



RCEME FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

The Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical
Engineering Heritage and Museum Foundation



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CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

As we prepare to celebrate the 78th Anniversary of RCME, I was reminded of the words Col Johnston wrote as Colonel Commandant on the occasion of our 50th Anniversary.

"When I joined in 1953, most members of the Corps were veterans of WW2. Many Craftsmen were serving in Korea and West Germany. There was a strong feeling of being involved and of doing something worthwhile. You could also sense that being part of a separately identifiable engineering Corps was important to the Craftsmen. It gave them that little something extra. It was the mystique that was RCME and it caught my imagination - even after 41 years it still does! I'm proud to have been part of it for so long."

That sense of pride and connection with our past is still strong these many years later but we cannot lose touch with it, we have to work at preserving our heritage.

LGen (Ret'd) Bob Fischer
Chairman



CORPS BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISER

78!

Not-for-Profit organizations cannot exist without the generosity of their supporters, the RCME Foundation is no exception. Thanks to you, our inaugural Year-End fundraising event raised \$22,000, an impressive start but we need to do better if we hope to implement the key digital projects which will lay the groundwork for preserving the RCME Corps' history and perpetuate its rich heritage.

Our next major fundraising event will take place during the month of May, in conjunction with the 78th Corps birthday activities. We're counting on your renewed support to raise at least \$25,000. One way to help us achieve this goal is to consider making a modest *monthly* donation, say \$25, that's a \$300 annual donation! We need many more monthly donors, but we will be grateful for any donation you can make.

If Planned Giving is more suited to your circumstances then you might want to consider some of the many Planned Giving options which are described on the next page.



Thank
you!

HOW WILL YOU BE REMEMBERED?

By making a legacy gift you will be leaving a gift that will make a difference for many generations to come. By leaving a legacy you can support the causes you believe in after you're gone. It allows you to build your charitable objectives into your estate plan. It might include a bequest in your Will, a gift of life insurance, or the creation of an endowment.



We appreciate that the decision to leave a planned gift is a very personal commitment. It is important for you to discuss your plans with your family and your financial and legal advisors. They will help to ensure your gift fits your personal circumstances and that you maximize any tax advantages.

WAYS TO PLAN YOUR GIFT

IN YOUR WILL

Bequests are the most common way of leaving a legacy. You may include in your Will the gift of a specific dollar amount, a residual amount, or a specific percentage.

LIFE INSURANCE

Designating the RCME Foundation as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy can provide a substantial future gift for a relatively low annual cost. If you do not wish to donate an existing policy, you can purchase a new one on behalf of the Foundation.

OTHER GIFTS

Gifts of property, e.g., real estate; naming the RCME Foundation as a beneficiary of your RRSP, RRIF or pension; Charitable Gift Annuity.

For additional information, contact us at: info@rcmefoundation.org

VIRTUAL DONOR WALL



Our Virtual Donor Wall recognizes those who have made donations to the RCME Foundation equal to, or in excess of \$500. If you're one of our monthly donors, a \$25/month donation means that your name will appear on the Donor Wall after 20 monthly donations. Let's say you donated \$250 at our 2021 Year End fundraiser and donate another \$250 at our upcoming Corps Birthday fundraiser then your name will be entered on the Donor Wall.

You can visit our Donor Wall at: <https://rcemefoundation.org/donor-wall/>

\$10,000 AND ABOVE

Col Murray Johnston & Mrs. Joan Johnston	The former EME Association
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\$5,000 TO \$9,999

Mr. George Holdron	Thales Canada
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\$1,000 TO \$4,999

Mr. David Geary	Col Gilles Nappert	Col Jean Forget
BGen Bill Brewer	CWO Art Rest, in Memory of Col Murray C. Johnston	CWO Ron Roy
LAD Ottawa/NCR – 104	LGen Bob Fischer	Stooke Family and Friends, in Memory of CWO Bob Stooke
Mr. Paul Martin, in Memory of Maj John C. Martin	Mr. David Martin, in Memory of Maj John C. Martin	Mr. & Mrs. Quinn, in Memory of Cpl John D. Carmichael

\$500 TO \$999

Mr. Mike Giffin	Col Marc Grondin	LCol Gilles Langlois
BGen Peter Holt	LCol Ken Kirkland	MGen Ernest Creber
LCol Ken Jones	Col Bryan Davidson	Capt Ernie Wallace, in Memory of CWO Ernie Wallace
BGen Scott Kennedy	Col Tom Temple	Maj Wayne Yee
Col Patrick Heebner	Pennant Canada	LCol Charles Jansen
Maj Alton Adams	Ms. Jenny Janes	LCol Bob Herbert

RCEME FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS



As part of the Foundation's strategy of engaging with our Youth, we are planning on establishing a scholarship programme. The RCEME Foundation Scholarships will be awarded to **RCEME Army Cadets** who have been selected to pursue a STEM related, post-secondary programme leading to a degree, diploma, or certificate. A **STEM** education is a teaching approach that combines **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics**.

