly concerned about rectifying historic harms and building appropriately respectful relationships with our country's original populations. In honouring Indigenous veterans and paying tribute to fallen warriors, the National Aboriginal Veterans Day Ceremony is a milepost towards Reconciliation that we will continue to support.



**Veteran Quilt**





# The MOCCASIN

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## FRIENDS OF DENNIS FRANKLIN CROMARTY (DFC) HIGH SCHOOL EXTEND SUPPORT



In response to the COVID-19 pandemic The students of Dennis Franklin Cromarty (DFC) High School include over 100 teens from 23 remote, northern, fly-in First Nations communities located across Ontario's northwest quadrant.

Their dedication to earning their high school diplomas requires them to live throughout their teen years with strangers in boarding houses located far to the south in Thunder Bay, missing their families, friends, homes, and traditions.

DFC's students have many allies who care and want them to succeed, though they have not met in person.

After the year of distanced learning, on seeing the school's list of most-needed items for the Fall 2021 return to onsite classes, many volunteers and organizations came together to quickly obtain and provide these items to help remove barriers to education.

Participants involved organizations and volunteers located throughout Ontario, including Pickering Legion, Pickering Rotary Club, Robin Hood Army Canada, Richmond Hill United Church, Honouring Indigenous People (H.I.P.), Global Medic, Thunder Bay Walmart, Thunder





Bay Rotary, Sleep Country Canada, St. John's Ambulance, Knights of Malta, Costco, Birch Hill Equity Partners, Drewry Secondary School, Tippet Richardson Pickering.

Volunteers and organizations located from Hamilton to Cobourg and Belleville, worked throughout hot days and nights in August to share the word, arrange for donations, and send/pick up items, then helpers worked while masked and distanced at the Pickering Legion Hall to unpack, sort, log, and re-pack, large shipments of donated, requested items.

H.I.P. arranged and paid for shipping services via Trucks for Change, provided by Gardewine Group LP Trucking to bring 8 large pallets or skids 4'x4', of 127 big cartons of donated goods weighing 7,000 lb., from Pickering Legion to DFC School in Thunder Bay.

Global Medic with the benefit of a special \$4,000 grant worked with Walmart Thunder Bay

and with Thunder Bay Rotary Club to pick up and deliver to the school dozens of cartons of additional requested items for the students.

This year students returning to DFC have a good supply of new pillows, comforters and blankets, sheets, winter mitts and toques, backpacks, school supplies, first aid kits, lip balms, ointments and bandages, an array of personal care items including hairbrushes, combs, shampoo and other haircare products, soap, deodorant, nail clippers, dental floss, toothbrushes, toothpaste, gift cards, and PPE including masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer for the duration of the pandemic.

Sean Spenrath, DFC's Director of Student Success, confirmed that the combined efforts of these allies has made a difference to welcoming the students back to in person classes in Thunder Bay and contributing to the success of this school year at DFC.

*Written by Kathryn McBey*

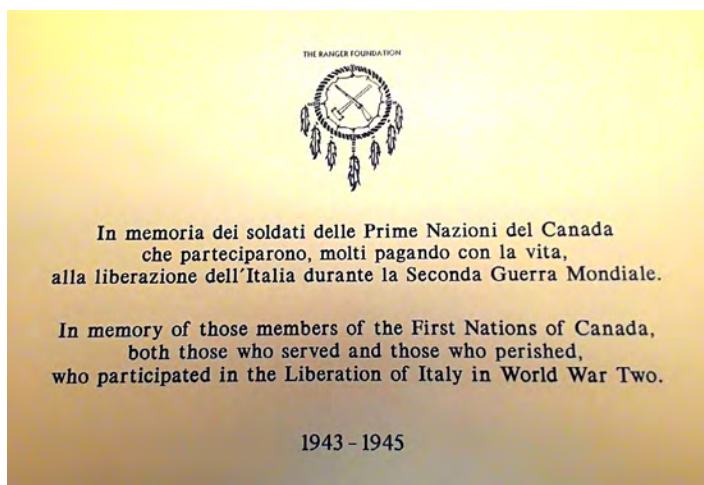




# The MOCCASIN

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## LIEUTENANT-GENERAL JOCELYN PAUL VISITS ORTONA'S CANADIAN HEROES SQUARE AND THE PRICE OF PEACE MONUMENT



