



THE 125<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



MAY 27 - 28, 2016





MESSAGE FROM THE  
**COLONEL-IN-CHIEF**



**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**

Lieutenant-Colonel Harry Pedwell, CD.,  
Commanding Officer,  
48th Highlanders of Canada.

Please convey my warm thanks to all ranks of the 48th Highlanders of Canada for their loyal greetings sent on the occasion of the One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the founding of the Regiment, which is being celebrated today in Toronto.

The 48th Highlanders have a long and proud history of service, both at home and around the world and, as your Colonel-in-Chief, I was most interested to learn that today's Reunion will be attended by surviving veterans of the 1st Battalion who served overseas during the Second World War.

I much appreciate your thoughtful message and, in return, I send my warm wishes to all ranks, past and present, of the 48th Highlanders, as well as to the Patrons and family members present today, as you mark this most notable year in the Regiment's history.

ELIZABETH R.

27th May, 2016.

OUR  
COLONEL-IN-CHIEF



1947 - HRH Princess Elizabeth appointed Colonel-in-Chief.



© Ian L. Macdonald, Fort York 1984

1984 - Visit of the Colonel-in-Chief.



© Ian L. Macdonald

2016 - The Regiment sends 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday greetings to their Colonel-in-Chief.



## MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER



**I**t is a privilege and honour to command the 48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders of Canada during our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year.

The Regiment has a rich and distinguished history beginning in 1891, when Toronto's strong Scottish community first petitioned the Government for the creation of a new Highland Regiment, which could serve as both a reflection of their culture and of their commitment to Canada.

Since this unique beginning, our soldiers have served their country with distinction and made it one of Toronto's premier Reserve Units.

Hard work, dedication and blood have earned us fifty Battle Honours. Highlanders have served Canada in the Boer War, The Great War, The Second World War, The Cold War, Afghanistan and numerous Peacekeeping Missions and Domestic Operations.

Today, our soldiers are as dedicated as their predecessors. They are well trained and well led individuals who reflect Canadian diversity, are proud of their close ties to the City of Toronto and exemplify our Regimental Motto:

*“Dileas Gu Brath”* (Faithful Forever).

With this tradition of service and sacrifice in mind, I extend my heartfelt wishes to Highlanders everywhere for a Happy 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration!

*H.S. Pedwell  
Lieutenant-Colonel  
Commanding Officer  
48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders of Canada*

MESSAGE FROM THE  
CHAIRMAN OF THE  
125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
COMMITTEE



W elcome to this historic celebration of our 125 years of outstanding service to and valiant sacrifice for the citizens of Canada. Many thousands have passed through the ranks of our Regiment and served in both conflict and peace, always striving to live up to the “Dileas” spirit created and maintained by the Highlanders who have gone before us. Their faithful service has passed down to us a legacy that became famous throughout the country. That reputation has been upheld, not only by the serving soldiers, but also by all members of our Regimental family, who have always worked hard to maintain the traditions and excellence of performance, for which we are famous.

With this in mind, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all the members of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, who have been working for more than a year to make this weekend possible. They have given their time freely to bring this Event together. I also thank the members of the Active Battalion for what they have contributed to insure the success of our Reunion celebration.

In addition, a very special and heartfelt thanks goes out to all of our corporate sponsors, without whose financial support this weekend would not have been possible. You will find them listed elsewhere in this Program. They are most deserving of our deepest gratitude as they have stepped forward because they believe in what we do and want to recognize and thank us all for our ongoing dedicated service to Canada.

On behalf of the 125<sup>th</sup> Committee I wish you all a happy, safe and memorable weekend!

