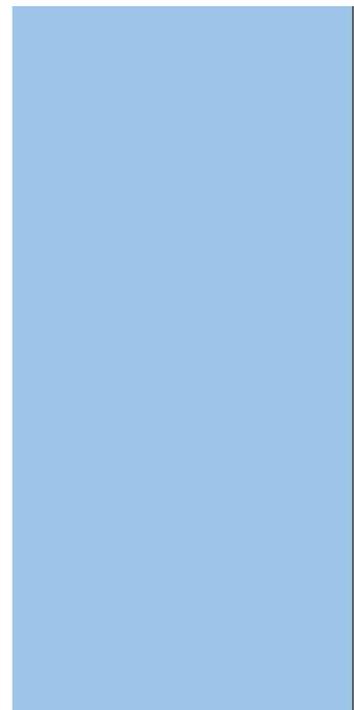


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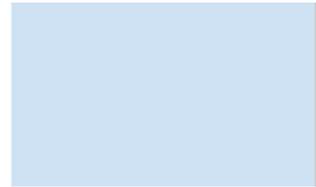


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Postal Address:

Royal Canadian Logistics Service Secretariat

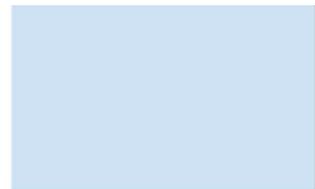
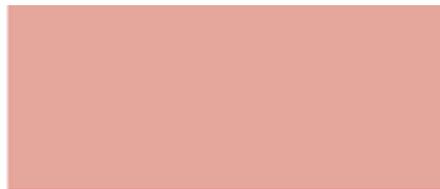
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Ottawa, ON

K1A 0K2

39 Service Battalion Supporting the Honour Ranch



By Sergeant Marc Andre Sabourin, CD

In a remarkable demonstration of professionalism and community spirit, members of 39 Service Battalion (39 Svc Bn) undertook a significant training exercise in April 2025, designed to enhance their driving competencies and refine occupation-specific, trade-related road move and convoy tactics. This initiative not only served as a valuable military training opportunity but also carried a meaningful humanitarian mission.

The battalion was tasked with transporting donated furniture and effects left over from the Invictus Games, requiring detailed planning and coordination. This mission showcased the logistical expertise of 39 Svc Bn, beginning at the Richmond Vancouver BC armouries and spanning a 740-kilometer round trip through the scenic Rocky Mountains to the final destination: Honour Ranch.

This dual-purpose operation allowed the battalion to strengthen its operational readiness while giving back to a cause that supports Canadian Armed Forces members, Veterans, and Emergency Services Personnel. Both the Officer in Charge and the Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM) expressed pride in contributing to Honour Ranch, a facility that has become a sanctuary for those dealing with operational stress injuries.

The road move involved a comprehensive planning phase. Elements included coordinating warehouse pick-up times, confirming delivery schedules, securing qualified operators, issuing orders, ensuring vehicle maintenance and serviceability, and managing administrative tasks. The convoy, composed of multiple military vehicles, navigated challenging terrain with precision and resilience, demonstrating the battalion's adaptability and cohesion.

Located 10 kilometers south of Ashcroft, BC, 160 acres of rolling hills overlooking the South Thompson River, Honour Ranch was the recipient of this support. Officially opened on October 5, 2019, the Ranch offers a peaceful retreat where personnel and their families can access cutting-edge strategies for treating operational stress injuries. Importantly, Honour Ranch receives no direct government funding and relies entirely on donations and fundraising to operate, ensuring its life-changing programs remain free for those who need them most.

This mission exemplified 39 Svc Bn's commitment to excellence and community engagement. Their efforts not only improved operational capabilities but also reinforced the importance of military-civilian partnerships. The Honour Ranch, known for its unwavering support of Canada's heroes, greatly benefited from the battalion's contributions.

The successful completion of this road move stands as a testament to the battalion's dedication to service and support. 39 Svc Bn looks forward to continuing its partnership with Honour Ranch and contributing to its vital mission.



1 - Photo credit: Sgt Sabourin.

Members of the convoy, from left to right: Sgt Godin, Cpl Mui, Cpl Bako, Cpl Hrkac, Cpl Gao, MCpl Thomson, Sgt Sabourin, MCpl Ali, Cpl Hogan, Pte Saini, Pte Hou, Capt So.



2 - Photo credit: Sgt Sabourin.

39 Service Battalion convoy, traveling northbound along the Trans-Canada Highway. The steep slopes and twisting road indicate the challenges faced, yet the convoy moves with purpose, an embodiment of discipline and adaptability in the face of nature's formidable landscape.



3 - Photo credit: Sgt Sabourin

Convoy of 39 Service Battalion winds through mountain pass, camouflaged trucks pressing forward with quiet strength and precision.



4 - Photo credit: Sgt Sabourin

Soldiers inspect vehicles and coordinate movements as a team—focused, efficient, and mission-ready during a brief tactical pause.