***Lieutenant - General Jocelyn Paul at the plaque in honour of the First Nations soldiers, installed at the base of the Price of Peace monument with the kind permission of Leo Castiglione, Mayor of Ortona.***

*(photo credit: Line Bacon)*

On the 10th of November, Lieutenant-General Jocelyn Paul, currently Deputy Commander of JFC Naples and the highest ranking Indigenous officer in CAF, visited Ortona with his wife and

NATO team. Prior to Ortona's November 11th Remembrance Day ceremony, he wanted to visit some of the historic sites of the long and bloody Battle of Ortona, December 1943.





***Lieutenant-General Jocelyn Paul, Line Bacon, and Angela Arnone at the Moro Cemetery just outside Ortona proper where Lieutenant - General Paul participated in the November 11, 2021 Remembrance Day ceremony. 1,375 Canadian fallen soldiers are at rest in this location. During the ceremony the names of 12 First Nations and Métis soldiers were acknowledged and honoured.***

*(photo credit: Paolo Di Deo)*

Accompanied by Angela Arnone, General was able to view The Gully, which was finally taken by the Royal 22nd Regiment (the Van Doos - General Paul's Regiment) and then visited other locations, leading up to the Battle of Ortona itself.

Accompanied by Angela Arnone, General was able to view The Gully, which was finally taken by the Royal 22nd Regiment (the Van Doos - General Paul's Regiment) and then visited other locations, leading up to the Battle of Ortona itself.

*by Angela Arnone*





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## THE RANGER FOUNDATION AND ST JOHN AMBULANCE ONTARIO PROVIDE FIRST AID KITS TO 5 CRPG JUNIOR CANADIAN RANGERS



GANDER, NL – The Junior Canadian Rangers (JCR) of 5 CRPG, have been issued St. John's Ambulance basic first aid kits, donated by St John Ambulance Ontario. Each kit includes a "how to" pamphlet, and are easily carried by the JCR in their pockets during training. Kits have been distributed to JCR from northern and remote communities across Newfoundland and Labrador, including Churchill Falls, Cartwright, Port Hope Simpson, St. Lewis, L'anse Aux Loup, Forteau and Conne River.

*Photo Credits*

MWO William Molloy, Cpl Anne Gould, 5 CRPG



On 16 April, 5 CRPG HCol M'isel Joe, from Miawpukek First Nation (Conne River NL), presented local JCRs with St. John Ambulance first aid kits that were facilitated by 3 CRPG HLCol John Newman.



*5 CRPG HCol M'isel Joe and local JCRs holding their First Aid kits*



*5 CRPG HCol M'isel Joe with Sgt Delaney Benoit of MFN Conne River JCR Patrol*





For more information contact:

Captain David Tracey, Public Affairs Tel: (705) 220-1166 Email: [David.Tracey@forces.gc.ca](mailto:David.Tracey@forces.gc.ca)

Visit [Canada.ca](http://Canada.ca) at Junior Canadian Rangers for further information about the Junior Canadian Ranger program





# The MOCCASIN

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## CANADIAN AUTHOR TRANSCRIBES CREE STORY THAT COULD HAVE BEEN LOST FOR THE NEXT GENERATION



**Jean Miso with her book "The Rainbow" at the Indigenous Legacy Gathering in Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto, with the Birchill Equity Partners and Our Children's Medicine teepee in the background.**

*By Michelle Payot, Blog TO*

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a national holiday that recognizes and commemorates our country's legacy of Residential Schools and the treatment of Indigenous peoples in Canada.

Although many tried to erase their history, Indigenous cultures, globally and in Canada, should be something to platform, celebrate and learn about.