*Michael D. Scott  
Honorary Lieutenant Colonel  
48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders of Canada*





## THE SPIRIT OF A HIGHLANDER BY SILVIA PECOTA



“Spirit of a Highlander” by noted Canadian war artist Silvia Pecota is an original work created to commemorate 125 years of service to Canada by Toronto’s Highlanders - 48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders of Canada. Its central figure is of a Sergeant Instructor dressed in Musketry Order. He wears the scarlet tunic, feather bonnet and Davidson kilt that have been hallmarks of the Regiment since it was founded in 1891. Behind him symbolically advancing forward are the images Highlanders advancing to combat in the conflicts and operations where Highlanders have served from South Africa to Afghanistan. Continuity of the Highlander Spirit is reflected in the words of the Regiment’s Second World War Historian, Capt Kim Beattie:

*“Our chronicle’s marked clear  
By river, ridge and gully crying  
The Regiment passed here”*



*Number 48 of a Limited Edition of 48  
will be sold by Blind Auction to be conducted  
throughout the Reunion Weekend*



Murray B. Koffler, Drummer, 48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders of Canada Pipes and Drums, 1942

**Murray B. Koffler, OC, OOnt  
Marvelle and family  
joyously celebrate  
the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the  
48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders of Canada  
and commend past, present and future  
Highlanders for their service to the country.**





## OUR VIPS

Col John Lowndes and the living veterans of 48 Highlanders 39-45 and Korea



**Col John Lowndes**



**Don Antoine**



**Robert Fraser**



**Vic Cooper**



**Major (Ret) Nuttall**



**Herb Pike**



**Jim Shontaler**



**David Rowland**



**Wally Moore**



**Norm GoGo**



**Doug Chappell**



**Tom White**



**Fenton Carroll**



**George McLean**



**Ken Wells**

CONGRATULATIONS TO  
**DRUMMER MURRAY B.  
KOFFLER**  
OC, OONT (RETIRED)



**W**e are honoured to have as our Patron for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations Mr Murray Koffler - a Highlander for nearly 75 years! While attending University of Toronto's College of Pharmacy he joined 2nd Battalion 48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders as a drummer with the Pipes and Drums. He remained with the Regiment following the Second World War and left as his practice grew into what eventually would become Canada's largest retail pharmacy chain - Shoppers Drug Mart. Along with his original partners, Edmond Creed, Max and Isadore Sharp, he created the Four Seasons Hotels.

Together with wife Marvelle, Koffler has enjoyed a lifetime of philanthropy. His tireless efforts and contributions to Pharmacy, Science, Medical Research, and the Arts led him to his induction as a Member of the Order of Canada (1977), Order of Ontario (1993) and Officer of the Order of Canada (1995). He founded the Canadian Council on Drug Abuse, The Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business and most recently, The Murray Koffler Urologic Wellness Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital.

Always proud to call himself a "Highlander", Murray has remained a steadfast supporter of his Regiment and a member of the Regimental and Pipes and Drums Associations for many years. He is an outstanding example of a Highlander who after active service went on to do great things for our country but who remained "*Dileas*".

We are honoured to have Murray with us today along with his wife Dr Marvelle Koffler, OOnt and 24 members of his family who have flown from around the world to celebrate 125 years of Toronto's Highlanders.



Scotiabank  
congratulates the  
48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders  
of Canada on their  
125<sup>th</sup> anniversary.





A SPECIAL THANKS  
TO OUR SPONSORS



THE  
KOFFLER  
FAMILY





# DEPLOYED OVERSEAS

GERMANY  
27 CANADIAN INFANTRY BATTALION  
1st CANADIAN HIGHWAY REGIMENT  
1951-PRESENT

ADAM G PTE  
ANDERSON JF PTE  
ARMITAGE BC PTE  
ARMSTRONG GB SGT  
ATRINSON AW PTE  
AUCOIN G PTE  
BAIRD JH WO1  
BAIRD JP PTE  
BAILEY GW PTE  
BAILEY WR PTE  
BARKER DM PTE  
BASQUE S PTE  
BLANEY PK PTE  
BLOOR WE PTE  
BONEAR GT PTE  
BOWEN K PTE  
BRADBROOKE CBB PTE  
BRANN JA PTE  
BREEN JA PTE  
BRIDGEWATER D PTE  
BRIGHT RI PTE  
BROWN RH PTE  
BRYAN J PTE  
BAXTER CG LCPL  
BLAIN HRL CPL  
BRIGGS CD LCPL

