



# WASURERU-NAI "Never Forget"



**National Newsletter of the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association**

**Summer 2023 Edition**

**Editor: Jim Trick**

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## President's Message



*Mike Babin*

On April 15 George MacDonell, a man so many of us knew and respected, passed away at age 100. George was a proud Royal Rifle, and never tired of eloquently telling the stories of his comrades in battle and in the POW camps. He authored several books about his experiences and those of his colleagues, and the overarching themes in his writings were that freedom comes at a cost, and that the Canadians in Hong Kong never surrendered and never gave up. I highly recommend his books about 'C' Force to all of you. You can find them on our [Suggested Reading](#) page.

He was an inspiration to hundreds, if not thousands of Canadians who heard his talks or read or watched his interviews in the media.

George also published many essays to share his views on the political and economic landscape in Canada.

With George's passing, there is now only one remaining Hong Kong Veteran, Hormidas Fredette, residing in Nova Scotia. This gentleman, also a Royal Rifle, is an incredible 106 years old, and still enjoying life! We should all be so lucky!

When our association, the HKVCA, was formed in 1997 the Veterans decided that when only one of them remained they

would dissolve the HKVA, which they had formed shortly after the war. This so-called Sunset Clause of the HKVA's constitution has now been executed, and all the responsibilities of the HKVA have now formally passed to us in the HKVCA.

Across Canada we have nearly 500 members. It is up to all of us to ensure that the stories of valour of the 1,975 Canadians of 'C' Force do not disappear. Please consider doing your part by volunteering for a remembrance activity, speaking to a school or service club, helping with our teaching materials or any of the other dozens of ways these Veterans can be honored and remembered.

June is National Indigenous Heritage Month, and I am very pleased to announce that our project to research and document the stories of Indigenous veterans of 'C' Force is receiving a terrific boost: the Métis Veterans Legacy Program has agreed to provide up to \$119,480 to help fund this major effort. We have already received the first \$40,000 installment of this funding, and Pam Heinrichs is charging ahead with the hiring of researchers to carry out the work.

We sincerely thank the Métis Veterans Legacy Program for their very generous and welcome support of this project.

Finally, I recommend that you look at our newly revamped website, [www.hkvca.ca](http://www.hkvca.ca). Jim Trick has done an awesome job of making it more visually appealing and reorganizing

the information it contains to make it easier for users to find what they need. Great work, Jim!

I hope that the wildfires in western and eastern Canada are not unduly affecting you and your families, and I wish you the best for a happy and safe summer.

## In Remembrance

### Last Post

[George MacDonell](#), A9220, RRC, on April 15, 2023.

### In Memoriam

Mary Auld, widow of Hong Kong veteran George Auld, on May 4, 2023.

## From the Editor



*Jim Trick*

### HKVA History

As you're aware from reading other items in this edition, the "Sunset Clause" is now in effect.

Therefore, it's more important than ever to collect, as best we can, documents from HKVA so that the history of this association is preserved.

Our [newsletter archives](#) (scroll to the bottom of the linked page) include several newsletters from various HKVA branches, but we believe there are many more hiding in

## Online News

*Jim Trick*

### New and Improved

My big news for this issue is our updated websites! Over the years our web presence has continually expanded thanks to the work of a lot of people such as developers, researchers, and contributors. I hope that you'll take the time to drop in at [hkvc.ca](http://hkvc.ca) and take a tour of our new look and feel, but most of all I hope that you find it easier to zero in on your area of interest. My thanks to those on the team who evaluated the evolution and provided critical feedback: Lori, Kathie, Anne, Gail, Margaret and Barbara.

We've come a long way over the years. You can see a visual illustration of our progress on our [HKVCA Webs History](#) page.

Speaking of contributors... Lillian Roesch continues to research a multitude of sources regarding the members of 'C' Force, and she posts her findings on our [Facebook Group](#). Her efforts have spurred others to help out by providing

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

shoeboxes and attics. These old newsletters contain a wealth of information on events and individuals, so we're asking our readers to dig them out and share them with HKVCA.