Canadian author Jean Miso wants to do just that, and has created a book that retells a story that was only passed down through generations by word of mouth.

James "Smokey" Tomkins, who is Métis, is the keeper of *The Rainbow*. The story explains how the Great Spirit created a balance within our world's ecosystem.

As he was dying of cancer, Tomkins approached Miso and told her she would be the best person to retell the story so it would live on.

Jean was the first person James told the story to in English so she could write the book. She then had the story translated back into Cree so that Cree learners could learn their language.

*The Rainbow* not only retells the story in English but also has the story written in Cree syllabic and Roman orthography, which uses letters from the English alphabet to represent Cree language sounds.

She also made a Youtube video so that readers could listen and follow along with the book.

Miso believes that we should be honouring the people who were here before us and the keepers of our beautiful land. With this book, Jean wants to raise awareness of Indigenous culture and help make their lives a little bit better.

Proceeds of *The Rainbow* and her other books are donated to veteran and Indigenous charities.

*Photos by Fareen Karim*





**Alex Robinson from Bank of Nova Scotia, Floyd Powder, a retired Métis soldier from Yellowknife, and John Newman from the Ranger Foundation.**



**Event banner hung at City Hall square.**



**Teepees in the square.**



**Fundraising for Our Children's Medicine.**



**Chloe Wasicuna, a volunteer and Krystal Di Marca, Manager of Partnerships with Our Children's Medicine.**





# The MOCCASIN

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## ABORIGINAL VETERANS AT ANNUAL ABORIGINAL REMEMBRANCE DAY



RSM Morrison and Sgt George



Sgt George

CWO Mike Morrison, RSM 39 Service Battalion and Sgt Darcy George, 39 Signal Regiment, were awarded handmade Star Quilts in a traditional star quilt ceremony during the Vancouver Aboriginal Veterans Day Ceremony at Victory Square, 8 November 2022, organized and coordinated by elder Kelly White (Musqueam and Snuneymuxw First Nations).

*By Dan Thomas, CD*





HLCol Derral Moriyama (39 Signal Regiment) and HLCol Bill Diamond (The BC Regiment)



Above: Musqueam and Snuneymuxw First Nations

Left: A proud veteran wearing her Star Quilt





# The MOCCASIN

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## 39 CBG COMMISSION COUGAR PATCH FOR THEIR UNIFORMS IN SUPPORT OF RECONCILIATION



**Col Scott Raesler, 39 CBG Commander and Her Honour Janet Austin, BC LGov.**

Ahead of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, 2021 the B.C. Lions unveiled a stylized version of their logo designed by an Indigenous artist. The logo was designed by Corrine Hunt, who co-designed the medals at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. 39CBG PAFO Capt Kaine it would be great if Ms Hunt would do the same thing with our Cougar design on the 39CBG patch.

Capt Kaine reached out to Ms Hunt by email and had many conversations with her over the phone on how the Brigade wanted to support the Reconciliation activities by wearing her art as a new patch and also providing it as possible gifts for dignitaries and awards.

She really loved the idea and over a couple of months she produced the artwork.

Then it was time to pay Ms. Hunt. Capt Kaine reached out to HLCol Bill Diamond to ask for his help in raising the funds. He in turn reached out to HLCol John Newman for some guidance and they agreed this would be a nice project for Canada Company to support. So they approached Blake Goldring, Chairman and Founder of Canada Company, and HLCol George Salamis who is also the BC Chair for Canada Company. With the help of the BC Regiment (DCO) Association ownership and all rights of the artwork was transferred and the artist paid.