BROWN WC LCPL  
BURTON JA LCPL  
CAHOON CB PTE  
CAIN RD PTE  
CALDWELL WE PTE  
CAMPBELL LM PTE  
CANE R PTE  
CARROLL RO PTE  
CARTER TF PTE  
CHARLTON D PTE  
CHASSON J PTE  
CHIPMAN TB 2nd LIEUT  
CHOPP B PTE  
CLARKE D PTE  
CLARKE JF PTE  
CLARKE KP PTE  
CLARKE SAC WO1  
CLEVELAND CW PTE  
COHEN L PTE  
COOPER D PTE  
CROZIER JLI PTE  
CONNELL KA CPL  
CONNELLY DC CPL  
CRONE WJ SGT  
DALESSANDRO AJ PTE  
DAVIDSON GH PTE  
DAVIDSON M PTE

DELL S PTE  
DREYER PJ PTE  
EBY ON PTE  
ELGIE IW PTE  
FARQUHAR WS SGT  
FILLION LN PTE  
FITZPATRICK CE PTE  
FLETCHER DM CPL  
FLETCHER HE PTE  
FORBES RH PTE  
FORBES WF LCPL  
FURLOTTE DJ PTE  
GALBRAITH JF PTE  
GALLANT JJ PTE  
GALLANT JW PTE  
GARDNER RW PTE  
GARNETT RD LCPL  
GARRETT JG PTE  
GORDON JA PTE  
GOLGEON AW PTE  
GRANGER JS SGT  
HANNA A PTE  
HARVEY A PTE  
HENRY A PTE  
HOOG JGF LCPL  
HOLLAND DJ PTE

HOLLIDAY TF LCPL  
HOSEA M PTE  
HOUGH RK LCPL  
HOWARD JJ PTE  
HUCKSHEP G PTE  
HUNT FK PTE  
IRVING MS PTE  
ISABELLE RJ PTE  
JACKSON NG PTE  
JOHNSON JE SGT  
JOHNSON SA CPL  
JOHNSON WA PTE  
JOHNSTONE PC CPL  
KEECE JN PTE  
KELCHER A PTE  
KING WE PTE  
KINGSMORE N PTE  
LAME S PTE  
LANDRY WF PTE  
LANE DA PTE  
LAFIERRE MA PTE  
LANSDALE SF SSGT  
LEE RA SGT  
LEE K CPL  
LIMBEER WJ CPL  
LLOYD WJ PTE  
LUSCOMB WJ PTE

## INDO-CHINA

CUNNINGHAM KE CAPT  
1955-56  
ROSA PE SGT  
1992-1993

## CYPRUS

ALKEMA RA WO 1985-1986, 1992  
BAILEY GE CAPT (REV) 2009  
BASSINGTHWAITE S PTE 1992  
GILLIE WF SGT 1985-1986  
REECE OA MCPL 1985-1986  
SCOTT TG SGT 1985-1986  
WEBBER J CPL 1970-1970  
CARSWELL PE WO 2011

## MIDDLE EAST

BRANDENBURG  
JOSEPH R  
MARR II S  
MCKINNON  
SMITH G P  
VALENTI MA

ADKINS M CPL 1992-1993  
ALBAN J PTE 1998-1999  
AVDAGIC A CPL 2003-2004  
BAPTISTE R CPL 2003-2004  
BAUER I PTE 1998-1999  
BAHADUR J CPL 2000-2001  
BEST AR CAPT 2003-2004  
BRADLEY KS CPL 2000-2001

BROGAN K PTE 1994-1995  
CARSWELL PE SGT 2003-2004  
CARVALHO V MCPL 2003-2004  
CHIN A PTE 1998-1999  
DARLING WM CWO 2004-2005  
DIBAEI-IRANI M CPL 1999-2000  
DOBROWSKI P PTE 1998-1999  
DOUCETTE J SGT 2003-2004

DOYLE A MCPL  
DUNCAN A MCPL  
FARR S CPL  
IERAHIM N  
KAFASKOV E  
KIVKAD IR  
LATT Z CPL  
LEANDRO J

## SIERRA LEONE

ALKEMA RA CWO 2006-2007  
MCEWEN JMC MAJ 2006

## AFGHANISTAN AND

ALBAN JH CPL 2008-2009  
ALKEMA RA CAPT 2008-2009  
BAILEY GE CAPT (REV) 2007  
BEST AR CAPT 2007  
BOSSI M CAPT 2003-2004  
BRADBURY MJN CPL 2010  
BRADLEY KS CPL 2010  
BROWN GA PTE 2006  
BUZNY ME CPL 2008-2009  
CHIN AB MCPL 2005  
CHOI MH PTE 2010  
CHOI VW PTE 2010