### Thank You!

Creating, formatting and publishing this newsletter is only possible due to the interest and effort of our contributors and keen-eyed editorial staff. Thanks to you all.

information on various 'C' Force members, and allowed us to flesh out the Individual Reports. Thank you, Lillian!

### Quatre Ans d'Enfer- Four Years of Hell



In late May we received an email from the great-granddaughter of 'C' Force member [Robert McGinn](#). Sadie McGinn has been hard at work on a major family research project which forms part of her school curriculum. Her many hours of work have resulted in a fantastic slide presentation which has morphed into a Heritage Fair project, complete with storyboards. Her work is showcased on our site. [Pay a visit](#)

and be prepared to be impressed.

## Fighting it Out: Canadian Troops at Hong Kong and in Memory

We have a new addition to our Online library! Those of you who have viewed the video of our last [Virtual Event](#):

***Canadians in the Battle of Hong Kong: Myths and Memories*** will remember Brad St. Croix. He has now agreed for us to [feature his thesis on our site](#). For now, it's only available in Portable Document Format (PDF), but we hope to provide a web-friendly version soon.

### Zip..Zip

Work continues in fleshing out our Individual Reports on 'C' Force members. Thanks to Lillian's diligence and research, plus the help of others, we are working on providing a valuable addition to these reports. The information will be in the format of a "zip" file, which is simply a host file composed of a series of individual smaller files that are compressed. To get an idea of how this works and its value, visit my [father Charles Trick's 'C' Force Individual Report](#), and scroll down to the Additional Information block. Once there, you'll find a link to a zip file

## Older Than the RCAF - Hormidas Fredette

*By: Honorary Colonel  
Dan Hennessey,  
14 Construction Engineering Squadron*

(First printed in [The Aurora Newspaper](#), 14 Wing, Greenwood, NS - May 15, 2023. Reprinted by permission.)

When I first met Hormidas Fredette, it was after a call from a friend in 2021 asking if I would put on my uniform and visit a Second World War veteran in New Minas who had just turned 104.

I jumped at the chance to sit down with this incredible man, who not only survived the war but was actually a Japanese prisoner of war for almost four years after the fall of Hong Kong. We chatted for a long time, and he told me so many stories about his time as a POW and the terrible treatment and food he received. I told him I would come back and chat more on his 105th. He said, "It's a deal!" His sister lived to be 104, so he was planning to outdo her. I said I would be back, and for him not to do anything to mess up our plans.

In 2022, I again went back to chat on his 105<sup>th</sup> birthday, and found, while he may have aged on paper, he certainly hadn't in his ability to tell stories! When I was leaving, I said I would see him again on his 106th birthday, and he winked and smiled at me.

May 3, 2023, was my third time visiting this incredible man, and another opportunity to congratulate him as he turned 106! We talked more about those days so long ago and how

which, when downloaded and expanded, will reveal a series of supporting documents. Most computer systems recognize the "zip" format, but if you find you need to install the application, here is a link to [WinZip](#).

### War Trial Documents

We have been given a [Record of Trial](#) document composed of 426 pages which contains the testimony of some members of 'C' Force. It is in Portable Document Format (PDF). We will be working, over the next few months, to link various portions of it with the specific 'C' Force member's Individual Report.

### 'C' Force Members Date of Birth Announcements

Questions have come in regarding why we no longer celebrate 'C' Force members' dates of birth on our Facebook page. We used to announce these but we discontinued this practice on January 1, 2023 due to lack of views, coupled with the effort involved. Facebook members are encouraged to announce this milestone by posting the details in the group.

he has probably out-lived all of those he served with. He said someone had to stick around to tell their stories.



*New Minas Second World War veteran Hormidas Fredette can count, in recent years, on a birthday visit from 14 Construction Engineering Squadron Honorary Colonel Dan Hennessey. The men have already made plans to mark Fredette's 107th birthday in 2024.*

I had the honour to present Mr. Fredette with a Commander's Coin on behalf of 14 Wing Greenwood Commander Colonel Jeff Davis and Wing Chief Warrant Officer Jonathan Proulx. I also presented him with the new shoulder patch for 14 Wing, along with a Royal Canadian Air Force Legacy coin (we laughed when I told him the RCAF turns 100 next year: his response was that he is older than the Air Force!).

