

Honorary Patron of EUSI – Her Honor, Lois Mitchell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta



EDMONTON UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

PRESIDENT'S ENEWS

JANUARY 2020

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President's Comments

Happy New Year to you all and May the New Year bring you good health and fortune.

2019 has been a relatively successful year for EUSI. We have seen an increased membership and we remain financially viable, despite a not very successful fund raising in October with our Silent Auction. Our visibility in the community at large has also been increased through our activities, which helps to bring to view defence and security concerns.

For the coming year, I hope to continue to recruit new Members and canvass for funds to enable us to hold another symposium in 2020.

As a member of EUSI, please do what you can to recruit at least one new member for this year. The annual membership due remains only \$25.00. Membership due is usually in January. Members who joined in mid year were normally credited per diem and charged anew in January of the next year. We also accept donations but until we salvage our Registered Charitable status, we are unable to issue a tax receipt.



CORRECT EUSI Postal Address: in the December Enews, I have provided an incorrect EUSI postal address. My apology. The correct address for EUSI is:

Edmonton United Services Institute
RPO 50014
RPO Clareview
Edmonton, Alberta,
T6Y 2M9

October Symposium and Silent Auction

Due to a nasty snow storm, our attendance for our annual Symposium and Presidential dinner were reduced but we still had 56 attended the dinner and LGeneral (retired) Paul Wynnyk delivered an outstanding keynote speech. For those who do not aware, Paul is an active member of EUSI for the last twenty years or more.

As for the Silent Auction, I am still waiting for a number of people who bided on the items but has yet to turn in the money. As a result, our treasurer is still waiting to complete a financial statement to disburse the profit for the benefit of the Last Post Fund, the 97 Street Renaming association and EUSI. If you still owe money for items purchased at the Silent Auction, you are asked to pay up soonest.

Proposed 2020 Symposium

Due to changed DND policy governing user fee and change of personnel, we were invoiced significantly for the 2019 symposium held at HCMS NONSUCH, a practice different from the last seven years. As a result, we will have to reconsider changing the venue for then 2020 symposium. Out Treasurer and Messing Director will have a report for the board once all the bills are paid and a financial report is completed.

The theme of the 2020 symposium has been proposed by a number of members and past panelists. The proposed theme is unmanned craft or drone as a defensive or offensive weapon. Drone as a weapon has been increasingly becoming more effective. The recent attack on Saudi Arabian oil producing plants with a drone cost little but crippled the Saudi oil production and resulted in world oil distribution disruption and loss of billions of dollars. The attack on a military convoy in Iraq last year was also with a drone, made in China. Canada's lack of research and development on unmanned craft or drone needs to be addressed. We are vulnerable, not only in defensive actions militarily, but also against any terrorist attacks on people and installations. If you have a suggestion for a speaker on this subject, please advise the president, EUSI.



Edmonton Cenotaph

ATTACK

A dawn the ridge emerges massed and dun
In the wild purple of the glow'ring sun,
Smouldering through spouts of drifting smoke that
shroud

The menacing scarred slope; and, one by one,
Tanks creep and topple forward to the wire.
The barrage roars and lifts. Then, clumsily bowed
With bombs and guns and shovels and battle-gear,
Men jostle and climb to meet the bristling fire.
Lines of grey, muttering faces, masked with fear,
They leave their trenches, going over the top,
While time ticks blank and busy on their wrists,
And hope, with furtive eyes and grappling fists,
Flounders in mud. O Jesus, make it stop!



Edmonton Salute Committee Welcoming Troop Home

The EUSI is a founding member of the Edmonton Salutes Committee, stand to in 1996 to help transition soldiers home from Afghanistan and to promote the welfare of their family. The ESC has been involved since 1996 in welcoming home our soldiers upon their return from deployed overseas. For the coming year, in January, there will be three dates tentatively scheduled when ESC will be at the Edmonton International Airport to welcome home our soldiers coming home from Eastern Europe. The timing is tentatively for 1500 hrs on January 9, 12 and 16. Any EUSI members, veterans, serving soldiers, who want to be part of this activity, please contact president, EUSI.



HUMOUR

Your Duck is Dead - A rare clean joke submitted by Sgt AE Bince, Korea veteran. Seeing it is Christmas, he is afraid Santa would be displeased if he is naughty this time of the year.