CHUNG PPY CPL 2008-2009  
DAVID J CPL 2008-2009  
DIBAEI-IRANI M CPL 2004, 2004-2005, 2006, 2007-2008  
DOMINIQUE SJ CPL 2008-2009  
DOYLE AR SGT 2008-2009  
FRANK BG CPL 2005, 2008-2009  
GREENE TA CPL 2005  
HSIUNG JR LT 2010-2011  
HUM JR CPL 2008-2009  
IVENS ED CPL 2005

JASKIEWICZ JAN  
JEGANATHAN  
KHOFRAMI SO C  
2004, 20  
KUKKAD IR  
KOWALENKO KG  
KWOK BR WO  
LAMIE FD





# DEAS - 1947 to 2014

MANY  
FANTRY BRIGADE  
HIGHLAND BATTALION  
-1953

LUTTRELL RR CPL  
MACKENZIE CPL AR  
MACDOUGALL SM PTE  
MACKAY WB PTE  
MACPHERSON GC PTE  
MCAFFEE N SGT  
MCCANN LJ CPL  
MCARTHUR GB PTE  
MCCOURT L PTE  
MCDERMOTT S PTE  
MCDIARMID SJ PTE  
MCGARRY TC PTE  
MCLROY JH PTE  
MCKENZIE KJ PTE  
MCKEOWN RN PTE  
MCKINNON RA PTE  
MCLEAN JE PTE  
MCLEAN W PTE  
MANSHIP DE PTE  
MARTIN FH PTE  
MARTIN RL PTE  
MARANDA JAJ PTE  
MARR B PTE  
MILLER A PTE  
MOORE P CAPT  
MURPHY LJ PTE

NANCE JA PTE  
NODWELL R PTE  
O'BRIAN LS LIEUT  
O'PREY SJ PTE  
OSBORNE FR PTE  
OSBORNE HD PTE  
OUDERKIRK W PTE  
OWEN RA 2nd LIEUT  
PARKS J PTE  
PAYNE LHC MAJ  
PERRY GR PTE  
PHILLIPS WL PTE  
PINCOE WA CAPT  
PREVOST RG PTE  
PRIMEAU CJ PTE  
RADFORD JT PTE  
REEKIE DE SGT  
REID GM CPL  
ROBERTS GR PTE  
ROBBINS EG PTE  
ROCKWELL GW PTE  
ROOT W PTE  
ROGERS GV SGT  
SHELSON W PTE  
SHILLINGTON JL CPL  
SHORTT BM PTE

SINCLAIR DL LIEUT  
SMITH CG LCPL  
SMITH LV PTE  
SMITH LV PTE  
SPENCE R CPL  
SPRY FC PTE  
SPRY JA PTE  
STARK VR CPL  
STEAD DF PTE  
STENHOUSE GR PTE  
STEVENSON RD PTE  
STEVENSON WB CPL  
STEWART DE PTE  
STOKES HN PTE  
SUTHERLAND JM SGT  
SYMINGTON RF PTE  
SYDULSKI F PTE  
TAYLOR RI CPL  
TAYLOR RH PTE  
THOMAS DH PTE  
THOMHILL GT PTE  
THOMPSON RH PTE  
THOMPSON WW PTE  
THOMPSON DM SGT  
TILLER AH PTE  
TITUS WE PTE

TOEMIE RM PTE  
TORRIE M PTE  
TOWNLEY WP PTE  
TREBLE ME PTE  
TYE MA PTE  
VATERS GA PTE  
VAUGHAN JW PTE  
WALSH JC PTE  
WALTON LF PTE  
WARD AL LCPL  
WARE WT LIEUT  
WARNER RW PTE  
WATERFIELD RP PTE  
WATERFIELD RG PTE  
WATSON CM PTE  
WEEDON JO LCPL  
WHITE CG PTE  
WHITEHEAD JC CPL  
WHITING N PTE  
WILKINSON JH PTE  
WILLIAMS RE PTE  
WILLIAMSON IC PTE  
WILKINS RE PTE  
WOOD D SGT  
WOODCOCK WVC PTE  
WRIGHT RL CPL  
WYLIE J PTE