5 - Photo credit: Sgt Sabourin

Convoy maneuvers across hard-packed terrain, maintaining formation amid dust and trees—each truck moves with unity, precision, and purpose.

HMCS Ville de Québec Forward Re-Armament 2025



6 - Photo credit: Cpl Brandon Gamache

Exercise harpoon being loaded on HMCS VQD on 9 July 2025 in preparation for EX TS 25



7 - Photo credit: Cpl Brandon Gamache

Re-arm team receiving tactical harpoon from HMCS VQD on 9 July 2025.

By Lieutenant(N) Patricia Summers, Operations Officer CFAD Rocky Point

HMCS Ville de Québec (VDQ) set off from Halifax, Nova Scotia in April 2025 to maintain a maritime presence as part of Op HORIZON and to participate in Exercise TALISMAN SABRE (Ex TS25) off Australia. As part of Ex TS25, the VDQ would conduct a missile firing exercise with Harpoon missiles before commencing Op HORIZON.

To achieve the exercise objectives of Ex TS25 while maintaining the VDQ's combat capability for Op HORIZON, a forward re-armament (re-arm) operation would need to be conducted. This task

fell to the Canadian Material Support Group (CMSG) in coordination with the Canadian Joint Operations Command (CJOC) and the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

To conduct a forward re-arm, ammunition is airlifted to a third location for storage to await the arrival of a ship. Historically, in the Indo-Pacific region re-arms have happened almost exclusively in Hawaii immediately following the Rim of the Pacific exercise (RIMPAC). However, with Canada's renewed emphasis on security and freedom of movement across the Indo-Pacific region, there is a necessity for re-arm operations to be conducted in new locations.

When a ship fires missiles as part of an exercise, it uses exercise missiles instead of tactical missiles. The exercise missile has the same functionality as the tactical missile but with a shorter range so that it will stay within the training area outlined by the exercise. A deliberate re-arm would be required to equip the VDJ with her exercise missiles and then re-arm the ship with tactical missiles for her subsequent mission.

This forward re-arm displays the CAF's ability to project logistics support to the RCN in forward locations where the CAF may find itself operating more often into the future. The distances involved with the Indo-Pacific region and the VDJ's extended transit from Halifax, as well as the lack of a joint logistics network such as the one we have with NATO, means that the CAF must support its own ammunition resupply over the extended lines of communication present in the Indo-Pacific. It also displayed the CAF's interoperability with the ADF and reinforced our commitment to working with a close ally in the region.

In summary, forward re-arms have become the norm for Canadian ships deployed to the Indo-Pacific and will continue to be conducted on a regular basis for the foreseeable future. CMSG and the four Canadian Forces Ammunition Depots (CFADs) play a critical role in ensuring timely ammunition support to CAF exercises and operations. This re-arm mission displayed the CAF's ability to significantly shorten our strategic lines of communication and achieve efficiencies in supporting first-line sustainment requirements by forward-deploying logistics resources and people directly from third-line units into the theatre of operations when appropriate, especially in cases of highly specialized commodities like ammunition.



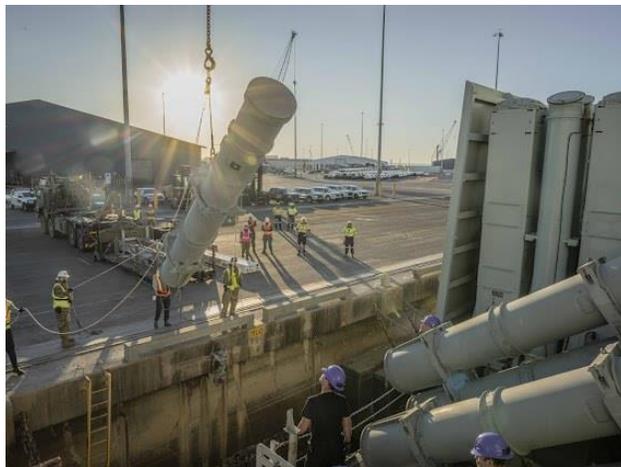
8 - Photo credit: Cpl Brandon Gamache

Re-arm team preparing tactical harpoon for transfer to RAAF Darwin ammunition facility on 9 July 2025. RAAF Darwin would be responsible for storing the ammunition from 9-21 July while HMCS VDJ participated in EX TS 25.



9 - Photo credit: Cpl Brandon Gamache

HMCS VDJ receiving exercise harpoon on 9 July 2025



Re-arm team receiving tactical harpoon from HMCS VDQ on 9 July 2025.

Second Annual Graduation Parade, Celebrates Summer Training Success at the Quebec Citadel



By Lieutenant-Commander Robert Marin

Quebec City, August 14, 2025, Under the brilliant skies above the historic Quebec Citadel, CFLTC -Detachment Valcartier proudly hosted its second annual Graduation Parade, celebrating the successful completion of summer training for Human Resources Administrators, Financial Services Administrators, Materiel Management Technicians, and Supply Officers.