We both decided we should do this again next year, and we put May 3, 2024, in our calendars. Sir, I salute you as a true Canadian hero, and I am looking forward to our next visit.

(For more information, read Hormidas Fredette's [Individual Report](#) on our 'C' Force website.)

## Field Report: Dispatches from Hong Kong

By Jason W. M. Kelly

In the summer of 2021, I had the opportunity to relocate to Hong Kong with my family. As a member of the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association (HKVCA), I consider it my responsibility and privilege to constantly seek ways to highlight the invaluable contributions of our Canadian forces, ensuring that their sacrifices in defending Hong Kong remain remembered and respected.

Therefore, I am eager to serve as an active representative of the HKVCA here in Hong Kong and relay my stories back to all of you.

### Reopening of Museum

I had the distinct honour of representing our association at the grand re-opening of the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence on November 23rd, 2022. After being closed for four years due to the severe damage caused by Super Typhoon Mangkhut, the museum is rejuvenated in its historic location at 175 Tung Hei Road, Shau Kei Wan.



This reopening marked the introduction of a new, updated, revitalized permanent exhibit within the museum's historic redoubt, comprising 11 engaging galleries. Each gallery provides a window into different chapters of Hong Kong's coastal defence history, including the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the consequential Battle of Hong Kong.



*Resilient Return: Reopening of the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence*

As members of the HKVCA, you'll be particularly interested in a dedicated gallery that salutes the significant role Canadians played in the Battle of Hong Kong. This homage is a testament to the courage and resilience demonstrated by the Canadian veterans, whom we work diligently to commemorate, who endured those challenging times.

Having had the privilege of experiencing this grand reopening firsthand, I wholeheartedly encourage my fellow HKVCA members to visit this historic site when you are in Hong Kong. The museum offers insight into Hong Kong's history and heritage. It symbolizes international solidarity and resilience, reminding us in part of Canadians' profound impact in Hong Kong.

### Canadian Commemoration Ceremony

I was honoured to represent our association at the deeply moving Canadian Commemoration Ceremony at the Sai Wan War Cemetery on December 4th, 2022.



*Salute to Valour: The 75th Canadian Commemoration Ceremony at Sai Wan War Cemetery*

This solemn ceremony served as a tribute to the 1,975 heroic Canadians who took part in the Battle of Hong Kong and also as a memorial for the 550 brave souls who tragically lost their lives in battle or captivity. These events are a testament to these soldiers' incredible bravery and resilience.

The December 4th commemoration was of notable significance, as it marked the 75th such event since the initiation of this annual tribute back in 1947. These ceremonies over the decades have served as enduring reminders of the Canadian contribution towards the high price of peace.

As part of my role representing the HKVCA, I had the solemn responsibility of laying a wreath bearing our organization's name during the service. This act symbolized our continuous dedication to honouring Canadians' remarkable contributions to the Battle of Hong Kong and remembering those brave Canadians who fought on the frontline.

### **Ancestor's Day**

I had the unique opportunity to attend the Purkha Divas, or Ancestor's Day, ceremony on April 5th, 2023. This significant event, held alongside the Ching Ming Festival, honours the service and sacrifice of the Gurkha who were stationed here in Hong Kong.

While the Gurkhas did not participate in the Battle of Hong Kong, their vital role in border protection and as the main

defence force under the British from 1948 to 1997 is well-recognized. The Gurkhas' contributions have earned them a prominent place in the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, alongside Canadians and other valiant defenders of Hong Kong.

The annual Purkha Divas event occurs at the Gurkha Cemetery within the former Cassino Lines Military Camp (now used by the PLA and known as the San Tin Barracks), a place of rest, similar to the Sai Wan War Cemetery, that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission works to maintain. This solemn ceremony pays homage to the Gurkhas who served Hong Kong, with approximately 700 marked graves serving as a silent testament to their sacrifice.

Though my participation in the ceremony was unofficial, I proudly donned my HKVCA blazer and conveyed our association's deep respect for these brave souls. I aspire to attend next year's event in an official capacity, laying a wreath on behalf of the HKVCA to honour these veterans. While their service period differs from that of the Canadians we commemorate, their dedication and bravery in defending Hong Kong equally deserve remembrance.