## EAST

SGT 1975-76  
CWO 2013  
SGT 1975-76  
S SGT 1993  
PTE 1975-76  
CPL 1975-76

## NAMIBIA

DUNNETT S PTE  
1989-1990  
ROSA PE SGT  
1989-1990

## SOMALIA

KNIGHT L PTE  
1992-1993  
VIENNEAU J PTE  
1992-1993

## OF YUGOSLAVIA

CPL 2003-2004  
CPL 2000-2001  
L 2000-2001  
CPL 2000-2001  
MCPL 2003-2004  
CPL 2003-2004  
L 2003-2004  
CPL 2003-2004

MCKAY K CPL 2003-2004  
MARTIN J MCPL 1998-1999  
MASON R PTE 1994-1995, 2000  
MIKAILOV M PTE 1998-1999  
OWOH R PTE 1994-1995  
PANKATZ M WO 2004-2005  
PAVLOVIC P CPL 2000-2001  
RONALDSON N MCPL 1998-1999  
SHANNON L CPL 1999-2000

SHORTT RM CPL 2000  
SMINTICH K PTE 1994-1995  
1998-1999, 2001-2002  
TASCA N CPL 2003-2004  
TESCIONE J PTE 1994-1995  
THOMSON I CPL 2003-2004  
TOLTON M SGT 2003-2004  
VIENNEAU J MCPL 1992,  
1994-1995, 1998, 2003

## KASHMIR

CUNNINGHAM KE CAPT  
1948-1949

## SOUTHWEST ASIA

CPL 2008-2009  
N CPL 2005  
CPL 2001-2002,  
04-2005,  
MCPL 2010  
CPL 2008-2009  
0 2006, 2010  
CAPT 2011

MAI JA CPL 2011  
MARGA I CPL 2007-2008,  
MARGA O MCPL 2010  
MARKOWSKI AR CPL 2006  
MARTIN DA SGT 2006  
MARTINIS P CAPT 2008-2009  
MCEWEN JMC LCOL 2012  
MCKAY RL CPL 2007-2008  
MORISCHE JA CAPT 2010  
OLIIYNYKOV IP SGT 2010, 2012  
PANKATZ WO M 2010

PARK JW CPL 2010  
PARK M MCPL 2010  
PATERSON ADC LCOL 2010  
PETROVIC RV PTE 2004-2005  
PRIMERANO MA CPL 2010  
RONALDSON NW SGT  
2003-2004, 2004-2005  
SHORTT RM CPL 2003-2004  
THOMAS BC CPL 2010  
TSUCHIYA D CAPT 2007  
YOUNG GA BGEN 2006-2007





# 48<sup>th</sup> HIGHLANDERS

## Early Years – 1891 - 1913



Toronto in the 19th century had a large Scottish population with prominent business, church and government leaders. In 1891, determined to maintain traditions, Alexander Fraser and Captain Wilbur Henderson formed a committee representing every Scottish society to propose a Highland regiment. Despite two initial rejections, the Federal government, with the aid of the Minister of Finance and urging from Toronto's Mayor E. F. Clarke and Alderman Saunders, finally approved.



*Pioneer section awaiting orders under Aid to the Civil Power during Toronto Railway Company strike, 21 June 1902*

On 16 October 1891, the 48th Battalion (Highlanders) was gazetted. Within six days 152 volunteers had been sworn in, and by May a total of 350. Housed initially in the old Upper Canada College buildings on King Street the Regiment relocated in 1894 to a new University Avenue Armouries where it remained until 1963.



*Staff Sergeant Harp, first musketry instructor*

Drill, rifle proficiency and public parades were their first priorities. Drill meant discipline, the heart upon which the regiment would train and ultimately fight. Drill was to be learned until, like breathing, it was automatic. Rifle proficiency marked an infantry battalion's maturity. Under the instruction of Staff Sergeant William Harp, the 48th quickly became skilled. By 1899 the 48th virtually swept the field at the Dominion Rifle Meeting in Ottawa. Highlanders became a fixture on Canada's teams at Bisley, the competition for British Empire countries.