*Bill Diamond  
HLCol  
The BC Regiment (DCO)*



## HLCol Bill Diamond awards replicas of the Cougar Patch



**Canadian Army Commander LGen Jocelyn Paul and HLCol Bill Diamond**



**Blake Goldring, Founder and Chairman of Canada Company, and HLCol John B. Newman of the Ranger Foundation**



**HLCol of the Canadian Army Paul Hindo with HLCol Bill Diamond**



**HLCol John B. Newman of 3 CRPG and HLCol Bill Diamond**





# PROJECT BLUE PUTTEES REPORT

## MEMORIAL PLAQUE HONOURING 48TH HIGHLANDERS INSTALLED IN ORTONA'S CANADIAN HEROES SQUARE



Project Blue Puttees was established in the summer of 2012 by 48th Highlanders Old Comrades Association, Life Members Jim Cassie (Chairman) Tommy Thompson, John Dunn, Gord Smith, and John Newman to facilitate the participation of the Old Comrades Association in certain projects in conjunction with 2013 initiative marking the 70th Anniversary of OP HUSKY (the allied invasion in Sicily) created by Steve Gregory and supported by Blake Goldring and Canada Company. Blue Puttees most important participation in this project was the establishment and creation of the Canadian display in the military museum in Catania and the installation of 48th Memorial plaques in the town of Assoro Council Chambers, the English Church in Palermo and the former Nazi headquarters, now the high school, in Pachino.

JBN

On Christmas Eve, December 24, 2021, the city of Ortona, Italy installed a memorial plaque to those 48th Highlanders who served in the Battle for the Liberation of Ortona, during December 1943. The 48th plaque was sponsored by the Highlanders Foundation, created at the invitation of Leo Castiglione, the mayor of Ortona. There are two other 48th Highlander plaques located within Ortona: One in the City Hall Council Chambers, and the other as part of the Canadian exhibit in the Muba 43 Museo, "The Little Stalingrad Museum". The new plaque was installed opposite the First Nations of Canada memorial plaque on the base of the Price of Peace monument in Ortona's Canadian Heroes Square. This base was partially constructed from rubble recovered from buildings destroyed during the battle for Ortona's freedom. On December 28, which is celebrated as the day the German Army withdrew from occupying Ortona Mayor Leo Castiglione laid a wreath at the memorial in a ceremony of remembrance. This is the most recent plaque commemorating the 48th Highlanders to be placed in Italy and accompanies others installed in Florence, Rome, Palermo, Assoro and Pachino.

*photo credits Angela Arnone  
layout and design Linda Prosh and Jean Miso*







# PROJECT BLUE PUTTEES REPORT

## MESSAGE FROM THE HONORARY COLONEL

**GREETINGS HIGHLANDERS ~ SERVING SOLDIERS, FORMER MEMBERS, AND MEMBERS OF THE REGIMENTAL FAMILY**



*Dedication of 48th Highlanders memorial plaque, Ortona, Italy.*

I attended the Remembrance Day ceremonies in Ortona, Italy with HCol (Ret) John Newman. It was a special occasion for the Regiment, with a new plaque in honour of the 48th Highlanders of Canada and their contribution to the liberation of Ortona. In addition to the new plaque on the monument for the 48th, HCol Newman also arranged a plaque to honour the First Nation and Métis fallen soldiers.

It was moving for me to see the support in Italy for our soldiers. The ceremony was organized by Angela Arnone. Angela is a longtime supporter of Canada's military history in Italy from World War II. Those in attendance included: Ambassador Elissa Golberg, from the Canadian Embassy in Rome; LGen Stephen Kelsey, deputy commander of JFC Naples; Canadian Defence attaché in Rome, Capt André Boisjoli; Mrs Sandra and Eugenia Seagram Annovazzi, respectively daughter and granddaughter of Capt Philip Seagram of the 48th Highlanders of Canada.

Several leading citizens were also in attendance, including Mayor Castiglione.

Angela was the MC and her comments included: "This monument stands in the newly named Piazza degli Eroi Canadesi, Canadian Heroes Square. From the start of his mandate, Mayor Castiglione was determined to dedicate this part of Ortona to the memory of Canada's armed forces, who fought and died to free the civilian population. In upgrading an urban square at the heart of the community, citizens and visitors would meet here and each day the memory of young Canadians who fought in the Battle of Ortona would be evoked with the words "eroi canadesi". Work on the square was also funded by a donation from Veterans Affairs Canada. While COVID delayed progress and a formal inauguration with Canadian guests was not possible, since 2021, Piazza degli Eroi Canadesi, with its maple leaf design, fountains, and flags, is part of Ortona life."





