THE FALCON BULLETIN

ISSUE NO. 9

The OFFICIAL EVENT UPDATE of the 48TH HIGHLANDERS of CANADA

NOVEMBER 2020

FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICERS DESK

Greetings Highlanders -

November and December are typically months where there are a number of significant Regimental events taking place. I asked the FALCON Staff to push out a FALCON Bulletin for me in early September that explained how we were moving forward into the training year,

and going to deal with the Fall Regimental Events. I thought it time to provide you with an update.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, parts of Ontario including the GTA remain in a modified Stage 2 restriction. I have briefed you previously about the impacts of COVID-19 on our training, and you have seen these impacts yourselves on the Change of RSM Event video on Facebook, Instagram and our YouTube Channel.

Remembrance Day 2020

The current restrictions put in place to keep Canadians safe are going to affect our Annual Remembrance Day Service on Sunday 08 November, 2020. In keeping with the Provincial Guidelines on the limitation of gatherings, and in keeping with the direction that the Regiment has received from higher headquarters, we will not be holding our Annual Remembrance Day Parade at the Monument.

Instead, similar to the Act of Remembrance Parade conducted in May, and the Change of RSM Event conducted a few weeks ago, we are going to record a modified service, and post it on both Facebook and Instagram.

Capt Lau and his team will post a notice and link on FB and IG for easy access.

The links will open as of 1045 hrs on Sunday 08 November in order for you to participate virtually at our regular time of 1100 hrs. Please join us on-line as we conduct a modified ceremony. Although the format is going to be modified, be assured that we will continue to remember and honour our Fallen, our Veterans, and our current serving soldiers and remember the sacrifices that each of these groups has made, and continues to make, for the Regiment and for our Nation.

I would also encourage each of you slip over to your local monument in the next several weeks, and deposit a poppy as your own personal Act of



Remembrance. It doesn't matter where or when you do this – remembering collectively at the Regimental Monument is nice, but the more important piece is that act on our remembrance.

For the Active Battalion - we will be conducting a Regimental ZOOM call at 1045 on Sunday 08 November, where we will conduct an online Remembrance Day Ceremony together. Specific details regarding time, call in information, sign-in details, etc. will be issued in the next day or two by separate

correspondence.

Change of Honorary Appointment

We typically conduct the Change of Honorary Appointments at the conclusion of a Remembrance Day Parade. This year, that won't be possible. Accordingly, we are going to conduct the Change of Honorary Appointments in a manner almost identical to the Change or RSM Event. A link will be sent out to FB and IG so that you can watch this at your convenience.

Regimental Soldiers Appreciation Dinner

Gatherings and training are restricted. So, it should not come as a surprise that the Regimental Soldiers Appreciation Dinner is also cancelled. However, I am working with the RSM, the DCO and the PMC of the Jr Ranks Mess to figure out how we can still recognize the hard work put forth by our soldiers throughout the year. More to follow on this.

Kid's Christmas Party

This event is cancelled. Thanks to Karen Barker for her efforts in making this a great event for kids and grandkids over the last 5 years.

In closing, please keep checking Facebook and Instagram for updates to the Regiment and the Regimental Association. There are lots of interesting photos for you to check out. I encourage you to remain engaged with your Regiment, and in touch with your battle buddies.

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