Background image:  
*Lieutenant-Colonel John Irvine Davidson, first Commanding Officer, 1891 to 1898. The Davidson tartan and falcon crest of the Davidson clan were chosen in his honour.*

Parades made the regiment visible and instilled pride. In response to public demand the regiment performed Tattoos, opened Parliament and attended functions across Ontario. In 1907 they formed the Guard of Honour at Canada's Tercentenary celebrations in Quebec City.



*Parading in Walkerville, near Windsor Ontario, for the Queen's birthday celebrations, 25 May 1895*

South Africa gave 48th Highlanders their first opportunity to volunteer. On 13 October 1899, two days after the Boers declared war, the Militia Department began recruiting. It was the first significant overseas war for a young Canadian nation and facing controversy the government decided to raise only eight companies Canada-wide. Over 116 Highlanders volunteered.

Sixty-seven served in South Africa, the rest in Halifax. Limits on recruiting meant that only 20



*The First Canadian Contingent returns to Toronto, led by the 48th Highlanders, 29 December 1900*

Highlanders were accepted in Toronto. Six others, under Lieutenant R.G.H. Temple rushed to London to join there. In South Africa three Highlanders were Mentioned-in-Dispatches. Sergeant Earnest Beattie was killed.

Recognizing the numbers of volunteers the 48th Highlanders were awarded the Battle Honour, *South Africa 1899-1900*.



*1897 48<sup>th</sup> Champion Bayonet Fighting Team of the British Empire*



# 48<sup>th</sup> HIGHLANDERS

## First World War 1914-1919



### *48th Highlanders go overseas in 1914 with the First Canadian Contingent*

On Tuesday 4 August 1914 Canada, with Britain and her allies, declared war on Germany.

Without waiting for an official mobilization order, officers of the 48th Highlanders unanimously agreed to send a full battalion.



*The Pipe Band leads the 15th Battalion back from their capture and defence of Hill 70 after 15 hours of continuous fighting, 16 August 1917.*

When mobilization orders were received on 15 August the battalion had recruited 970 men. And, as a gift to Canada, they were equipped in uniforms and accoutrements

paid for by the Regiment.

On 29 August, in front of 100,000 citizens, the battalion

boarded a train in Toronto for Valcartier, Quebec to join the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF). There they were given the designation *15th Battalion (48th Highlanders of Canada) CEF*.

In 1916 the Regiment would raise two more overseas battalions, the 92nd and 134th Battalions, as reinforcement troops. In Canada, the Home Defence Battalion did guard duties in Ontario.



*Only 212 Highlanders answer the roll call on the morning of 25 April 1915 after the gas attack at Ypres.*

### *The 15th Battalion faces the first gas attack of the war*

By February 1915, the 15th Battalion was in France as part of the 3rd Infantry Brigade awaiting its part to win the war. On 22 April 1915 this wait ended dramatically in the second battle of Ypres. Here, in the forward trenches and in St Julien, members of the 15th Battalion fought and died in the first gas attack of the war, losing over 660 men, wounded, missing in action or killed. Following reinforcement the battalion carried on, facing the chaos of trenches,



*Repairing trenches is a never-ending task.*

gas, shells and bullets as they fought in renowned battles including The Somme, Passchendaele, Amiens, Vimy Ridge and the 100 Days.

### *21 Battle Honours awarded for their accomplishments and sacrifices*

For the First World War the Regiment was awarded 21 Battle Honours. But this achievement came with a price. In total 1625 Highlanders made the ultimate sacrifice including two Commanding Officers, LCol W. R. Marshall, DSO of the 15th Battalion, and LCol A. A. Miller of the 134th Battalion while serving as a Major with the 19th Battalion.

When armistice was declared on 11 November 1918, the Regiment had performed its duty.



*Highlanders celebrate their capture of German heavy guns at the battle of Amiens, 8 August 1918.*



*Lts. B Henderson, E, Ryrie, RA Brown - 1916*



# 48<sup>th</sup> HIGHLANDERS

## Second World War 199 - 1945



Within fifteen days of Germany's attack on Poland on 1 September 1939 and Canada's declaration of war, the 48th Highlanders had recruited to battalion strength. Sent overseas that December they formed the 1st Brigade with another militia (reserve) unit, the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment and the Royal Canadian Regiment of the regular army. Three years of training and Home Defence in Britain followed. A remarkable exception came on 13 June 1940 just one week after the evacuation of the British Army from Dunkerque. As part of the 1st Canadian Division, the 48th Highlanders were sent to France! After making the deepest penetration of 300 km they were ordered back. Commandeering their train at gunpoint they returned to St. Malo and back to England.



