

Remembering Our Past

Presentation of Military Artifacts
to 3rd Field Regiment

November 8th, 2015

Marco Polo Cruise Terminal, Saint John, New Brunswick

Welcome

Today we mark a significant event in the history of our Regiment, along with the contributions of the citizens of Saint John and the sacrifices made. LCol Harrison who commanded troops during the "Great War" (1914-1918) was a key player in the supply of ammunition to the guns on the front lines, Maj Cyrus F. Inches, Bty Commander, 1st Canadian Heavy Battery (1914-1918), are but 2 of the many who have served.

The artifacts that are being presented today are all linked together in the fabric of time:

The sword carried by LCol Harrison (CO 3RD FD ARTY REGT 1920-1922), who made sure that ammunition made it to the front lines. The amount of Artillery Ammunition required to support our troops in such battles as Aubers Ridge, Festubert, Civenchy and of course Vimy Ridge was staggering. Without this supply of ammunition all would have been lost.

The medals of Major Inches, who commanded the 1st Canadian Heavy Battery, made up of Gunners from this great city.

And finally, **the Howitzer**, which is what all of these men served or served on. This 6 inch Howitzer was restored under the guidance of Master Gunner, Chief Warrant Officer (Ret) Joe Jordan, and generously refurbished by Mr. Joe Koncovy and the craftsman and engineers of Source Atlantic. This gun which overlooked the city for years, now has new life where future generations will be able to see and touch a fully restored piece of our past.

Sincere thanks for the kind donations of Mr. Paul Blanchet, the great grandson of LCol Harrison, and great nephew of Maj Inches, for the sword and medals.

Thank you also to LCol (Ret) Ike Kennedy, for his donation of the **water colour depicting the bty in action** by then Battery Sergeant Major, BSM Slader.

Finally, special thanks to the Honourary Colonel of the Regiment, John Irving, for his time and resources to make this all all possible.

Our Cap Badge



Ubique

Quo Fas Et Gloria Ducunt

Everywhere

Whither Right And Glory Lead

Artifact Presentations



SA | SOURCE ATLANTIC

6 inch Howitzer

The 6-inch howitzer was one of the most successful guns of WW1, entering service in late 1914. In the early 1930s it was upgraded with calibrating sights and made suitable for vehicle towing with improved brakes and pneumatic tired wheels (Mk 1P), or solid rubber tires (Mk 1R). The ammunition was also upgraded by the introduction of new 86 lb streamlined shells that provided increased range and subsequently a 100 lb streamlined shell. It was the standard medium howitzer used in most theatres until progressively replaced by 5.5 inch in operational units although it remained in some training units until the end of the war when it was taken out of service. It was also reintroduced to operational service in early 1945 in Burma after a spate of bore pre-matures in 5.5-inch.

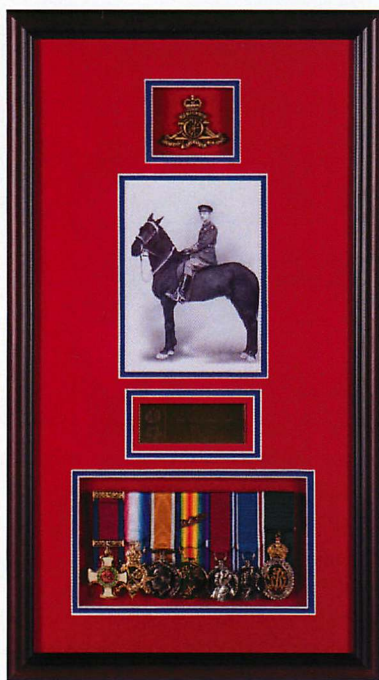
The Howitzer has been lovingly restored by members of the Source Atlantic team of craftsman and engineers. Source Atlantic Limited is a leading single source solutions provider serving the needs of the industrial, government, commercial and residential markets in Canada and beyond. They are partnered with hundreds of world-class suppliers, offer a multitude of specialized and technical services, and have many value added solutions designed to improve their customer's efficiency, productivity, and profitability.

