Logistician receives CAF CWO coin

By Capt S.V. Oakley

On 3 Oct 19, the Canadian Armed Forces Chief Warrant Officer, CWO J.A. Guimond, presented Cpl Brian Levert, 2IC of the Finance Cell at the Canadian Forces School of Aerospace Technology and Engineering (CFSATE) with the Canadian Armed Forces Chief Warrant Officer’s Coin in recognition of his exceptional dedication and leadership during an extended period of extreme staff shortages.

The citation reads as follows:

“Cpl Levert is a dedicated and highly-motivated FSA who is indispensable to CFSATE. He readily assumed additional duties, and a much heavier workload, when 3 finance positions became vacant. A consummate professional, he executed numerous last-minute requests including arranging travel and processing claims on short deadlines. Cpl Levert has proven himself to be a strong leader, stepping into the role of Sr FSA when his supervisor was posted out of CFSATE without being replaced. His contributions to CFSATE cannot be overstated. BZ, Cpl Levert.”
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Gold Medal win for Gagetown cook

by: Stéphanie Duchesne, Base Gagetown Public Affairs

It wasn’t a culinary contest that saw this Base Gagetown cook bring home a gold medal. It was a triathlon at the 2019 World Military Games. Master Corporal Alexandre Boulé won gold in the Seniors Men Individual Triathlon with a time of 1 hour, 57 minutes and 10 seconds. It was well over 2 minutes faster than the silver medalist from France. Canada won gold in the Seniors Mixed Team Triathlon, of which MCpl Boulé was a member, along with another man and a woman. Their individual times combined garnered our country’s first place win.

Over one hundred countries participated this year. “Knowing the Canadian Armed Forces encourage and support sports was a factor in my decision to join the military,” states MCpl Boulé who was aware of military sports and had some contacts with the national military team prior to becoming a member.

A runner first and foremost for over 30 years now, MCpl Boulé began his journey into triathlons about 10 years ago. That coincides with the number of years he has been serving as a Royal Canadian Air Force Cook. Hailing from Saguenay, Québec, he has been serving with the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment, at Base Gagetown for the last two years. Having worked in the food and service industry as a barman, transitioning to the Cook trade in the Canadian Armed Forces was an obvious choice, and knowing that the opportunity to pursue his sport would be available, played a key role in his decision. “As a civilian, I had to pay my own travel expenses to participate in national or international competitions. Those expenses could range from three to four thousand dollars every time. Now my travelling is paid for and I don’t even have to use vacation days.”

MCpl Boulé is grateful for the support he has received so far to train and compete in triathlons. He averages about 15 hours of weekly training, six to seven days a week. Endurance training can see him train 20 to 30 hours per week while speed training usually involves 15 to 20 hours of training per week. Pre-competition training is seven days a week. In the winter months he does some weight training. Not bad for a member over 40!

Held in Wuhan, China, these were the 7th Military World Games. CISM is the International Military Sports Council and it hosts military world games every 4 years, always one year before the Olympic Summer Games. His sights are now set on the World (Continued on page 4)
Gold Medal win for Gagetown cook

(Continued from page 3)

MCpl Alexandre Boulé stands in the Base Gagetown Headquarters on 26 November 2019 proudly wearing the two gold medals he won at the 2019 Military World Games which were held from 18 to 28 October 2019. Photo by: LS Karine Charette-Gourlie, Base Gagetown Public Affairs

Military Championships in Spain next June. MCpl Boulé knows that upcoming military exercises might have an impact on his training, but it is all part of the deal, and he is good with that. “I’d also like to deploy,” he says, knowing that deployment on operations is a critical part of serving in the CAF.

A triathlon consists of a 1.5 km swim, 40 km of cycling and a 10 km run.