*Unity in Remembrance: The Purkha Divas 2023 Ceremony in Hong Kong*



## **The 78th Anniversary of the end of war in the Pacific**

*Ian Englehart*

The Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association will be hosting a commemorative ceremony on August 12, 2023 at 11:00 am, to

honour the Veterans of the Defense of Hong Kong and to mark the 78th year of Victory over Japan at the end of the Second World War.

The ceremony will be held at the Hong Kong Veterans Memorial Wall located at the corner of Sussex Dr. and King Edward Ave, Ottawa. Free parking is available at the National Research Council of Canada parking lot across the street.

If you would like to lay a family wreath, please let Ian Englehart know at [habs1993@rogers.com](mailto:habs1993@rogers.com) by August 7th 2023 and provide the name of the veteran for whom you are laying a wreath, as well as your name, so we can announce it during the family wreath laying portion of the ceremony.

## Our visit to Botwood, NL



*Gail Angel*

In September 2022, I travelled to Newfoundland for a 2 week vacation with my husband Reg, my sister Jo-Anne Scaffidi, and my father Derrill Henderson. On our must-do list were visits to Botwood

and Gander.

Why Botwood? My grandfather, [Stewart Henderson](#), was in the Royal Rifles HQ company, Pioneer Platoon. In November 1939, HQ company was sent to Botwood. Their job was to construct all the necessary buildings to add sufficient capacity to the existing base. Job done, they went on to Gander to help with the construction of the airport.

Once the infrastructure was in place, Company A and D joined them, splitting time between Botwood and Gander on an alternating schedule. Company B and C were the last to arrive in NL and were only stationed in Gander. The RRC left NL in August 1941.

Their orders were to guard Botwood and Gander against possible enemy attack. Botwood is at the

head of the Bay of Exploits about 20 miles from the open sea. In Botwood, they had 3 jobs: harbour security, inspection of all incoming vessels, and protection of the A.N.D. railway, used to convey supplies from Canada to the forces in Newfoundland. When you think about it, it is an interesting situation. At that time, Newfoundland was a country; Canadians who served in NL were given the Defense of

After the ceremony, we will be going to the Lord Elgin Hotel, 100 Elgin Street, Grill 41 for lunch. Hopefully, you can join us. Please email Ian Englehart at [habs1993@rogers.com](mailto:habs1993@rogers.com) to confirm your attendance for lunch. The closest underground parking is at Ottawa City Hall 110 Laurier Ave. W. Weekends: 6 am to 6 pm: \$1.00 per hour/\$2.00 max. There is also underground parking 3 blocks away at the World Exchange Plaza, 45 O'Connor Street, \$8 on weekends.

Canada Medal. Phil Doddridge wrote about this time in his personal account “Memories Uninvited” on the HKVCA website.

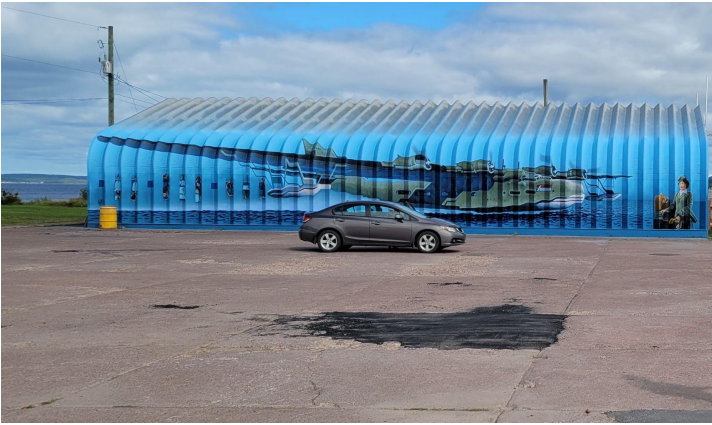
<https://www.hkvca.ca/memoriesuninvited/Chapter%203.php>

Now you know why we wanted to visit the Botwood Heritage Museum and the Botwood Flying Boat Museum. We were quite disappointed to learn that they were closed as the tourist season ended with Labour Day weekend; we were 10 days too late! Trying to stay cheerful, we shrugged our shoulders and headed to lunch at the Island Breezes Cafe.