Brigadier Ian S. Johnston, Commanding Officer 5 May 1943 to 24 June 1944 with King George VI

On 13 June 1940 just one week after the evacuation of the British Army from Dunkerque. As part of the 1st Canadian Division, the 48th Highlanders were sent to France! After making the deepest penetration of 300 km they were ordered back. Commandeering their train at gunpoint they returned to St. Malo and back to England.

In 1943, the 48th embarked for Sicily, landing at Pachino on 10 July 1943 as part of Operation Husky, the largest Allied assault landing of the war.

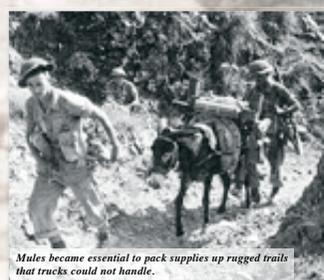
Through two years of fighting in Sicily, Italy and Holland, the 48th Highlanders would, with one minor exception, never suffer a battlefield reversal, achieving breakthroughs where others could not, or where they were seen as not possible. Through the dust, heat and mountains of Sicily, the Battalion proved its mettle. For the next 18 months the 48th advanced through Italy, including the battle to outflank Ortona, the unassisted breaching of the vaunted Hitler Line west of Monte Cassino, the Gothic Line and the Lamone River crossing.

Theirs was a battalion that was never out of control on the battlefield. They found themselves fortunate in their leaders when warfare demanded imagination and coolness under stress.



Major Don Banton leads D Company on the road to Adrano, Sicily. Censors had whited out the 48th Highlander shower flashes for newspaper publication.

In March 1945, the Regiment moved to northwest Europe to complete the liberation of Holland. Although a brief task by comparison to the Italian campaign it added further tragic losses including that of its Commanding Officer LCol D.A. Mackenzie DSO, DSC.



Mules became essential to pack supplies up rugged trails that trucks could not handle.

By the close of hostilities in the spring of 1945, the Regiment had suffered 475 killed in action. The 27 battle honours awarded attest to the leadership, skill and dedication of all Highlanders.

On 1 October 1945 the 48th Highlanders returned home to Toronto to rejoin their families and build a new Canada.

Background image:  
Pipe Major Andy Anderson, followed by C.S.M. John Gunn, leads Headquarters Company in the pursuit of the Germans up Italy



Preparing for attack, San Leonardo di Ortona, 10 December 1943

In 1943, the 48th embarked for Sicily, landing at Pachino on 10 July 1943 as part of Operation Husky, the largest Allied assault landing of the war.



Padre Stewart East, East Sicily Caltigirone



# 48<sup>th</sup> HIGHLANDERS

## The Regiment Today



Since the Second World War the Reserves (Militia) have changed in organization and in mandate. For the individual Highlander this has meant an increase in equipment, complexity, training and responsibilities.

### The Canadian Army's concept of Total Force



Weapons detachment on the move to forward position during a training exercise in Ontario, 2013. Left to right: Corporals V. Kozai, V. W. Choi and A. Ciafoloni.

Force means that Reserve soldiers of today must be ready to serve alongside

their Regular Force counterparts as equals. As infantry soldiers, all 48th Highlanders must maintain a high level of training and professionalism.

Since 1946, members of the 48th Highlanders have served overseas in virtually every NATO and UN operation in which Canada was a participant. There were Highlanders in Korea and Germany where the Regiment contributed a full Highland Company to 27 Brigade with NATO Forces.



Major Geordie Elms, CD, a third generation Highlander, scans the countryside while with a UN observation team in Afghanistan, 1988.

48th Highlanders have served in the Golan Heights, Cyprus, Namibia, Cambodia, the former Republic of Yugoslavia and Sierra Leone. Most recently, service in Afghanistan by large

numbers of Highlanders was recognized by the Regiment's 50th Battle Honour - Afghanistan.