Artifact Presentations (continued)

LCol Harrison Sword and Medals

Lieutenant-Colonel William H. Harrison, DSO joined 3rd New Brunswick Regiment, Canadian Garrison Artillery at the dawn of the 20th century. When the Great War broke out in 1914, Major Harrison took command of the regiment's Composite Battery and mobilized defence for the port of Saint John. In 1915,

newly promoted Lieutenant-Colonel Harrison led 2nd Canadian Divisional Ammunition Column overseas. He served on the Western Front with distinction, earning a Distinguished Service Order and being Mentioned-in-Dispatches four times between 1915 and 1918. After the war, Lieutenant-Colonel Harrison became the first post-war Commanding Officer of a re-organized 3rd (New Brunswick) Heavy Brigade (1920-1922), Canadian Garrison Artillery and led efforts to incorporate New Brunswick gunners' battlefield achievements into the regiment's structure and identity. He transferred to Corps Reserve in 1922 but continued to support the regiment.



Artifact Presentations (continued)

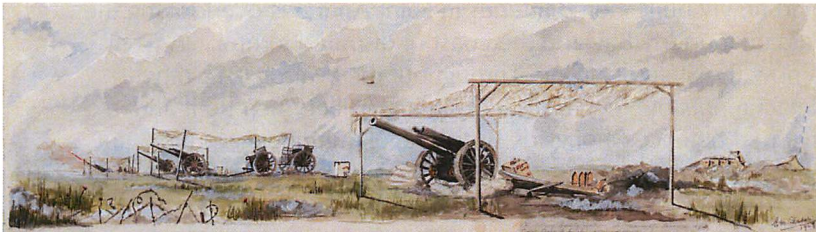


Medals of Major Cyrus Inches



Major Cyrus F. Inches, DSO, MC joined 3rd New Brunswick Regiment, Canadian Garrison Artillery in the early 20th century. Lieutenant Inches was chosen to help lead New Brunswick's gunner contingent dispatched overseas with 1st Canadian Division, helping to form the division's 1st Canadian Heavy Battery. Inches became Battery Second-in-Command, and in 1917 was promoted to Major and appointed Battery Commander. Inches and 1st Canadian Heavy Battery served with distinction in every major British and Canadian engagement on the Western Front from Neuve Chapelle in 1915, to Mons in 1918. Major Inches returned to Saint John after the war and was appointed to command the newly formed 15th Heavy Battery in 3rd (New Brunswick) Heavy Brigade, Canadian Garrison Artillery. He transferred to Corps Reserve in 1922 but continued to support the regiment.

Watercolour of Battery in Action



Watercolour painted by LCol. E.M. Slader in 1927 and presented to his friend Maj. Cyrus F. Inches, inscribed as follows: "1st. Heavy Battery Position at Mametz, Somme, 1916. Capt. Cyrus F. Inches, Commanding Officer"

“The Loyal Company of Artillery”

Prepared by: Lee Windsor, PhD, February 2012.

3rd Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery

The Loyal Company of Artillery of the City of Saint John was formed on May 4th, 1793 after New Brunswick passed its first Militia Act in 1792 in response to the outbreak of the French Revolutionary Wars. Since that historic founding The Loyal Company of Artillery formed the core of a body of militia artillery that has existed in the province right up to the present day in the form of 3rd Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery. For much of the 20th century the Regiment proudly carried “The Loyal Company” designation as part of its title, perpetuating the connection to Canada’s oldest artillery unit.

The Loyal Company was the first of several militia artillery companies, renamed batteries in the later nineteenth century formed in New Brunswick for the defence of the colony’s main port and border towns from outside threat.



