

# Class of 65 Newsletter

## Bulletin d'Information—Classe de 65

Numéro 109



January/janvier 2018

*Disclaimer: This Newsletter is produced for members of the RMC Class of 1965 and is based primarily on inputs from members of the Class of 65. It is not an official publication of the Royal Military College nor does it purport to represent the views or opinions of all members of the Class. Unfortunately, the Editorial staff lacks the linguistic skills to produce a bilingual version. Items are published in the official language in which they are received.*

### Editor's Corner/Coin du rédacteur

I'm jumping the gun by a few days with this issue, but I seem to have some idle time between a busy Christmas with the grand children and whatever Jan has in store for me for the New Year.

Since publication of the last edition we have lost and gained a classmate. Sadly, we learned of the passing of **6033 Pat Johnson**, on 10 December, following a long bout with Alzheimer's disease. His obituary is reprinted below, courtesy of the *Ottawa Citizen*.

On a happier note and thanks to the efforts of our super sleuth (who wishes a little too late, to remain anonymous), and his trusty assistant (in this case) **Gerry Mueller, 6469 Don Stephenson**, a classmate who started out in 15 Flight of Maisonneuve Squadron, CMR, has resurfaced. Some words from Don are included below.

There were a number of comments on **Hugh Spence's** thoughts on the recent Auditor General report on RMC and, also on his marginal gnashing of teeth over the pillbox. Some of those comments are also reprinted below.

Several members of the Ottawa gang met for a final luncheon for 2017 on 18 December at the HMC Bytown navy mess. Two of the group were in attendance for the first time and it was a pleasure to have them join us—they were **6385 Andre Maheu** and **6413 Rodderick (Joe) Manning**. Regulars present were **Adams, Archer, Braham, Cale, Carruthers, Clarkson, Emond, Forbes (Navy), Hilton, Houlston, Pyne, and Spence**. These are regular events and all classmates in the Ottawa/Gatineau area are reminded that they are very welcome to attend.

Finally, in this issue **Steve Arnold** has provided the name of the new Class of 1965 Professor of Leadership.



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### Obituary— 6033 Pat Johnson

JOHNSTON, Patrick Michael Lt. Colonel (Retired) June 8, 1941 - December 10, 2017 Pat passed away at Medex Extendicare with his family by his side. Cherished husband to Janice for 51 years. Much loved father of Darren (Rebecca) and Kendra (Paul Timlock). Grandpa will be missed by his four grandchildren, Ryan, Hannah, Cole, and Seth. Younger brother of Norma Podzelný and Bud (Louise) Johnston in BC. Loving brother-in-law of Donald (Wenda) Koehler and Yvonne (Paul Staab). No funeral service. His ashes will be placed in the family plot in Chilliwack, BC, at a later date. Special thanks to Medex staff for taking such good care of Pat, during his stay. Memoriam donations to the Alzheimer Society of Lanark County, 115 Christie Lake Road, Perth, ON K7H 3C6, would be appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to the care of the O'Dacre Family Funeral Home, Perth.

The Class of 65 extends its condolences to Janice and to her family.

### 6469 Don Stephenson is Found

Don Stephenson entered CMR in 1960 and, thanks to the efforts of *super sleuth* and Gerry Mueller, has been located and added to the mailing list of this periodical. Don had the following to say in an e-mail to me, on being re-discovered; *“Hi Mike: I do remember you, along with most of the others in the Flight 15 photo. Not sure, however, we'd currently be able to pick each other out in a crowd using the photo, although I was pleasantly surprised at how many of my McMaster Class of '65 alumni 50th reunion I recognized.*

*As well, please send me the class newsletter. In return, as soon as I get the chance I'll send you a brief update on my life since 1961 and a picture.*

*Re lunch tomorrow, Jim, I'm unfortunately otherwise engaged - an annual Christmas lunch for senior executive retirees of the Bank of Canada. Keep me informed of future get-togethers, however. Looking forward to meeting everyone.*

*Don”*

Editor's Note: The photo Don refers to is shown on the next page.



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1960 CMR 15 Flight

### 15 FLIGHT



FIRST ROW (left to right): M.R. Braham, J.F. Gratton, H.J. Spence, J.-G.-C. Thibault, M.-B. Favreau, J.-P.-R. Gaudreau. — SECOND ROW (left to right): J.-M.-A.-R. Lavoie, J.-S.-B. Cantin, D.R. Stephenson, R.-A. Martin, M.-M. Ledoux, J.D. Wagner. — THIRD ROW (left to right): P.R. Jonassen, L.W. Jackson, P.L. Sarantos, J.-G.-E.-R. Baril, J.D. Harries, C.H. Macaulay, H.J. Chaplin.



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### Letters

The following are some of the comments received on Hugh Spence's thoughts on the recent AG Report, and on the pillbox. They are not presented in any form of priority.