A woman brought a very limp duck into a veterinary surgeon. As she laid her pet on the table, the vet pulled out his stethoscope and listened to the bird's chest.

After a moment or two, the vet shook his head and sadly said, "I'm sorry, your duck, Cuddles, has passed away."

The distressed woman wailed, "Are you sure?" "Yes, I am sure. Your duck is dead," replied the vet..

"How can you be so sure?" she protested. "I mean you haven't done any testing on him or anything. He might just be in a coma or something."

The vet rolled his eyes, turned around and left the room. He returned a few minutes later with a black Labrador retriever. As the duck's owner looked on in amazement, the dog stood on his hind legs, put his front paws on the examination table and sniffed the duck from top to bottom. He then looked up at the vet with sad eyes and shook his head.

The vet patted the dog on the head and took it out of the room. A few minutes later he returned with a cat. The cat jumped on the table and also delicately sniffed the bird from head to foot. The cat sat back on its haunches, shook its head, meowed softly and strolled out of the room.

The vet looked at the woman and said, "I'm sorry, but as I said, this is most definitely, 100% certifiably, a dead duck."

The vet turned to his computer terminal, hit a few keys and produced a bill, which he handed to the woman..

The duck's owner, still in shock, took the bill. "\$150!" she cried, "\$150 just to tell me my duck is dead!"

The vet shrugged, "I'm sorry. If you had just taken my word for it, the bill would have been \$20, **but with the Lab Report and the Cat Scan, it's now \$150.**"

Quite a Quack!



Get trained!



CANADIAN MILITARY READING

Chiefs of Defence: Government and the Unified Command of the Canadian Armed Forces

Douglas Bland

This study covers the first 30 years of the office of the Chief of the Defence Staff, 1964-1994. If anything characterizes the history of the office of the CDS, it is conceptual confusion. It is a story of the confusion surrounding the purpose of the institution and the conflicts, misunderstandings, and rivalries, both personal and organizational, which arose from it. Civil-military relations confront society with many questions, but the first question is whose policies prevail? In Canada no one argues that during the last thirty years Parliament's policies have always prevailed over those of allies and special interests in the defence establishment. That fact and its causes and cures ought to concern Canadians.



As it is the holiday season, the Editor opts to omit the usual introduction of Canadian and foreign weapon systems. Instead, I would like to give you a warm friendly message:

Subject: Fwd: Friends Forever

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to one and all.

A newlywed young man was sitting on the porch on a humid day, sipping ice tea with his Father. As he talked about adult life, marriage, responsibilities, and obligations, the Father thoughtfully stirred the ice cubes in his glass and cast a clear, sober look on his Son.

"Never forget your friends," he advised, "they will become more important as you get older."

"Regardless of how much you love your family and the children you happen to have, you will always need friends.

Remember to go out with them occasionally (if possible), but keep in contact with them somehow."

"What strange advice!" thought the young man. "I just entered the married world, I am an adult and surely my wife and the family that we will start will be everything I need to make sense of my life."

Yet, he obeyed his Father; kept in touch with his friends and annually increased their number.

Over the years, he became aware that his Father knew what he was talking about. In as much as time and nature carry out their designs and mysteries on a person, friends are the bulwarks of our life.

After 80 years of life, here is what he, I and you will have learned:

Time passes. Life goes on. Children grow up.

Children cease to be children and become independent. And to the parents, it breaks their heart but the children are separated of the parents because they begin their own families.

Jobs / careers come and go. Illusions, desires, attraction, sex... weakens.

People can't do what they did physically when they were young. Parents die but you move on.

Colleagues forget the favours you did. The race to achieve slows.

But, true friends are always there, no matter how long or how many miles away they are. A friend is never more distant than the reach of a need, intervening in your favor, waiting for you with open arms or in some way blessing your life.

When we started this adventure called LIFE, we did not know of the incredible joys or sorrows that were ahead.

We did not know how much we would need from each other.

Love your parents, take care of your children, but keep a group of good friends.

Stay in touch with them. (even those you seldom see) who help make sense of your life.

Friends Forever. **Merry Christmas and Happy to you all.**



Securitas

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