War of 1812

The threat of war with the United States proved real enough in 1812 that New Brunswick militia artillery detachments were activated as part of the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Charlotte County Regiment to man newly built shore batteries in Saint Andrews overlooking the Passamaquoddy Bay and the coast of disputed territory in what is now the State of Maine. Throughout the War of 1812 other detachments of New Brunswick militia artillerymen built and manned defences alongside British regular gunners around Saint John harbour.

The New Brunswick Regiment of Artillery

Saint John’s importance as the key all-season port of entry into British North America and then Canada meant that the city garrison was always armed and provisioned for defence from the sea. Artillery was central to that defence, making the Saint John garrison a logical focal point for the training and equipping of New



Brunswick's militia artillery from across the province.

In 1838 militia artillery companies throughout the province were unified as the New Brunswick Regiment of Artillery. The core and headquarters of this force was the original Loyal Company and the gun batteries defending the harbour. Indeed, the NB Regiment of Artillery was formed to man those vital defences when the British regular artillery garrison marched west in response to the Rebellions of 1837 and 1838 in Upper and Lower Canada. That same year, the Regiment was called on to despatch a troop of artillery to Woodstock during the border dispute known as the Aroostook War of 1838-39.

Despite funding shortages, the Regiment continued to maintain a high standard of readiness and artillery skill-at-arms largely due to a continuation of the same volunteer spirit that inspired the Loyal Company of Artillery. That readiness was apparent in 1866 during the Fenian Raids when the Regiment manned the gun batteries around Saint John Harbour and along the border at Saint Andrews. A decade later, they once again stood guard at the nation's coastal defences during the 1878 war scare with Russia. They also came to the aid of the civil powers during the Saint John Great Fire of 1877 using their specialist skills in handling high explosives to blow down walls for a fire break. These dramatic highlights as well as more routine mustering for summer training camps and ceremonial occasions established the New Brunswick Regiment of Artillery as a proud and well-known element of Canada's defence forces. The province of New Brunswick and the City of Saint John recognized the many contributions of this regiment when it celebrated the founding of the Loyal Company with a grand centennial ball in May 1893.

20th Century Defending Canada at Home & Abroad

In 1895, as part of a wave of Canadian defence modernization and national organization, the unit was first identified with its modern numerical designation and named the 3rd (New Brunswick) Regiment of Canadian Garrison Artillery. It counted among its members Lieutenant-Colonel C.W. Drury, considered to be the father of Canada's modern artillery. Drury commanded The Canadian Brigade of Artillery during the South African War, which included a troop of gunners from the Regiment's 89th Battery in Woodstock. LCol Drury was himself the son of LCol Richard Hayne, the Regiment's first commanding officer at the time of formation in 1838. So began the new 20th century reputation for excellence not only for manning defences at home but also for raising well-trained artillerymen for overseas service.

The Great War, 1914-1918

The day after war broke out in August 1914 the Regiment barged its 4.7inch heavy guns to Partridge Island to protect the mouth of Saint John Harbour. For the duration of the war, the Regiment stood on guard against the very real threat of German cruisers and submarines on Canada's east coast. The unit's heavy guns and experienced artillerymen also served to train thousands of volunteers from New Brunswick and eastern Canada for service in the Canadian Corps Heavy Artillery formed in 1916 in France. The Regiment also contributed personnel to the 2nd Divisional Ammunition Column and the 1st Canadian Heavy Battery, among them future commanding officers LCol "Harry" Harrison and Major Cyrus Inches.

The Guns of Vimy, Passchendaele and the 100 Days

In 1916 volunteers from the Regiment travelled overseas as 4th and 6th Canadian Siege Batteries, firing their first shots in anger during the Battle of the Somme. There they perfected new techniques of long range counter-battery bombardment. The Canadian Corps Heavy Artillery, including 4th and 6th Siege Batteries gathered together for the first time with the whole of the Canadian Corps in the spring of 1917. That April they fired what has gone down in history as one of the most successful counter-battery bombardments in history, neutralizing over 80 percent of the German artillery and paving the way for Canadian infantrymen to take Vimy Ridge. From Vimy, 4th and 6th Canadian Siege Batteries supported the Corps in the difficult fighting for Passchendaele and in the final 100 Days Campaign. New Brunswick's batteries played an especially important role in the dramatic Canadian victory at the Canal du Nord and Cambrai in September 1918. At the end of the Great War, surviving veterans came home to what became known as 3rd (New Brunswick) Coast Brigade, Royal Canadian Artillery, (The Loyal Company of Artillery). Many veterans stayed active in the interwar militia, keeping alive the specialized skill set of long range artillery.