*Ambassador Golberg, HLCol Newman and I laid a wreath in honour of Canadian First Nations and Metis soldiers; and I laid a wreath with LGen Kelsey, Sandra and Eugenia Seagram Annovazzi, and HLCol Newman in honour of the 48th Highlanders of Canada.*



*The group then moved to the traditional Remembrance Day ceremony, which is held annually at the Moro River Cemetery. This is a well-organized and very well attended gathering. I did not realize the respect that the local community demonstrates on November 11 every year. At the end of the ceremony, Sandra and Eugenia Seagram Annovazzi presented me with Capt Seagram's medals, to be a permanent part of our museum.*

*I was honoured to participate in commemorating our fallen soldiers in Italy,  
and to see the appreciation of that sacrifice by the people of Ortona.*

**DILEAS GU BRATH**  
HCol John MacIntyre





# The MOCCASIN

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St. John Ambulance

August 2022



## EAGLE FEATHER



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### CAMP LOON 2022 - AN OUTSIDER'S VIEW

I was invited to train Junior Rangers (an organization of mostly indigenous teens) in first aid at a camp run by the military in northern Ontario. I did not know what to expect. Would this be a Boy and Girl Scout survival camp with marching and saluting?

I couldn't have been more wrong! Camp Loon was the summer camp I wish I'd had. Activities included boating, archery, arts and crafts, air rifle, ATV driving and of course, first aid. All of them run by the military and Rangers in a laid-back, kid friendly atmosphere.

Free time activities included pickup volleyball, swimming, and the most popular, paintball.

Looking deeper, it was more than just a summer camp. The Canadian Rangers are not regular military, but an organization to help handle emergencies in indigenous communities. They assist in search and rescue, fire and flood evacuations, and even with organizing inoculations during COVID. The kids' fun-time activities could become life-saving skills.

Some of these teens had come from challenging backgrounds. The camp exposed them to the positive role models of the experienced Rangers and soldiers, fun police officers (who ran the archery and paintball) and to a world of experiences they may never have otherwise enjoyed.

A lot of the kids discovered a road to better things. The first day one twelve-year old was crying for home. By day three they still missed home, but said it was important for them to be exposed to more life experiences than just video games.







One Junior Ranger refused to take off their heavy sweater, hoodie and hat, despite extremely hot weather. They had body image issues. By the end of the week they were wearing t-shirts and bathing suits, and actually smiling.

I spoke at length with another Junior Ranger who had given up on their ambitions because they'd been mocked for them. I believe the camp renewed their hopes.

One Junior Ranger approached me after class. Their father had been diagnosed with heart trouble and they wanted extra coaching in recognizing and reacting to heart attacks.

At Camp Loon, I went from being an outsider to becoming part of a team that had an instant positive effect on several lives.

Furthermore, it has had a positive and fulfilling effect on my life.

*by Dan MacQuain, St. John Ambulance First Aid Instructor*



Dan MacQuain with Honorary Lieutenant Colonel John Newman, who donated fanny pack first aid kits presented to each Junior Ranger at Camp Loon.

*Photo credit: Captain Camilo Olea / 3CRPG*





## Junior Canadian Rangers



**3 CRPG Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel John B Newman  
with the Canadian Rangers at Camp Loon 2022, Geraldton, Ontario**



# 3rd Canadian Ranger Patrol Group

**1947 - 2022**  
75th anniversary of the **CANADIAN RANGERS** in Canada  
**29th** anniversary of **3 CRPG** in Ontario

**1993 - 2022**

**Ontario**

- 26 PATROLS
- 3 DETACHMENTS
- 700 CANADIAN RANGERS
- 800 JUNIOR CANADIAN RANGERS

\*locations are approximate

**TRAINING**

**OPERATIONS**

**CEREMONIAL**

**JUNIOR CANADIAN RANGERS**

Canada