*"Mike, thanks for this timely article and thanks to Hugu for putting the article together. I was part of the tele-conf on behalf the Foundation and find Hugu captured the essence of the briefing very well.*

*To add one small comment onto Hugu's last remark in reference to the pill box. 1400 pith helmets are in production as we speak and delivery is expected anytime after March 2018. Brit Smith, grad class of '40, observed a large group of cadets downtown following a Copper Sunday parade and was so upset at the manner in which the box was being worn, he immediately gave the College (through the Foundation) a ton of money to replicate the head-dress worn by the entire cadet wing pre-war. The Colleges accepted his offer to finance the full requirement and voila - a contract to produce is now in effect. Col Smith is now 97 and we are determined to satisfy his donation in 2018 to coincide with his entry anniversary - 1938. I'm an artsman so have no idea how many years that is - maybe John Adams can figure it out!!"*

#### **6475 Mike Houghton**

*Whining about the cost of first class military training is perennial. I can recall hearing it from teachers at Royal Roads in 1961. (These were on the face of it sincere people.)*

*It is however especially prevalent among those that wish our nation ill. It even shows itself among those who lack the highest level of CLARITY OF INSIGHT but are sincere.*

*The entire enterprise absolutely must reflect the paramount importance of what is going on at the military colleges.*

*The military leadership is being prepared!*

*One truly great cadet can walk through the arch and to his unit and the balance of power in the world will be dramatically shifted a very few months or years hence.*

*The education of such people is a pearl of precious price if it even has any price!*

*A buck up campaign never does any harm. That is all very well and is business as usual.*

*We need more cadets and we need to spend more on each one of them.*

#### **6632 Don Hansen**



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### Letters (continued)

*Admiral Huge, Look forward to hearing that Col Smith will take the salute as the entire cadet wing in white helmets and redcoats honour him with a march past next spring.*

*Three cheers for Col Brit who financially made this happen ... and for Col Hummer the sherpa!*

#### **6523 Terry Colfer**

*As you heard in the car trip for TEA John Adams and I have many concerns that are in line with the AG.*

*I was referring to some of your facts. For example the last time I saw the data RMC got way more research money per prof than any other university – military research \$ ...*

#### **6604 Jim Carruthers**

*Thanks as ever for putting out this issue and this useful information. It behooves us all to read the material and respond as we see fit.*

*Hugh, thank you for your cogent and helpful report and commentary.*

*But I vote for retention of the funny little round thing, and an early disappearance of the tropical helmet (and I belong to a distinguished Regiment who wears them too, and my opinion is the same). Apart from the fact that this is not a tropical country, the helmets look a lot sillier than the pillbox, and are not only unforgiving but cruel to those of medium stature.*

#### **6339 Phil Bury**

*Thank you Mike for bringing to our attention Hugh's excellent "cri du coeur" on the recent AG report on RMCC.*

*Although the report makes recommendations on the running of RMCC, some recommendations will likely apply to CMR St-Jean particularly once it becomes a degree granting institution in 2018. As a member of the Board of Governors of CMR St-Jean, I intend to follow that file closely as I am sure Fred Sutherland is doing with the BofG RMCC.*

*Those not familiar with military colleges need to be reminded of the "military" college factor. The CMC system is the only institution in the CAF, indeed in Canada, where the opportunity exists to facilitate development of officers along the four vital pillars of excellence, as highlighted in the 1998 Withers report, of military leadership, academic, bilingualism/cultural, and physical fitness concurrently.*

*Cadets graduating as officers from the CMC into the profession of arms should feel they have received an education of atypical breadth which is oriented towards those issues fundamental to the modern profession of arms making them the best possible officers rather than the best historian in the country. (Ramsey Withers*



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### Letters (concluded)

*(Ramsey Withers report of 1998)*

*For the CMCs to implement concurrently these four vital dimensions of excellence implies costs not incurred in a normal civilian university.*

*By the way, the AG report is only one of three recent reports on the running of RMCC.*

*The other two are: The RMC Special Staff Assistance Visit (SSAV) Report (the so-called Maddison report) and the important update to the 1998 Withers report. The SSAV report states in its conclusion "the SSAV team assesses that overall RMC is delivering on its mission of producing well-educated officers to serve as leaders in the CAF."*

*Hopefully John Cowan will add his wise words to this important discussion on the future of the CMCs.*

**6349 Alain Pellerin**

Editor's Note: I hope that others who have thoughts on these two subjects will provide them for publication in future editions.

### Class of 65 Professor in Leadership

By 6588 Stephen Arnold

VP Academic Phil Bates announced to RMC a few days ago that Professor Christian Leuprecht is the new Class of 1965 Professor of Leadership.

Professor Leuprecht is a political scientist by training: Leuprecht, Christian, PhD. Political demography and demographic change, neo-pluralism, Civil-military relations and military sociology, national-security policy and administration, ethno-political conflict and violence, Liberal-democratic governance and theory, comparative federal and multilevel governance, constitutional governance and theory, Canadian as well as German politics and government.

Phil told me that there were four applicants for the position. In addition to the department of political science, one was from military psychology and leadership and the other two were from history. He added that Professor Leuprecht "... is often seen on CBC, CTV, Global... news. Starting July (he is on sabbatical now and wants the Professorship to kick in in July), he will be introduced as the RMC Class of 1965 Professorship in Leadership. The class will therefore be getting a lot of excellent publicity."

Additional information concerning Professor Leuprecht can be found at the following links:

<https://www.rmcc-cmrc.ca/en/political-science/christian-leuprecht-hon-ba-dea-ma-ma-phd-associate-professor>

<http://www.christianleuprecht.com/>



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### Closing Notes

With respect to the announcement of Professor Leuprecht's appointment, **6508 John Adams** had the following laudatory comment: *“Christian is a friend of mine and a go getter if ever there was one. He is full of energy and determined to make the world a better place. A great choice in my humble opinion.”*

Jan and I would like to wish all of you and your families a very happy and prosperous New Year. Keep those letters and articles coming.

