

THE FALCON BULLETIN



ISSUE NO. 6

The OFFICIAL EVENT UPDATE of THE 48TH HIGHLANDERS of CANADA

JUNE 2020

FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICERS DESK

Greetings Highlanders -

As most of you know, CWO Kwok will be relinquishing the appointment of Regimental Sergeant Major of the 48th Highlanders of Canada in October 2020.

It gives me great pleasure to formally announce that the Commander Canadian Army has confirmed that MWO Reesor will be promoted to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer, and appointed as RSM effective October 2020. This is well deserved. MWO Reesor has served the Regiment, 32 CBG, 4th Canadian Division and the Canadian Army as the Drum Major of the Pipes and Drums of the 48th Highlanders of Canada for 24 years. He has also served as the Operations Warrant Officer, the Drill Sergeant Major of the 48th Highlanders, and the DSM of 32 CBG BSL. I am confident that he will be an effective RSM for the Regiment, and will be only the second Drum Major to become the RSM - the first being of course, CWO Bill Elms. Please join me in congratulating MWO Reesor on this achievement.

However, this means that there will be a vacancy in the position of Drum Major. The Regiment stood to a selection board to find a new Drum Major. After a thorough and detailed search, I am pleased to announce that our own MCpl Sean McKenzie-Mardelli will be appointed Drum Major of the 48th Highlanders of Canada. Although he is a Piper by trade, he has completed the Band Administration Course. He was scheduled to attend the DM qualification course before it was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so that is still in his future. MCpl McKenzie-Mardelli has large shoes to fill - the two previous Drum Majors were MWO Larry Fullerton and of course MWO Reesor. I am confident that he will be another in the long line of excellent Drum Majors. Please join me in congratulating MCpl McKenzie-Mardelli on his appointment which will be effective on 01 July, 2020.

Congratulations on to both of you! Well done. I am confident you will do well in your new roles.

As for CWO Kwok - there will be further announcements at a later date.

DILEAS GU BRATH

***R.A. Alkema
Lieutenant-Colonel
Commanding Officer
48th Highlanders of Canada*** 🦅



MCpl McKenzie-Mardelli

VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA UPDATES - MAY, 2020

Veterans Emergency Funds (VEF)

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Veterans Affairs Canada is offering additional financial assistance to veterans (Regular Force and Reserves) across the country.

The following summary has been distributed by VAC:

“The objective of the VEF program is to provide prompt monetary assistance to eligible Veterans and their family members who are facing a financial crisis/emergency with the intent of resolving the immediate need. Where appropriate, applicants will also be referred to any alternate and/or additional resources for longer term support.”

VAC is now able to approve funding for up to three months at time with a total limit of \$10,000. Each request will be reviewed on an individual basis according to need.

More information may be obtained at www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/financial-support/emergency-funds/veterans-emergency-fund or telephone 1-866-522-2122.

Veteran's Service Card (VSC)

Production of the new Veteran's Service Card has been temporarily halted due to COVID-19, although you may still apply for a card on line or via mail.

All members of the Canadian Armed Forces (Regular and Reserves) who have completed their service prior to 2016 are eligible to receive the card.

Email enquiries may be sent to VSCQuestions.EnquetesCSAC@forces.gc.ca or telephone 1-833-995-0004. Online applications are available at <https://veterans-service-card.canada.ca/en/>.



If you need additional assistance regarding these or other VAC programs, please contact Sgt (Ret) Al Kowalenko, 48th OCA Veterans Services at email: ursa77@rogers.com or phone: 416-219-4967.



Dileas Gu Brath!