

# Regimental Association

The Royal Winnipeg Rifles Association was created in 1942 to assist Regimental members returning from World War II service. To this day, assisting Regimental members, remains its chief objective, most recently in the form of supporting Riflemen deployed overseas with items for care packages and other support. Over the years, the Royal Winnipeg Rifles Association has expanded its scope to include assisting the Regiment in maintaining Regimental traditions, and furthering the general interests of the Regiment and its affiliated Cadet Corps. The Association strives to assist the Regiment in serving Winnipeg, the Province, and Canada in the best means possible. The Association further promotes esprit de corps, friendship and good citizenship amongst past, present and future members of the Regiment, encouraging Cadets to enroll when eligible to further sustain the Regiment.

The Royal Winnipeg Rifles Association is constantly involved in the upkeep and improvement of Regimental artefacts and monuments, at home in Canada and abroad, most recently assisting with the refurbishment project of the St. Johns Cathedral Monument and the creation of a plaque for the Valour Road Monument in recognition of CSM F.W. Hall, V.C., one of three unit recipients of the Victoria Cross from the First World War.

The benefits of membership in the Association include a personal copy of the Regimental magazine, The Devils' Blast, and notification through our periodic newsletter and notices of the dates of Regimental celebrations. Current social functions hosted by or involving the Royal Winnipeg Rifles Association include Specific dates can be found [here](#):

- a. Regimental Dinner and Dance (November);
- b. Regimental Church Parade (November);
- c. Regimental Band Visitation (December);
- d. Soldiers' Christmas Dinner (December);
- e. New Years Levee (1 January 2012 – Officers and Senior NCOs);
- f. Fish Creek Dinner (April – Officers and Senior NCOs);
- g. Association D-Day Smoker/Vimy Park Commemorative Service (June);
- h. Unit Stand-Down BBQ (June); and
- g. the Association Golf Tournament (June/July; interest dependent).

Of particular interest to the Association is the D-Day Smoker, a wholly Association hosted event. All Association members are invited to attend the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess in Minto Armouries for camaraderie, the Last Post and food and beverages. As the preeminent Association event, your

presence is most welcome, providing the perfect opportunity to mingle with Riflemen past and present. The following day, a commemorative service is held at The Royal Winnipeg Rifle Association Monument, located in Vimy Ridge Memorial Park, dedicated to all those of the Regiment who died during the Second World War.

All members of the Regiment, past and present, are encouraged welcome and encouraged to submit articles for the Regimental Journal, The Devils' Blast, published yearly in October.

As a member of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles Association, you will also become a voting member, eligible to attend the Annual General Meeting (typically the second Wednesday of April), lending your voice to the workings of the Association and its goals, and by extension, have an influence on many aspects of the Regiment.

For more information on The Royal Winnipeg Rifles Association, to submit articles for the Devils' Blast, or more details on the Association Golf Tournament, please contact Gerry Woodman (R Wpg Rif Museum) or Warrant Officer Jeff Beaudry (Serving Members Representative).

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CWO Gerry Woodman, CD (retired)  
President  
Royal Winnipeg Rifles Association