RCEME is and has always been a Corps of Engineers and Technicians. STEM is increasingly critical to the mission of our Corps; STEM skills will enable RCEME to ensure the Canadian Forces can continue to conduct successful operations at home and abroad by leveraging the latest advances in technology.

Details of our Scholarship programme will be announced in the next few months; we expect to award our first scholarships in 2023. The RCEME Foundation looks forward to working with the RCEME Army Cadet units as we implement this scholarship programme.



In 2012, the 137 year old Rijksmuseum became one of the world's first museums to make its entire collection accessible through the Rijksstudio website (<https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en/rijksstudio>). The transformation of the Dutch Rijksmuseum took \$500 million dollars and five more years than anticipated. It was, nonetheless, a huge success both financially and culturally. The project's goal is to finish digitizing the entire collection of 1.1 million artworks by 2023 – a goal which they are well on their way of achieving.

The museum's decision to present the collections in the public domain, in high quality with no restrictions on reuse, was a bold move that was without precedent. Despite the success of Rijksstudio, the museum community has been slow to follow their path of digital openness. Yasmin Khan, writing in the Guardian asked in an amusing way: "If our museums were a Dickensian character, who would they be: Miss Havisham stuck in an old wedding dress in a room gathering cobwebs; or Fagin the entrepreneur, sending urchins out to spread his influence across the city?" Perhaps because of the challenge of changing the mindset of those working in museums, many museums have chosen to emulate the stodginess of Miss Havisham.



Well before the COVID 19 pandemic, the RCEME Museum embraced the entrepreneurial and expansive spirit of Fagin developing a digital strategy to extend the reach and influence of the museum well beyond those who are able to physically visit. Other museums, pushed by the pandemic, have since embarked upon digital transformations – although often kicking and screaming in resistance. Change can be difficult for institutions especially those rooted in tradition and history.

The RCEME Museum is part of a community of museums that have chosen to change and converge in a digital age where content is distributed, people are networked, and everyone can have a voice to create or produce. The RCEME Museum's digital initiatives promise to be invaluable for preserving the stories and legacy of the Corps while disseminating them far beyond the walls of the museum.

Beyond simply expanding the reach of the physical museum, the digital initiatives will open the museum to whole new audiences, for instance, young people who, through accessing the museum's online offerings, will learn about career opportunities in STEM that they might otherwise not consider. The RCEME Museum, building on its early commitment to digital offerings, is ahead of the curve and joins great museums like the Rijksmuseum in reaching beyond its physical walls.



50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE MONUMENT

A Testament to a Proud Legacy



As we approach our 78th Anniversary, it is appropriate to reflect on the 50th Anniversary celebrations at CFB Borden in May 1994 and the unveiling of the Commemorative monument at the RCEME School. When the monument was unveiled on the 12th of May by the Chief of Defence Staff, Gen John de Chastelain, it marked the end of a five-year period of detailed planning and fundraising which doubled an initial fundraising target of \$260K. This achievement was impressive as the number of personal donations came primarily from serving members, with the assistance of both the retiree community and several well-organized fundraising events across the country.

The impetus for the 50th Commemorative monument can be traced back to the move of the RCEME School from CFB Kingston to CFB Borden in 1970. This left the new School without a proper Regimental focus to inspire current and future Corps members. When planning for the 50th Anniversary celebrations began in 1987, it was decided to erect a monument at the RCEME School commemorating 50 years of proud service to Canada.



50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE MONUMENT

Continued



This impressive monument is a tribute to Canada's soldier-technicians, with the four trade badges recognizing those who are the foundation of the Corps. Our motto symbolizes how we work, "By skill and By fighting." The monument truly speaks to our esprit de corps, our camaraderie and "can-do" attitude second to none.

In 2017, the monument was relocated to the new RCEME School Headquarters building in Borden, where it now stands as an inspiration to the young RCEME officers and soldier-technicians of tomorrow. The Commemorative monument is a reminder of the sustained longterm effort which will be required if we are to properly celebrate the RCEME Corps' 100th Anniversary in 2044.

Arte et Marte



CORPS HISTORY TRIVIA QUIZ #2



1. Which of these former Colonel Commandants wore all five of our Corps badges?

- ☐ Col MacLean
- ☐ Col Svab
- ☐ Col Mendelsohn

2. How many LORE Officers and NCOs participated in the International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS) in South Vietnam in 1973?