The Second World War, 1939-1945

In 1939 3rd (New Brunswick) Coast Brigade, RCA, (The Loyal Company of Artillery) mobilized to prepare and man new heavy coastal gun batteries constructed around Saint John. The threat of German surface raiders and submarines was even greater in the Second





World War than in the first, requiring much of the Regiment's attention. However, the requirements for trained artillerymen for overseas service led to the despatch of four batteries from the regiment. 89th Battery from Woodstock mustered as field artillery while 90th and 104th Batteries from Fredericton assembled as anti-tank units. All three were despatched to Italy, taking part in the Canadian victory at the Hitler Line that opened the liberation of Rome. 105th Battery from Saint John also went overseas as an anti-tank unit, landing in Normandy and taking part in the climactic Battle of the Falaise Gap and The Battle of the Scheldt.

1945-2012

The close of the Second World War ended direct threats to Canada's east coast by sea. The new threat to Canadian security in the early Cold War era came from Soviet bombers carrying nuclear weapons. In response the Regiment was re-organized as a medium anti-aircraft unit. The threat of aircraft gave way to ballistic missiles, and the Canadian Army once again organized for forward conventional defence in Europe as a leading member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. In that context, in 1962 the Regiment evolved into its present role as the 3rd Field Artillery Regiment (The Loyal Company), Royal Canadian Artillery. Since then the Regiment has continued in its same function since the Loyal Company was formed in 1793; to maintain a reserve force of trained artillerymen to defend Canada at home and abroad. In recent decades, the most visible form of that mission has been to provide gunners and officers to augment regular force Royal Canadian Artillery batteries deployed for overseas service on peace-keeping, peace-enforcement and stability operations.

In the last four decades, hundreds of 3rd Field Artillery Regiment gunners have served in Cyprus, the Golan Heights, the Former Yugoslavia, Somalia, and most recently Sierra Leone. A mission of particular pride was in support of the Canadian Forces's efforts in Afghanistan, where the requirement for Canadian soldiers with artillery and observer skills once again became paramount. The Loyal Company title was officially shorn as the Regiment's post-nominal title on 20 November 1975, apparently as part of the wider policy of separating the unified Canadian forces from traditions and customs associated with Great Britain. Nevertheless, the unit continues to perpetuate this link to its 1793 foundation.



Our Command Team & Partners

Commanding Officer 3rd Field Artillery Regiment RCA (The Loyal Company), Major Luigi Andreola CD

Maj Andreola began his military career as a cadet with the Lincoln and Welland Regt as an infantryman and later joined the Reserves with 56 Fd Regiment 10 Bty in St Catharines ON. In 1979 Maj Andreola transferred to the regular force with 3rd Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery stationed in CFB Shilo.

Major Andreola has since served with 1 RCHA overseas in Europe (1985), Royal Regiment Canadian Artillery School (1989), 116 independent Field Bty Kenora ON. After a second tour with 1 RCHA he took his commission to Captain and returned to the Artillery School in Gagetown where he was selected to attend his Gunnery Career course at Larkhill UK. In 2013 he deployed to South Sudan as a Military Liaison Officer with the United Nations.

On promotion to Major in 2014, he was posted to Edmonton AB, to assume duties as the Regional Commander for the Joint Personnel Support Unit Alberta/ Northern Canada, and later transferred to the reserves in 2015. On 29 August 2015 Maj Andreola assumed Command of 3rd Field Artillery Regiment RCA (The Loyal Company)

Maj Andreola is a graduate of the Land Forces Command and Staff College in Kingston ON.