Reservists today regularly comprise twenty percent or more of the soldiers on overseas deployment. Yet they remain citizen soldiers, returning home to school studies or jobs after overseas service.

At home, the 48th Highlanders of Canada provide a vital linkage to the community and people of Toronto as do other reserve units across the country in their communities.



A section of 48th Highlanders ready for a tough day clearing roads for citizens and repair crews near McDonalds Corners, Lanark County, Ontario, 6 January 1998 are, left to right: Corporals Enver Naidoo, Junior Bahadur, Candice Serrette, Ronald Samuel and Privates Tim MacDonald and Gobin Pershad.

Parades, the Pipes and Drums and service in support of local events keep the regiment visible. In

cases of disaster or emergency anywhere in Canada, such as the Winnipeg floods and the 1998 ice storms in Ontario and Quebec, 48th Highlanders have taken time from their civilian jobs or studies to help Canadians in need under Aid to the Civil Power.

Today, soldiers of the 48th Highlanders of Canada reflect the cultural diversity that comprises the City of Toronto. Each proudly continues the tradition of the Regiment. In the second century of the Regiment's existence as in the first, they are bound by the spirit they call Dileas, from the Regimental motto "Dileas gu Brath", Faithful Forever.



Corporal E.D. Ivens on perimeter security, Kandahar, Afghanistan, 2005





## FACES OF THE REGIMENT



# FACES OF THE REGIMENT





# TODAY'S REGIMENT IN ACTION



# TODAY'S REGIMENTAL FAMILY





## KITSHOP & SOUVENIRS

A variety of Regimental and 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary souvenirs are available over the Reunion weekend and will be available in our Kitshop at Moss Park Armoury and online throughout the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year.

**Regimental Print “Spirit of a Highlander”  
Davidson Edition (26” X 20”) -**

Limited edition of 48 signed and numbered  
(Select number may be requested)

**Regimental Print “Spirit of a Highlander”  
Tartan Edition (14” X 11”) -**

Edition of 125 sequentially numbered

**Regimental Statuettes by  
Ballantynes of Walkerburn:**

- 1) 15th BN (48 Highrs) CEF 1916
- 2) Sgt-Instructor 48<sup>th</sup> Battalion “Highlanders” 1892

**Coffee Mugs/Crested Clothing/  
Regimental Jewellery** will be available at the Reunion Stores setup at the Gala, Tattoo and Ceilidh events.



A division of CFMWS

**CANEX**

<http://www.canex.ca/military/military-kit-shops/army-kit-shops.html>



**BURNETT & STRUTH**

<http://www.burnetts-struth.com/48th-highlanders/>

**LANDS' END**  
© BUSINESS OUTFITTERS

**LAND'S END HIGHLANDER STORE**

<http://business.landsend.com/store/48thkitshop/>



# GZOWSKI TROPHY TO HIGHLIGHT ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



The Sir Casimir Gzowski Trophy, which will be on display during the Reunion Weekend, was awarded to the 48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders of Canada during five consecutive training years (1965-66 through 1969-70). It was emblematic of the best militia infantry regiment Canada, judged in nationwide competition and winning it has always been regarded as a milestone achievement in the Regiment's Cold War history.

In recognition of this, all 48<sup>th</sup> veterans of the Gzowski Trophy era will receive, at the Reunion, a special commemorative lapel pin to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first presentation of this Trophy to the Regiment.

For the Regiment, 1968 was a year of outstanding accomplishment. Not only did Highlanders achieve the third of five consecutive Gzowski Trophy wins, they also captured, in their new role as part of the new Mobile Command



*RSM (CWO) Bill Elms and CO, LCol Peter Cameron, celebrate the Regiment's 1968 win of the Gzowski Trophy, the third year in a row at that time.*



*THE COMMAND GROUP OF THE WINNING PLATOON  
Back Row: Lt John Kerr / Sgt Greg Young  
Front Row: Sgt Steve Gilbert / Sgt Dave Ingram / Sgt Brian Jackson*

Reserve, both the Bayonet (above

middle) and Kitching (bottom left) Trophies, which were emblematic

of superior tactical performance at the infantry platoon level.





**DILEAS GU BRATH - FAITHFUL FOREVER**