MCpl Boulé was a special guest at the 31st Annual Canadian Armed Forces Sports Award Ceremony held on November 28th, 2019 at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.
As 2019 draws to a close, there is much to reflect upon as a community of professionals. The Royal Canadian Navy remains a key participant in achieving Government of Canada objectives both at home and abroad. Whether conducting sovereignty, fishery and surveillance patrols or on security and stability missions. RCN Logisticians are there, both at sea and ashore, playing a vital role in all of these endeavours. You continued to rise to the challenges posed by the demands placed on you to support the RCN and the Canadian Armed Forces. We want to take this moment to express our gratitude to you and to highlight the pride that we have in the work that all of you do each and every day. We also want to thank all of the members of your families who support you and endure the extended absences which is equally as challenging. You, and your families, are all deserving of Canada’s gratitude and an unequivocal BZ.

2020 will bring with it new and exciting challenges as the RCN’s Future Fleet continues to take shape and progress. The RCN will continue to focus on the mandate laid out in the “Strong Secure Engaged” Defence Policy. Ships will continue to deploy on operations, at home and abroad, and rest assured Logisticians will be there. The interim AOR, MV Asterix, is busy on operations and RCN Logisticians are there. The HMCS Harry De Wolfe, first of its class, will sail this summer and with it, the introduction of new RCN arctic capability and commensurate support requirements. The Canadian Surface Combatant project continues apace, and RCN Logisticians are there to support the project and help define concepts of support. RCN Logisticians are also rapidly evolving our ability to leverage analytics, technology and prepare for the modernization of our logistics systems in an increasingly complex operational environment. We have great confidence that you will continue to deliver logistics support on an ongoing basis within and to the Fleet on a daily basis. Ships, submarines and sailors will continue to deploy around the world - in large measure - due to your commitment and dedication to service.

Finally, please take time during this holiday season to rest, recharge and cherish your family, friends and loved ones. We wish all of you the best during the holiday season and good fortune in the new year to come.

Capt (N) Bruce Creighton
Director Naval Logistics

CPO1 Barry Eady
Senior Naval Logistician (NCM)
With Christmas now upon us and a new year around the corner, I’d like to reflect on my first few months in the chair and the year ahead. It’s that time of year again where days have become shorter, with longer and darker nights, providing an opportunity to gaze at Christmas lights around our neighbourhoods bringing cheer and joy while we all look forward to some well-earned time off. During this seasonal joy, we also have the opportunity to pause and reflect on the year past and the year ahead.

For myself, having had the great fortune to be appointed by the Commander Canadian Army on 15 August 2019 to the post familiarly known as Director Army Log, I have had the wonderful opportunity to meet and converse with our soldiers, sailors and aviators across a highly challenging fall period, through Meet & Greets, Merit and Succession Boards, to speaking with members of the Advanced Logistics Officer Course. It has also provided me exceptional occasions to work with the RCLS-I/A in shaping our future while enabling the RCLS work within the Canadian Army. In shaping the RCLS future within the Army, I have been able to work together with an exceptional individual, CWO David Trepanier, who keeps me on the straight and narrow, explaining the nuances of NCO Succession Planning.

It’s clear to me that we have much to be proud of, and we are committed to ensure that our members are supported the best way possible, while simultaneously meeting the needs of the CAF, Canadian Army and the RCLS. The future promises exciting opportunities to build on our current past efforts.

On behalf of CWO Trepanier and myself, I would like to wish you a safe and relaxing festive holiday.

Col Patrick Feuerherm
Director Canadian Army RCLS

CWO David Trepanier
Canadian Army RCLS Chief
Human resources case study: The Canadian Expeditionary Forces’ recruitment and training in the Great War

Simon D.H. Wells, P.Log Sergeant
4th Canadian Division Headquarters

At the beginning of the Great War, the Canadian Army (CA) was forced to raise an unprecedented number of unskilled volunteers to support Britain’s war effort. The CA’s planning and execution was surprisingly successful, especially in comparison to its more experienced and resource-capable allies. The Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) fought effectively in the Great War because the Canadian recruiting, training, and transportation systems effectively generated and supported soldiers.

The Canadian military excelled at force generation, force development, and force employment. At the outbreak of war, the Canadian Army consisted of 3,000 regular force soldiers and 70,000 militiamen, expanding to a final total of five divisions (including one dissolved as a reserve), totalling almost 425,000 soldiers from a national population of just 7.5 million. Expanding to over 500% of its original capacity, counting over 5% of the national population in its ranks, it was an extraordinary recruitment success.