Regimental Sergeant Major 3rd Field Artillery Regiment RCA (The Loyal Company), Chief Warrant Officer Mike Louvelle

Chief Warrant Officer Louvelle joined the Canadian Forces in 1974 starting out as a Gunner in 1st Field Regiment (Halifax) before moving on to 2 RCHA Petawawa where he held various positions finally getting his Basic Para Course in 1990. CWO Louvelle has held every Regimental position in his climb up through the ranks. CWO Louvelle while with the Regular force was posted to 3rd Fd Arty Regt from 2000 to 2005 as the Regimental Training Warrant Officer and after retirement from the regular force as BSM 115 Bty in 2012 and taking over as RSM in May 2013.

CWO Louvelle has completed his share of Operational Tours, 2 UN Tours in Cyprus, 1 Tour in Bosnia, 2 Tours in Afghanistan, Disaster Relief with the DART to Pakistan along with many deployments in support of CF operations in Canada and Europe. At 59, CWO Louvelle still likes to dawn his pack and battle gear for little route marches on our range weekends.

Honourary Colonel, John K. F. Irving

HCol John K. F. Irving was appointed Honourary Colonel for 3rd Field Regiment (RCA) The Loyal Company in 2009 and serves as an advisor to the Commanding Officer. He is currently President of Ocean Capital Investments Limited and held various positions in the Irving Group of Companies since 1983. He has a Bachelor of Arts and Masters in Business Administration.

Honourary Lieutenant-Colonel, Jim Quinn

As the Honourary Lieutenant-Colonel for 3rd Field Regiment (RCA) The Loyal Company, Lieutenant-Colonel Quinn assists the Honourary Colonel as an advisor to the Commanding Officer. HLCol Jim Quinn was appointed as President & Chief Executive Officer of Saint John Port Authority in September, 2010.



Manager Source Atlantic Engineered Products and Services division: Mr. Josef Koncovy

Josef Koncovy graduated from Windsor Regional High School, Windsor Nova Scotia in 1981 Acadia University in 1984 with a Bachelor of Applied Science and the Technical University of Nova Scotia (Daltech) in 1987 with a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering.

Joe has held management positions in the electrical industry, including with companies such as Westinghouse Canada, Siemens Canada, and Nova Scotia Power. He is currently manager of Source Atlantic's Engineered Products and Services division, and has been an employee of Source Atlantic for over 18 years.

Past Commanding Officer 3rd Field Artillery Regiment RCA (The Loyal Company) 2011-2015, LCol (Ret) Stephen Strachan

He began his military career as an infantryman with the Lanark and Renfrew Scottish Regt in 1972 at Pembroke Ontario. He remained with the regiment until he transferred to the regular force as an officer in 1977.

In 1981 he was posted to the 3rd Regiment RCHA. While there, he completed a UN tour as the Operations Officer of a line company. In 1983, he was selected to attend the AD Instructor-In-Gunnery Course.

On promotion to Major in 1988, he was posted to Baden, West Germany, to assume command of the 128th Air Defense Battery, 4th Air Defense Regiment. Following command he was posted to Wellington, India to attend the Defense Services Staff College where he obtained a Masters Degree in Military Science. In 1994, LCol Strachan was selected as the CO of 119th Air Defense Battery, RCA in Chatham, NB. LCol Strachan became the Chief of Staff of the Combat Training Centre until his transfer back to the reserve force in Jan 2007. LCol Strachan served as the G5 of 3 ASG for three years prior to his transfer to the Advance Training cell of Land Force Atlantic Area in 2010.