In the cafe, Jo-Anne started chatting with a lady and explained how we had hoped to visit the Heritage Center, along with a little bit of our family connection. That started a series of events. We were given a phone number and told to ask for Steve. Steve gave us a different number, which led to Lisa Hemeon saying: “Stay right there, I’ll be there in 10 minutes.”



*Derrill, Lisa, Gail and Jo-Anne at the entrance to the museum. Photo: Reg Angel*



*Mural on the side of the museum. Photo: Reg Angel*

Botwood was a town long before Gander existed, yet very small. At the start of WWII, the Botwood area had a population of 1000. To learn more about this interesting town, I highly recommend that you watch the CBC's Still Standing episode about Botwood.

<https://gem.cbc.ca/media/still-standing/s06e08>

Other things I learned:

- Gander (Pal) was born in Botwood
- The first act of war in North America happened in Botwood when a German freighter was docked on the day war was declared, and the crew were taken as POWs and sent to St. John's.
- With each ship that docked, it was common for one or two of the crew to be taken as a POW because they weren't allowed in the country of Newfoundland.
- During surveillance, a German submarine was spotted in the Bay of Exploits, and was the target of the first shot fired by RRC outside of training.

So, back to our story. Lisa unlocked the Museum and spent over an hour with us. Then she called another fellow, the

## Memorial Wall - Adding a QR code

*Gail Angel*

If you have ever visited the Hong Kong Veterans Memorial Wall in Ottawa, you'll know that the only information is a plaque that was written by Parks Canada. It was created for an installation that was planned in Hong Kong, but those plans changed. The Memorial Wall project was in progress, so Parks Canada (courtesy of the late Ian Doull) offered it to the HKVCA.

We've started exploring the idea of installing a QR code on site so that visitors can learn more about the monument. They have been around for many years, and lately have been used in

volunteer museum guide, to come give us a proper tour of the museum and the Heritage Center. He spent hours with us.

Botwood has a very impressive photo archive. If you have more information about any of these, please comment on the Botwood Heritage Facebook page, and share it with us on our Facebook page also.

1940 tents

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2958081220870034&set=a.2961458647198958>

Barracks on airbase

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2958081454203344&set=a.2961458647198958>

July 1941 aerial

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2958100304201459&set=a.2961458647198958>

Barracks under construction

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2959790407365782&set=a.2961458647198958>

Royal Rifles posing on engine 12

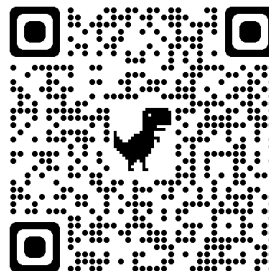
<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2959824050695751&set=a.2961458647198958>

There are a few photos on the HKVCA website from this time. If anyone has others to contribute, we'd love to have them!

[William Tuppert, 1940](#)

[William Tuppert on parade](#)

[Platoon No. 3, HQ Company Sergeant supervising handling of 2 inch mortar](#)



more places. A QR code is a graphical representation of a web address, called a URL. For example, this image will direct you to [www.hkvca.ca](http://www.hkvca.ca), the HKVCA Home page.

*QR Code. Screenshot by Gail Angel*



*Hong Kong Memorial Wall, Ottawa. Photo: HKVCA Image Gallery*

The idea is that by posting a QR code on the site, visitors can scan the image with their smartphone and be brought to information that the HKVCA controls.

As the project lead, with assistance from Derrill Henderson, I have begun conversations with Heritage Canada to identify what is required and what costs we should expect. Our first meeting was full of good information, and they have forwarded several other resources. They will also assist in getting the necessary approvals efficiently.

Stay tuned for more updates as the project progresses.

## HKVCA Indigenous Project Update



*Pamela Heinrichs*

In the last six months or so we have had much behind-the-scenes work going on with respect to the Indigenous Veterans Project. As a result of further research we now have 83 Indigenous members of 'C' Force identified and added to the Indigenous Veterans page.