The original Order in Council dated August 10th, 1914 called for an initial contingent of only 25,000 - that order was met and exceeded 16 times over.

The CEF’s intent for strategic human resource management was to raise “a small but competent professional staff capable of planning and directing the organization and dispatch of contingents” for deployment to the front. Their recruiting, intake, training, and operational planning hinged on experienced leadership effectively managing the new force.

A military camp was erected, at what is now Canadian Forces Base Valcartier, which began receiving the first recruits on 18 August 1914. Within a month the base held almost 33,000 soldiers. The logistical capacity to receive such a number of personnel so rapidly is a testament to the small, capable professional staff directing the CEF. There were heroic efforts before our forces even arrived in Europe: RMS Olympic, a fabled Canadian-operated troop transport, ferried over 60,000 troops to Europe in the latter half of 1916 alone and had a submarine kill credited to her.

By the final year of the war, Britain relied heavily on her Allies – especially Canada. The “freshest and most aggressive soldiers came primarily from Canada…they became Great Britain’s manpower reserves and shock troops on the Western Front. The Canadian Corps, in particular, could justifiably claim to be the best large unit on the Western Front during the campaign that ended the war.”


Nicholson, p. 821.
Ibid., p. 822.

Ibid., p. 822.

Human resources case study: The Canadian Expeditionary Forces’ recruitment and training in the Great War

Photo: Training at Valcartier (Canadian War Museum).

Photo: Group of Seven painter Arthur Lismer’s “Olympic with Returned Soldiers” (1918), canonized the troop ship’s place in Haligonian and Canadian history.
Mission Closure for Op PRESENCE

By Captain Donald Viel

From the 1st of August 2019 to approximately the end of October 2019, approximately 20 members of 3 Canadian Support Unit (3 CSU) were deployed to Mali as part of the Joint Task Force Support Component (JTFSC), with the mandate to close out the portion of the Op PRESENCE mission located in Gao, Mali.

Most of our members were integrated into the Logistics Platoon, which was composed of mainly CSS trades, like maintenance, ammunition, and supply. From the moment we arrived in theatre, the team faced many challenges during their long days in often higher than 40 degrees Celsius temperatures. The first challenge was that the ATF mission was extended to the end of August, which meant that we could not get our hands on most of the material until midnight of 31 August. We took advantage of the time to pre-identify, pre-count, and pre-position as much materiel as we could without interfering with the Aviation Battalion’s readiness. The disadvantage was that the JTFSC end date was not extended, thus time to process material was severely compressed compared to what was planned from the beginning.

The main mission of the Platoon was to establish a production line in order to return CAF equipment to various final destinations within mission mandated timelines. Functions of the Platoon included reception of all materiel in Gao, which enabled the identification of surpluses and deficiencies, and inspections to ensure that equipment was serviceable. The aforementioned steps were critical to the main mission of getting equipment back to Canada. The equipment was required so that it could be reconstituted and used by units deploying on future missions or conducting FG activities. During the closure, 6562 line items with a total 563,947 “items” were verified and returned by the Production Line.

Certainly, this deployment was a “wakeup call” for many on the difficulties in conducting operations in a desert environment. However, they all demonstrated perseverance and resilience throughout the mandate. Some members of the team even got the opportunity to display their leadership skills in overcoming various obstacles. In conclusion, despite the dust and heat, and extension, this closure was successful and enriching for 3 CSU members.
On the Road to Professionalization! Next Stop: SCMP™ Designation

By Maj Janaya Hansen

During a ceremony on 26 November, 2019 at Canadian Forces Base Borden, Supply Chain Canada™ and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) through which CAF Logistics Officers who have completed Supply Officer training gain advanced standing toward the Supply Chain Management Professional™ (SCMP™) designation.

"Logistics Officers must prepare intellectually and professionally to meet the challenges of a complex and evolving defence supply chain," said Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon Bennett, Commandant of the Canadian Forces Logistics Training Centre (CFLTC). “Practical experience has shown over and over that military training alone is not enough. This Memorandum of Understanding acknowledges Supply Officer training qualifications towards advanced standing in the SCMP Designation. This recognizes the training and practical experience many Supply Officers possess, while allowing professional development opportunities to enhance knowledge in supply chain management.”