- ☐ 24
- ☐ 7
- ☐ 11

3. What was the calibre of the largest guns maintained by RCEME?

- ☐ 10 inches
- ☐ 8 inches
- ☐ 9.2 inches

4. How many Canadian Ordnance Corps workshops were in the Canadian Corps overseas during the First World War?

- ☐ Three
- ☐ One
- ☐ Five



CORPS HISTORY TRIVIA QUIZ #2

Continued



5. What was the rank of the most senior RCME officer overseas during WW2?

- ☐ LGen
- ☐ BGen
- ☐ MGen

6. Which vehicle is at the RCME Memorial Gates in Kingston?

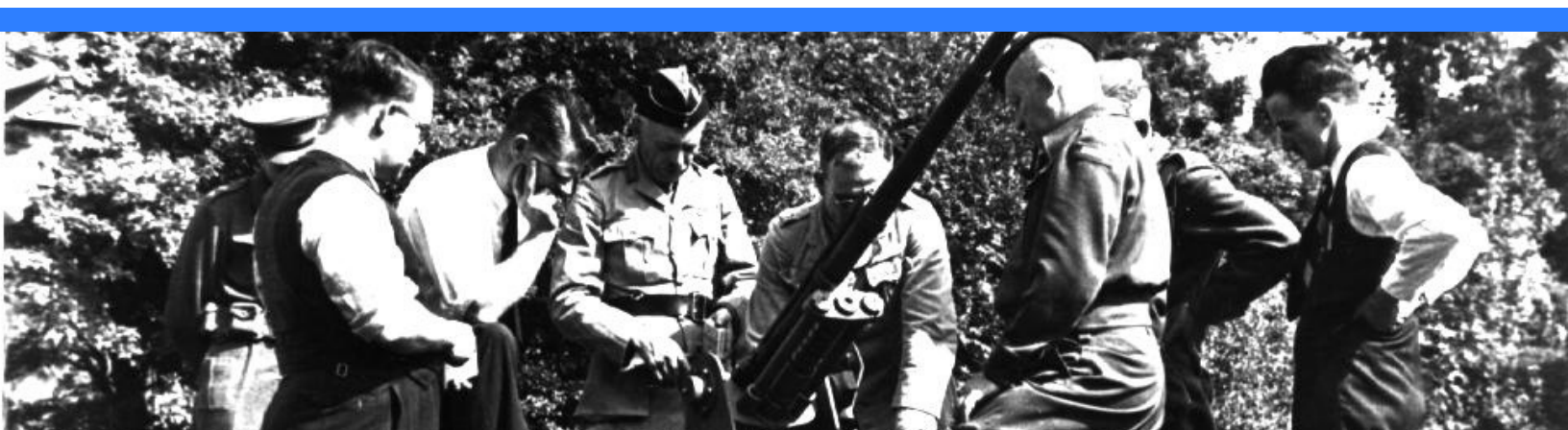
- ☐ Ferret Scout Car
- ☐ Sherman Tank
- ☐ M-62 Wrecker

7. Which Corps badge has an automotive symbol on it?

- ☐ The third RCME badge (1952)
- ☐ The first RCME badge (1944)
- ☐ LORE badge (1968)

8. Which of these Canadian made tanks is this one?

- ☐ Grizzly
- ☐ Valentine
- ☐ Ram



Major General Ernest Basil Creber, CD, CMM



1927 - 2022

MGen Ernie Creber passed away peacefully on the 19th of March. Second only to his love of family, he took enormous pride in being a member of the Canadian Forces, and most especially, being in the Corps of Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RCEME).

Upon graduating from the University of British Columbia with a degree in electrical engineering he was commissioned into the RCEME Corps. His early assignments included courses in Guided Weapons in Huntsville Alabama, and Fire Control Systems at the Royal Military College of Science in the UK. In 1966, he commanded the UN Workshop at Camp Rafah during the year prior to the Six-Day war. He attended National Defence College before being posted to Mobile Command HQ. On promotion to BGen in 1974 he assumed the role of DGLEM and Branch Adviser. In 1979 he was appointed Associate Assistant Deputy Minister (Mat) as a MGen. Prior to his retirement in 1982, he was made Commander of the Order of Military Merit for his outstanding service to Canada and the Canadian Forces.

MGen Creber worked tirelessly to ensure that RCEME officers and NCOs had the necessary technical knowledge and the leadership skills required to provide combat service support where and when needed. Those of us who served with him will remember him above all as "an officer and a gentleman".



Arte et Marte

