



THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES OF CANADA  
130 QUEEN STREET EAST  
TORONTO, ON M5A 1R9

## To the Regimental Family,

The intent of this letter is to serve as a Thank You to those that have made my journey and time as Commanding Officer possible. I had the honour of serving in the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada for 29 of my 32 years of service. During this time, I had the opportunity to grow and develop as a Rifleman, junior leader, senior NCO and officer.

These opportunities came in the form of deployments, travel, courses, challenging training and mentorship. I owe a debt of gratitude for the mentorship from Senior NCOs Bill Paton, Donovan O'Halloran, Mark Shannon, Shaun Kelly, Philip ten Kortenaar and Scott Paterson, to name a few. Then, as an officer, the guidance of MGen Walter Holmes, HLCol Lionel Goffart and LCol Fotheringham, St Denis, and Lamie.

I had the unique distinction of taking command of the Regiment at the beginning of the COVID pandemic. Coming in at this time allowed me to see the QOR at its finest. Many of our Riflemen supported Long-Term Care Homes and were exposed to tragedy and triumph that most young people will never experience; several were recognized for their actions.

We came out of the pandemic on top, thanks to the dream team of Majors Boileau, Leibel, Henderson, Captains Langille, Pampe, Flannery, Llewellyn-Thomas, and MWOs Bryan Burns, Darnel Leader, and Justin Thorn. In April, a report was released by Army HQ which noted that the QOR are the largest Army Reserve unit in Canada. Furthermore, we are the only unit in Canada that scored green in both trained members and effective members. To emphasize this, we are continually recognized for the unit's outsized support to courses and tasks both internal to the Primary Reserve and in support of our Regular Force partners at CAAWC, 3 RCR, and CTC. One just has to look at the number of members who are deployed or deploying this year to better understand this.

I would like to give special recognition to RSM Jeff Johnston. We have been close friends for almost 25 years, and in our journey had the opportunity grow together as we moved through the ranks. The fact is that his leadership has led to the growth of the leaders within the Regiment. I was the benefactor of his counsel and leadership, and I am forever grateful.

At the centre of all of this is our Riflemen. I am continuously impressed by your dedication and professionalism. Your ability to rise the occasion while being tactically competent, physically fit and regimentally sound sets you apart. You are the reason we are successful, and I am confident in the future of the Regiment knowing that you are the leaders of tomorrow.

Finally, I am extremely thankful for the new Command Team of LCol Chris Boileau and RSM Justin Thorn. The Regiment is in good hands. Chris's recent incredible work with Task Force Unifier in support of the war in Ukraine reinforces what I already knew about him and foreshadows the great things to come. He is an inspirational leader that is passionate about the Regiment. Justin's years of dedicated service as a senior NCO and leadership by example makes him an ideal RSM. Backstopped by a strong Honorary team of HCol MGen Fraser and HLCol Minhas, the next 3 years are going to be a good time to be a Rifleman.

Thank you and *In Pace Paratus*,

Scott Moody, CD  
Lieutenant Colonel