Supply Chain Canada’s SCMP Designation Program™ comprises multi-module, multi-workshop coursework, the intensive 4-day SCMP Leadership Residency™, and the case-based SCMP National Exam™. Through the new agreement, CAF Logistics Officers who have completed Supply Officer training are immediately exempt from 50 percent of the SCMP Designation Program coursework.

“Canada’s future economic success will be strengthened by recognizing that our Canadian soldiers receive world-class education and training during their military careers and are highly skilled in supply chain areas such as logistics,” said Christian Buhagiar, President and CEO of Supply Chain Canada.

For more information, please visit https://www.supplychaincanada.com

MOU signing with Supply Chain Canada. (Photo credit: CFLTC)
Operation Support Hub

Maj Cindy McLeod

Operation Support Hub – South West Asia (OSH-SWA) is home to more than 120 logisticians in support of operations throughout the Middle East. Our tasks are mainly in support of Op IMPACT (Iraq), but the OSH also surges personnel and materiel into Qatar, Lebanon, and Jordan. Providing base survivability and real life support to the residents of Camp CANADA is one of many responsibilities the OSH-SWA completes on a daily basis. In addition, the OSH-SWA surges its centralized support into the Joint Operations Area (JOA) with multiple services and effects, such as supply, transport, CMTT, postal, contracting, HRA/FSA, role 1 patient support and additional care coordination requirements, engineer capabilities, helpdesk and network services. Finally, the OSH-SWA addresses diplomatic and visa requirements, as well as PSP morale and welfare capabilities.

Camp CANADA logisticians celebrated the royal designation of the Royal Canadian Logistics Service on 16 October 2019 with an afternoon get-together enjoyed by all. Roto 1 of Joint Task Force Impact Operational Support Hub – South West Asia will end mid December 2019, sending this fine crew home just in time for Christmas.

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Photo: The Operational Support Hub – South West Asia took a moment to celebrate the 1st anniversary of receiving the Royal designation of Royal Canadian Logistics Service from the Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada Julie Payette.
Graduation – A Memorable and Relevant Moment?

By WO Olivier Dumas, CFLTC

On November 21st, CFLTC Supply Cadre decided to innovate by creating a competition to replace the standard graduation parade format for the RQ Private Supply Technician courses. The intent of CFLTC Commander was to create a memorable and relevant moment for the students completing the course. The permanent members of the Supply Cadre have opted for a new graduation formula that incorporates esprit de corps, physical activity and military history. The competition consisted of 2 parts. The students were initially transported to the Trans Canada Trail in Minesing Ontario. There, bivouac equipment was waiting for them. Each course was to develop a 5 minutes strategy to transport the material over a distance of 3 kilometers to Fort Willow. After several lively discussions, the 3 courses started the race towards Fort Willow. It was at this time that the teaching staff denoted the great resourcefulness and eagerness of the new Logisticians. After a hotly contested race, members of the 3 courses met at Fort Willow. At this place began the second phase of the competition. Each course was to complete a questionnaire on the War of 1812, Fort Willow and the RQ Private Supply Technician course. It was at this point that the students understood the meaning and importance of the site of their graduation. Fort Willow was a supply depot during the War of 1812. This site played a crucial role in Canadian history and is, in a way, the sanctuary for Supply Technicians. The day ended with the presentation of cap badges to students in order to formalize their entry into the Royal Canadian Logistics Service.

Photo: Students working on their War of 1812 History and Supply Logistics Quiz. Pte Claveau takes the lead in completing her team’s history quiz. As part of their graduation tasks, RQ Private students had to complete a quiz on the war of 1812 and the importance of Fort Willow as a Supply Depot during the war. (Photo credit: WO Dale Lalonde)
Graduation – A Memorable and Relevant Moment?