As mentioned in the President's Message, we have secured funding for our Project - this is very exciting news and we are looking forward to moving ahead with our research!

As always, if you have information to share about an Indigenous 'C' Force member known to you, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Wishing everyone a wonderful summer and looking forward to moving ahead on this project!

## Prairie Prose



*Carol Hadley*

Greetings to HKVCA members.

Well we finally have some summer weather in Manitoba and hopefully across this wonderful country. Enjoy and rejuvenate as you enjoy your time

with family and friends.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of George MacDonell from Ontario. He was an interesting man and continued to give back to our country after his service. We will remember him.

With his passing, the "Sunset Clause" has come into effect and there will be more information on this elsewhere. This is a sad time to see the veterans' association dissolve.

Thankfully the veterans encouraged the "kids" and family/friends to form the HKVCA to continue their legacy.

God bless them all.

We had a very informative Annual General Meeting. It's always interesting to meet with the Board and other members, however it would be nicer in person. Many of the items will be included in this newsletter.

Prairie Region is back to monthly meetings at Smitty's Restaurant on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. We are pleased to have Barry Mitchell back as he recovers from a broken arm/shoulder. Thank you to Kathie Carlson who communicates with area reps in Alberta and Saskatchewan.



Prairie Region has some ongoing projects like:

- Dedicating the Dryden ON plaque on June 20
- Creating a banner dedicated to the Japanese POW camps
- A banner showing places with dedications to the HKV
- We have discussed an Indigenous/Metis banner as this project progresses - might be a National project.
- **Lawn Signs** - Judy Preston in Russell, MB is coordinating the project. She can be reached by email - [prestons@mymts.net](mailto:prestons@mymts.net) and the cost can be sent to her by e-transfer or cheque as the postage and handling charge will need to be added.
- We continue to work with Last Post Fund to identify unmarked or damaged HKV graves.
- Barry Mitchell is working with Pr Paul Lampman on duplicating the Colours at St. Lukes Church.
- Initiating plans for VJ Day on **Saturday, August 19**. We will have a brief service in the Field of Honour, wreath laying, then adjourn to Neil Bardal Centre for a Reception. More information to come.
- Stephanie Mitchell is working with Lori Smith on the HK grave markers project. More information to come.
- Requesting permission to have the Hong Kong Veterans flag fly at the Cenotaph in Winnipeg for the months of August and December.

- Thank you to Stan Lopata and Alex Taylor for manning our display at the Red River Heritage Fair in May. Well done.
- Several members in Alberta attended the play "Sakamoto" in Calgary. Thank you to Norma Fuchs for sending me the playbill. If anyone hears of the play showing elsewhere please let us know.
- Kathie Carlson has submitted a proposal to the Board for improving the War Museum display. I believe Mike Babin is working on something. I know we all would like to see more information on this.

We were saddened to learn of our members' passing and extend our sincere condolences to the families. The list will be in another part of the newsletter and we thank the family members for keeping us informed.

**Marg Auld**, wife of George Auld H6711, WG HK vet passed on May 4, 2023. Son Greg Auld, HKVCA member, notified us of her passing.

We wish you all a wonderful summer and hope you stay in touch with what you are doing. Take care.

God Bless!

## Ontario Offerings



*Shelagh Purcell*

Celebrating 100 years of birthdays on March 27th was a wonderful occasion for Oda Barlow. She was happy to report that more than 100 people gathered at the Royal Hotel in Picton, ON. , happy to be able to see family

and friends again. Good food and music added to the afternoon. Oda is living in Picton now with family close by. (Edwin Barlow, RCASC)

Gloria Fortune (Herbert Fortune, WG) has good and bad days with some health issues at 94 years. Daughter Vicky says she still looks for the newsletter and memories of the Hong Kong picnics come up - including the sailor hats with Hong Kong written on them.

Vicky had watched the program "Myths", part of the HKVCA series, and was upset to hear that the display at the War Museum in Ottawa was minimal and dated. Discussions have started to put a committee together to see if changes can be made.