On 11 September 2012 LCol Strachan assumed Command of 3rd Field Artillery Regiment RCA (The Loyal Company)

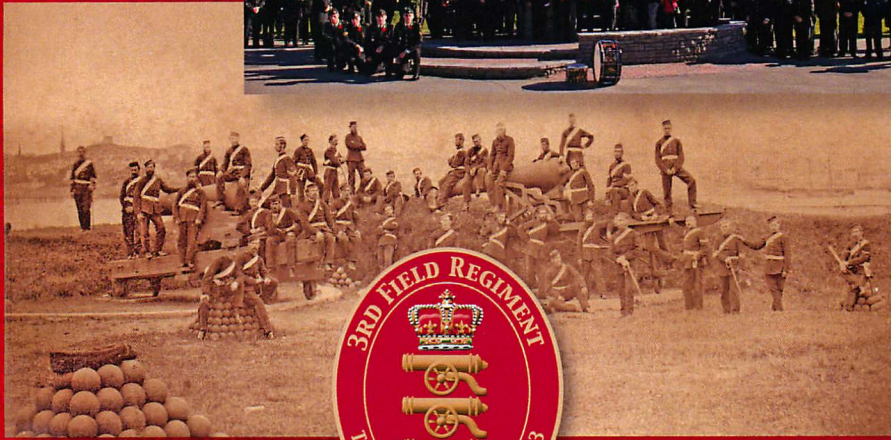
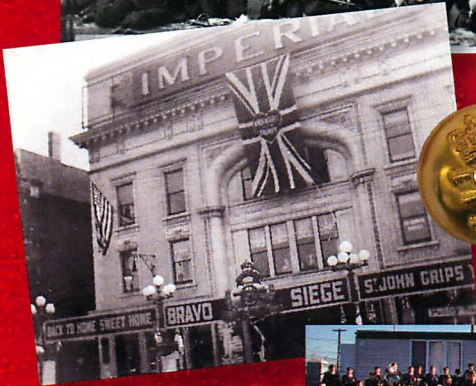
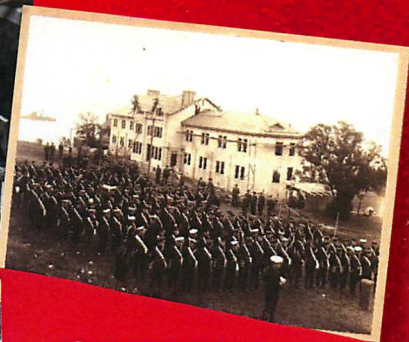
Past Commanding Officer 3rd Field Artillery Regiment RCA (The Loyal Company) 2008-2011: LCol Shawn McPherson CD

Lieutenant Colonel McPherson enrolled in 3rd Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery (The Loyal Company) on 27 February 1989, as a Private Recruit. After completing his QL3 and all artillery QL4 courses he was appointed an Officer-Cadet under the Reserve Entry Scheme on 03 March 1991. He was commissioned on 1 September 1991 and during his Regimental tour served as a Gun Position Officer, Forward Observation Officer 115 Battery and the Field Battery, 1996-2001, Battery Captain, 115 Battery, 1998, Adjutant, Regimental Headquarters, 1999-2001, Battery Commander of 115 Battery, 2007-2008

Lieutenant Colonel McPherson took command of the Loyal Company on 7 Sep 2008 and is now the Deputy Commander 37 Canadian Brigade Group HQ in Moncton NB.

Past Regimental Sergeant Major 3rd Field Artillery Regiment RCA (The Loyal Company) 2007-2011: CWO (Ret) Joe Jordan

Chief Warrant Officer (Mr. Gnr) Joe Jordan has been an integral member of the 3rd Fd Regt RCA team. Joe came to the Regt after retiring from the Regular Force where he served in many capacities from Gunner to RSM of the Corps of Artillery. CWO Jordan is both Air Defense and Field qualified Gunner who is also one of the last true Master Gunners of the Artillery. It is with his experience and guidance the successful completion of the refurbishment of the Howitzer to its current condition.



3 Field Artillery Regiment (The Loyal Company)

Proudly Serving Canada for over 220 Years