



Fort Fraser Despatches, February 2017

THE Burns Supper - 21 Jan. 2017:



Duty Party salutes "the Haggis!"

60+ Burns fans and Haggis lovers enjoyed the Garrison Burns Supper at Bessborough Armoury, home to 15FD Reg't RCA.



Address to a Haggis



Brown Bess "feu de joie"



Fort Fraser Garrison

2017 Schedule of Events:

- 03 March - 78th & 15FD Whisky Event in the Mess
- 18 March - Fort Fraser display at Surrey Museum Celtic Fest
- *25 March - 78th Fraser Highlanders Assoc. Annual General Meeting*
- 09 Apr - Vimy Day in Canada – LEST WE FORGET
- 15 Apr - Battle of Ste. Foy Remembrance Dinner
- 20–22 May - Victoria Highland Games
- 29 May - Louisbourg BBQ – OC residence
- 03-17 Jun - Garrison Scotland Tour (fully booked/waiting list)
- 17 Jun - BC Highland Games, Coquitlam
- 23 Sept - Plains of Abraham Commemorative Dinner
- 11 Nov - Remembrance Day – LEST WE FORGET
- 25 Nov - Feast of Saint Andrew Dinner

"pride in the heritage"



**15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA
&
The 78th Fraser Highlanders**

Fund Raiser and Scotch Tasting Night

The 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA and the 78th Fraser's Highlanders invite you, and any like-minded guests of your acquaintance, to attend our annual fund raising and whiskey tasting event at the historic Bessborough Armoury. There will be food, draw prizes, and music. Did we say whisky?

Tickets are **\$55.00** per person for those sampling a selection of six excellent Whiskeys selected by our famous whisky elves, Chuck & John, or a meagre **\$25.00** if you are only having beer, wine, or soft drinks from our No-Host Bar.

Only 50 tickets will be sold for the full whisky fleet!

Dress is business casual. kilts, and highland dress, of course, are welcome.

DATE: Friday – March 3rd, 2017

TIME: 1800 hrs – 2300 hrs

LOCATION: 15th Field Artillery Regiment RCA
2025 West 11th Ave Van, BC V6J 2C7

DO NOT MISS OUT!

TO RESERVE YOUR TICKET CONTACT:

Major James Barrett

Cell: (604) 916-1766

E-Mail: barrettjd007@gmail.com

All profits will go to support the activities of the 15th Field Regimental Society and the 78th Fraser Highlanders Fort Fraser Garrison.

Tax receipts will be issued for all donations upon request.



78th Frasers 260 – Canada 150



Years old, that is!

Fraser's regiment first appeared in Inverness, Scotland in 1757, 260 years ago; and the last appearance of an armed and uniformed 78th contingent in Inverness and Beaulieu was in 1997, 20 years ago.

Canada became “official” in 1867, 150 years ago.

In June, 24 intrepid Frasers will return to yesteryear – in a luxury coach – and tour Fraser territory and historic sites while on a 2 week tour of the Highlands; determined to pay tribute to these important dates.

We will visit Beaulieu and Moniac to honour our founding Colonel and his descendants, and hope to encounter our Colonel-in-Chief, Lord Lovat. In a special ceremony to celebrate Canada's birthday – doubtless it will include a wee dram – we will visit a memorial cairn dedicated by PM John G. Diefenbaker at Rogart village, just to the north of Beaulieu, home to the Lovat Frasers. The cairn is built of stones from the home of Sir John A. Macdonald's grandparents.

We will pay the Regiment's respects to the Lord Provost of Inverness, visit the Black Watch at Fort George, and doff our bonnets at Culloden.

As “withdrawal therapy” when we leave the history and Highlands behind us, we will spend a few days in Auld Reekie and Glesga Toon to return to the present.

There is a good chance the group will have a “combo birthday party” at some point to raise our glasses to the 78th Highland Regiment and our dear home and native land – this Canada.



Military Heritage Train 2017 and 2018;

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this rail-based mobile exhibit, performance venue and interpretive centre will educate and inspire Canadians from sea to sea during 2017 and 2018.

The aim is to commemorate and celebrate the military and railway history of Canada in hundreds of Canadian communities during the next two years.

The Military Heritage Train is reminiscent of the magnificent Canadian Centennial Train of 1967. In 2017 and 2018 the principal focus will be the Canadian Armed Forces and the contribution of our railway companies and their employees.

Railcars will be re-purposed as mobile museums and performance venues and will vividly present stories of loyalty, dedication, sacrifice and victory to hundreds of thousands of Canadians from Vancouver to Halifax.

Beginning on April 9, 2017 (Vimy Ridge Day) the Vimy Train will travel throughout British Columbia as a prelude to its travel across Canada to Ottawa.

The Canadian Armed Forces and the railways of Canada are inextricably linked in Canada's history. From sea to sea our railways have carried our Canadian military men and women to the battlefields of Europe, Asia and into the seven seas.

The train and its interpretive cars will be a feature at the Invictus Games in Toronto in September of 2017 and then remain on display in Ottawa at the National Museum over the winter.

The next year, a 2018 Veterans Home Coming Train from Halifax (departing on the 4th of August) and arriving in Vancouver (on the 11th of November) will remind Canadians of the human cost of war and of Canada's role in world conflicts.

Fortunately, the BC Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society has a storage site in New Westminster with over thirty pieces of suitable vintage railway cars and engines. Many of these pieces of equipment have already been used for commemorative trains, films and ceremonies. All of these vintage rail cars can be used to produce commemorative trains incorporating exhibit modules, performance modules, logistics modules.