Photo: Creative Ways to move supplies in the field. Pte Patino-Gomez and Pte Arango-Morales move supplies on a 2 Km trail at Fort Willow. This was part of the final competition the RQ Private Candidates got involved in as part of their Graduation on 21 Nov 19. (Photo credit: WO Dale Lalonde)

Photo: Supply RQ Private Students Graduation photo at Historical Fort Willow. 68 students from the Navy, Army and Air Force completed their RQ Private course. In the photo Staff and Students gathered for a group photo (Photo credit: WO Dale Lalonde)
Creativity on the menu for the CFLTC Mess Dinner

By Maj Janaya Hansen

On November 5th 2019 at CFB Borden, the Canadian Forces Logistics Training Centre (CFLTC) held its annual mess dinner. The guests of honour were Brigadier-General Carla Harding, Director General Support at Canadian Joint Operations Command, and CFLTC Honorary Colonel Barry Peacock. This traditional dinner, which promotes cohesion and esprit de corps, took place under the theme ‘Think Differently’.

The Commandant, Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Bennett’s intent was to promote an innovative approach to military traditions. To this end, the dinner took place at CFLTC Cook School at 13h00 on a Tuesday. Places were not assigned and, once seated, guests were given the opportunity to introduce themselves to their neighbours before the first course. Afterwards, and throughout the meal, troops were served before the head table.

Instead of using a gavel to draw the guests’ attention, the master of ceremony used various percussion instruments, including cymbals, at any moment during the dinner. After each course, some participants were invited to change place with other guests. BGen Harding even gave up her seat at the head table to a Master Corporal and sat with the troops. During toasts, cranberry juice replaced the port and the March of the Logistics Branch was performed on the xylophone by Master-Corporal Charlie MacLeod. At the end of the meal, RQ Private candidates received their cap badges and RQ Corporal candidates received their course certificates from BGen Harding and LCol Bennett, while getting a resounding round of applause from the members of the unit.

If the laughter, enthusiasm, and animated conversations that took place throughout the mess dinner are any indication, we may have instituted new traditions at CFLTC.
Season’s greetings to you fellow logisticians!

It is that time of year again where the shorter days, longer nights, and colder temperatures let us know that winter is at our doorsteps. Of course, this also implies that we’re just about to turn the page on the year but before we do so, let’s take this opportunity to look back and take stock of 2019 in the RCLS.

Needless to say that the beginning of 2019 was also the end of our 50th anniversary and as such, they year started in a whirlwind for the Service. From the closing ceremonies to the presentation of the first Logistician of the Year award recipients, the year definitely started on a high note. Following the extremely busy “Year of the Logistician”, it was a natural point for a strategic pause and for some good old housekeeping chores. This started with taking a look at our campaign plan to make sure that we were still on target, followed by the cleanup of some of our directives, our website, our handbook, and the RCLS Fund Constitution.

This update to the Constitution is definitely something worth mentioning since it is a good indication of how The Fund is doing. Over the last 12 months our membership just about doubled and this allowed us adjust the activity grant structure and raise the maximum amounts by about 50%. That means more money going back to foster the RCLS esprit de corps and sense of family. If you’re not sure what the RCLS Fund is about, I invite you to check out the short presentation on our website.

Over the year the Colonel Commandant, RCLSI and I got to visit many of you as part of our outreach program and I have to say it is always refreshing to leave the bureaucracy and go back to our roots. Having the opportunity to meet and interact with some of you is always a highlight.

Looking at the second half of the year there are two main events that come to mind, and the first one is obviously the drastic turn of event with our museum. We should be able to publish an update in an upcoming newsletter but for the time-being, I’ll just say that we’re cautiously optimistic for our museum’s future.

The other event is the launch of our Facebook page. Although this may seem small in comparison to the museum, it has allowed us to get your opinion on new RCLS items at Canex and knowing what you want is key. We are planning on using FB for other initiatives so stay posted, your opinion matters. Oh, by the way, we are hoping to have our new line of products available at Canex early in the new year.

Well, not a bad year overall. As we head into the festive season and enjoy time with family and friends, let’s keep in mind our brothers and sisters at arms who will be deployed over the holidays. To you, thank you for what you do, it is appreciated and know that we’ll be thinking of you. Stay safe and we’ll see you back home in no time.