Irene Firlotte (Lawrence Firlotte, RRC) is doing well, having turned 97. Daughter Susan said she has some health issues but still likes to keep in touch.

Donna Drimmie (Victor Oliver Fehr, RRC) spoke about her father leaving Canada with the Winnipeg Grenadiers and halfway to Hong Kong being transferred to the Royal Rifles. He was also two weeks later than the Canadians leaving Hong Kong.

Barry Fair (Grey Fair, RRC) always provides a little more history of the time after the RRC came home to Canada. There are so many tales still to be told.

Susan Ewing (Kenneth Ewing, RRC) still deals with the results of her hip operation, she looks forward to weekend family visits with the nicer weather now coming.

Mavis Martin (John Martin, RRC) enjoys her new residence in Kemptville. She hopes to have Joanne, whose father was in Hong Kong, get together with Mavis' family and perhaps share some pictures and stories.

Jim Hurd (Edmund Lionel Hurd, RRC) has been following reports of the exhibition of Bury, Quebec's military history.

Held March 25 & 26, it traced the era of 1866 to the present with displays at the Bury Armory, organized by the Bury Historical and Heritage Society. Canada's involvement in Hong Kong was included.

Grace Thornton (Howard Thornton, WG) spoke about coming to Canada from Scotland and the difference here with no rations and an easier life. It's interesting to remember those earlier days.

Barbara Cunningham Drew (Winston Cunningham, CDC) is doing fine. When she heard about the comments on the War Museum display, she said her daughter had made similar comments. Barbara said to keep her informed if a committee is formed.

Jean Killoran (John Killoran, RRC) wishes she had more energy but reminds me that she's 95 years old. No regrets though, she says she had a good husband and a good life.



### What's In a Name?

*by Fred Edmund Hurd, son of Captain "Edmund" Lionel Hurd RRC*

Is there significance in a name or date of birth?

Many of those who enlisted in the armed forces in both world wars did not always articulate their

names correctly or their names were simply recorded incorrectly. Some even lied about their age to volunteer or even went to another town to enlist where they were unknown. Their correct names and birth dates are important for domestic reasons but also for historical records.

Hong Kong veteran Captain "Edmund" Lionel Hurd RRC was the tenth Edmund descendant from a family of men and women who over nine generations had experienced a long history of upheaval and survival. There is an unbroken line of Edmund Heard/Hurd's dating back to the first inhabitants in the New England Colonies in 1636. Hong Kong veteran, Edmund Lionel Hurd RRC, had three generations of ancestors who would serve in the Military for their new country prior to Canada's designation as a country in 1867.

### Apologies needed yet again!

*By Lori Atkinson Smith*

I have always felt names and spelling of names is very important. December 2022 and March 2023 HKVCA newsletters noted Captain "Edmund" Lionel Hurd, RRC first as Edwin. And then Edward. My sincerest apologies.

## Quebec Region Report



*Lucette Mailloux Muir*

Greetings everyone from Quebec Region.

The executive members continue to hold their meetings, unfortunately still on Zoom at this time. Things are still on the quiet side.

We thank our membership for their continued support with their donations and

by renewing their membership.

On May 4, 2023 an interment of ashes ceremony was held for Philip Doddridge in New Richmond, QC. A graveside ceremony took place led by his comrades of the Royal Canadian Legion, Br. 172 of Cascapedia St-Jules/New Richmond. It was a very emotional ceremony on a cold, windy and cloudy day.

Prayers were read. There was a beautiful song, Poppy Drop by all attendees, eulogies and the ceremony closed with the "Tobacco Ceremony".

Derrill Henderson, National Secretary of the HKVA, his daughter Jo-Anne, Ontario HKVCA member and yours truly Lucette Mailloux Muir, Director of the HKVCA, QC Region were in attendance as well as family, veterans and many friends. Later many gathered for a light lunch and sharing of memories, anecdotes of times spent with Phil through the years, ending with "À la prochaine" as he very often closed his presentations or reports.

**WE WILL REMEMBER THEM !**

With summer here we wish you all an enjoyable and safe summer.

