

Volume 4 / Issue 1  
Newsletter

February

# Moving Forward!!



Photo taken by Lyle Johnson 1992

Many a cadet and staff member have walked this tunnel over the years; however in 2020 no cadet or staff member was housed or trained here at Vernon Cadet Training Centre. For the summer of 2021 we expect similar restrictions but hold hope that the CTC will be home to cadets once again.

The Vernon Cadet Camp Museum Board and Staff are very pleased with what we have been able to accomplish during this time of closure, but now we must keep moving forward. With the success of our Sponsor a Cadet program, 100% funded by donations, we have been able to assist cadets in their public speaking skills, leadership and initiative skills and self confidence. It is our intent to again run these programs in the 2021 year.

A new program we are hoping to launch this year is our new schools program. We hope this program, which will highlight the cadet and military history of the camp, will inspire more youth. The schools program would allow youth of all ages to visit the museum and take part in its history.

The world changed this past year and the cadet program adapted and changed along with it. The relevancy and adaptivity of this program are just a couple of reasons why the cadet program is so important to so many of us. The ability to think outside of the box, overcome adversity and move forward on our chosen paths are just some of the skills that this program has given to so many of us. The Vernon Cadet Camp Museum is proud to be able to showcase this history and be part of the legacy.

**Support the Museum**



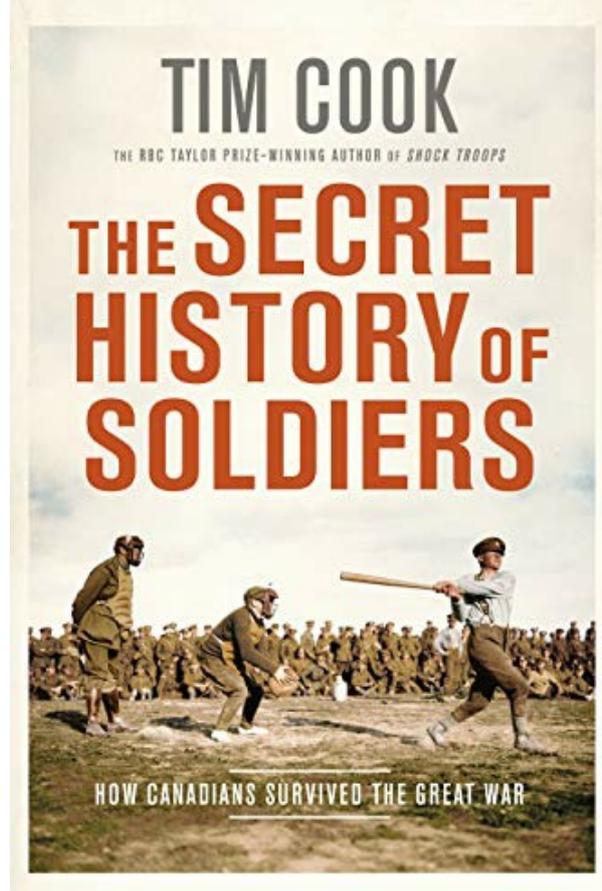
The Museum is home not only to the cadet history of the camp but to the military's history of the area. [The Memory Project](#), an initiative of Historical Canada, is a volunteer speakers bureau that arranges for veterans and Canadian Forces members to share their stories of military service at school and community events across the country. The speakers have reached three million Canadians since 2001.

Once such speaker is [John Baptist James Marchand](#), born and raised here in Vernon.

[Read more about the history of the camp](#)

From the kit shop this months featured items is the book *The Secret History of Soldiers, how Canadians Survived the Great War*.

Click on the photo for more information.



[Shop at the Kit Shop](#)



2007 Alex Hui photo

With VCCM's closure due to the pandemic, we have been working diligently to get camp Vernon's history available online. To learn more about the our history please visit our [Collections page on the website.](#)

**Members Only Page**

The 2020 AGM for the Society will be held via Zoom meeting February 20th. Go to the member page to register and receive your zoom link.

Due to the camp closure in 2020 and COVID-19, the Board of Directors have agreed to an additional benefit for memberships. All individual memberships will receive 30 minutes of Archival research for no charge.

**Become a Member**

**This months featured**

# Alumni is CWO (retired) Errol Patrick



Chief Warrant Officer Errol Patrick was born on April 27, 1930, to Alma and Errol Patrick in Montreal. He grew up in Trinidad under the care of his paternal grandfather.

At age of 16 Errol moved to Vancouver and then joined the #1838 Westminster Regiment Cadet Corps. Attending his first summer of

training at Vernon Trade Training Camp in 1949, he completed the Driver Mech Course. He was one of the first 26 cadets and the first person of colour to take the D&M course. He soon joined the Canadian Army (35 years) as a Gunner in 1950 and served our country in the Korean War. As a member of the Canadian Armed Forces, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, he was deeply respected, served with honour and distinction, and was a trailblazer for Black Canadians to serve proudly in uniform.

Throughout his life, and with his innovation to embrace technology in his later years, he was able to maintain and foster the multiple friendships that were of such great importance to him.

He travelled to Germany in 1957 with the No. 1 RCHA and spent eight years working as an instructor with the Battery Command Post. Patrick married during this time, and the couple had three children.

In 1966, Patrick was promoted to staff sergeant, where he took responsibility of commanding the troops. He later returned to Canada, where he earned the rank of CWO while stationed at CFB Petawawa. At the end of his career, Patrick held the position of CWO of Artillery at CFB Gagetown.

CWO Patrick retired from the CAF after 35 years of service.

A devoted family man and husband, some of the family's fondest memories were of exploring Canada and Europe on many camping adventures. He was a loving grandfather who was actively involved with each of their lives and encouraged them to love one another, live life to the fullest and he always emphasized the importance of family. He was an active member of the Legion Branch 632 (Past President, Treasurer, and Poppy Fund organizer) and a strong advocate for the care of Veterans and believed "For me, every day is Remembrance Day".

Errol Patrick passed away on January 5, 2021



Photo courtesy: Errol Patrick  
Photographer: Cam LeBlond

3rd row:

2nd row Errol Patrick (4), Bill Irvine (6)

1st row: possibly Lt P.J. Tyerman (6), Teddy Myers (10)

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Know some one who you feel should be featured as our Alumni of the month?

Please contact the [Operations Manager](#) and let us know.



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