## Membership Report

As of May 2023, here are our Membership stats:

Region	R	V	W	Total
Atl	55	1	4	60
BC	18		9	27
ON	129		13	142
Pr	177		16	193
QC	54		17	71
Totals:	433	1	59	493

### Membership Up to Date?

Take a moment to make sure that you're a paid-up member of HKVCA. Not sure? [Contact us](#) via email or at the address below. Our membership form plus a list of membership reps is published on the last page of this newsletter for your convenience, or take the easy route and visit our online [Membership page](#) to pay by e-transfer.

## Summer Special Sale

### Hong Kong Veterans Merchandise

Lapel Pin.....\$5.00	<b>Books</b>
License Plate Holder (front plate).....\$5.00	Dark Side of the Sun..... \$20.00
Gravestone Marker.....\$75.00	'C' Force—Decorations, Medals, Awards.....\$20.00
Winnipeg Grenadier Tie.....\$20.00	One Soldier's Story.....\$20.00
Flag / Banner (36" x 45").....\$100.00	No Reason Why.....\$20.00
WG Honour Roll - Colour - (ready to frame).....\$20.00	Beyond the Call.....\$20.00
DVD: Slaves of the Rising Sun.....\$10.00	

To order, send cheque to HKVCA, P.O. Box 381, Winnipeg MB R3C 2H6  
OR  
Interac e-transfer to [hkvca.pr@gmail.com](mailto:hkvca.pr@gmail.com)

## Announcements

### Reminder: RCMi Military History Night

The HKVCA is proud to partner once again with the Royal Canadian Military Institute in Toronto for one of the RCMi's Military History Night events. The featured speaker will be Jon Reid, son of Capt John Reid, one of the Canadian doctors who cared for 'C' Force soldiers in Hong Kong and Japan.

The event will be held on **Wednesday, June 14** at the RCMi, 426 University Ave, Toronto. It will begin at 7 pm, and all HKVCA members and guests are invited to attend.

Due to space limitations in this printed copy, some detail that appears in the online version has been omitted, and some photos cropped and resized.

**Please note:** underlined words in articles refer to links that are active in our online version or are active if you view our PDF copy on screen.

Want to contact us by mail? Here is our postal address:

HKVCA  
Suite 164  
1826 Robertson Road  
Ottawa, ON K2H 1B9

Lifetime Members (Veterans, Widows) - please disregard this page.

## Regular Membership Application and Renewal Form

### Regular Members - Have you renewed for 2023?

#### New and Renewing Members

Please complete this form annually (for the purpose of updating our Membership database)  
Dues ~ New or Renewing Member Dues - \$20 per Year  
(Veterans and/or Widows do NOT pay Dues)

#### Member Information - Please Print Clearly

Type of Membership (Circle One): New Renewing  
Veteran Widow

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (Include Area Code) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Use my Email address to notify me of HKVCA events and newsletters. (circle one) Yes | No (By choosing yes, I understand I will not receive a paper copy of the newsletter by mail.)

#### Relationship to Veteran

Veteran's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Regiment \_\_\_\_\_ Regimental Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of death (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship (Circle One) Veteran Wife/Widow  
Son/Daughter Brother/Sister Grandson/Granddaughter  
Friend

Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

It's up to you - [online](#) or Canada Post.

#### Parent Region

Choose which Region you wish to administer your membership (you will automatically receive Regional news (when published) in addition to the National newsletter)

Circle One Choice: Atlantic | Quebec | Ontario | Prairie | BC

Make Cheque for Membership Dues (\$20.00) or  
Donations Payable to

**Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association**  
(use the full name)

Mail to: (choose the appropriate address for your Parent Region from those below.

#### Membership Reps

Atlantic Region Andy Flanagan 91 Hodgin Street East Belledune, NB E8G 2E4	Quebec Region Lucette Mailloux-Muir 18 rue Barre Granby, QC J2H 2E6
Ontario Region Ms. Lori Atkinson Smith 946 Wyldewood Rd. Sherkston, ON L0S 1R0	Prairie Region Barry Mitchell P.O. Box 381 Winnipeg, MB R3C 2H6
BC Region Murray Doull 258 Elliott Road Clearwater BC V0E 1N2	