A total of 113 Sailors, Soldiers, and Aviators of which 28 Regular Force and 85 Reservists from across Canada, marched in unison before over 200 spectators, including senior leadership, instructors, families, and fellow service members. The parade was commanded by Sub-Lieutenant Isabella Fraté, with Warrant Officer Michael McGraw as parade sergeant major. The Royal 22nd Regiment Band, led by Lieutenant Marianne Croteau, added ceremonial grandeur with stirring music.

Newly qualified Rank Qualification Privates, Aviators, and Sailors Third Class received their badges and proudly transitioned into the Royal Canadian Logistics Service (RCLS), symbolized by the change of berets. Positioned between their officer and RQ Corporal sister platoons, they stood out with pride and professionalism.

A moving highlight was the collective singing of the RCLS branch march, “*Service*,” in French—rehearsed throughout their training and performed with the band—echoing unity and commitment across the parade square.

Distinguished guests included Colonel Melissa Ramessar, Commander of Military Personnel Generation-Training Group, and Lieutenant-Colonel Chandler Zedic, Commandant of CFLTC. They presented awards recognizing excellence, discipline, and camaraderie, including promotions, the Certificate of Camaraderie, and the Exceptional Graduate Certificate for top-performing candidates.

This year's parade marked not only the end of summer training but also the growing strength and professionalism of the CAF's newest members as they reach their Operational Functional Point (OFP). The event reflected the dedication, discipline, and esprit de corps that define Canada's military logistics training.

Behind the scenes, instructors and staff worked tirelessly to ensure every detail was executed with precision and pride, creating an atmosphere that honoured tradition and celebrated achievement.

CFLTC extends sincere thanks to all supporting units and organizations, including 2 Cdn Div TC, the Royal 22nd Regiment Band, 2nd Battalion Royal 22nd Regiment, Quebec Citadel Staff, 35 Service Battalion, 35 Combat Engineer Regiment, 2 CDSG Personnel Services – Exacta Centre and Food Services, and Tech Services Valcartier. Your unwavering support was instrumental to the success of this proud celebration.



11 - Photo credit: MCpl Richard Hallé

Marching on the graduates



12 - Photo credit: MCpl Richard Hallé

Graduating RQ Pte HRAs switching their beret from one that adorn the golden metal CAF badge to a beret adorn of the RCLS cloth badges under the watchful eye of MCpl Goulet



13 - Photo credit: MCpl Richard Hallé

Pride moment – Newly minted RCLS members, Officers, and MMT RQ Cpl sing, in French the RCLS march past « Service ».



14 - Photo credit: MCpl Richard Hallé

Cpl Rousseau receives the promotion to the rank of Master Corporal from Col Ramessar, Comd MPGTG, accompanied by CWO Peters, FCWO MPGTG



15 - Photo credit: MCpl Richard Hallé

The graduates of the Supply officer, RQ Cpl MMT, and RQ Pte HRA, FSA, and MMT courses congratulate one another following the official dismissal of the parade.

CFB Kingston Takes Top Honours in 2025 National Road Safety Week Campaign



By Warrant Officer Christian Charron

Each year, National Road Safety Week unites transportation professionals across the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) to promote road and vehicle safety. The 2025 campaign, themed “Sharing the Road,” emphasized the evolving responsibilities of all road users, drivers, passengers, pedestrians, and cyclists as the transportation landscape changes with the growing presence of electric vehicles (EVs).

This year’s campaign highlighted important safety considerations unique to EVs, such as their quieter operation which can make them harder to hear, especially at low speeds, and their distinctive features like regenerative braking which can cause sudden deceleration. Additionally, awareness was raised around sharing the road with e-bikes and e-scooters, emphasizing the need to respect bike lanes and maintain safe passing distances.

Sgt Valery Switzer, MCpl Martin Carrier, and Mr. Michael MacDonald from CFB Kingston were recognized with the MSE Op Occupational Chief’s Coin for their outstanding contributions. Their campaign stood out nationally for its powerful and innovative promotional video, which communicated these crucial safety messages effectively while emphasizing collective responsibility on the road. Their initiative perfectly captured the spirit of “Sharing the Road” by blending professional insight, creativity, and strong community engagement.

Their submission was recognized by Strat J4 Transportation as the most original and impactful campaign of the year, earning CFB Kingston the title of 2025 Road Safety Champion - an award presented to the unit demonstrating outstanding initiative during Road & Vehicle Safety Week.

This campaign aligns with the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators’ national road safety strategy and reinforces the Defense Team’s commitment to building a culture of safety and accountability across the Department of National Defense.

The efforts of Sgt Switzer, MCpl Carrier, and Mr. MacDonald are a reminder that road safety is a shared effort and when paired with innovation and conviction, it can make a lasting impact.

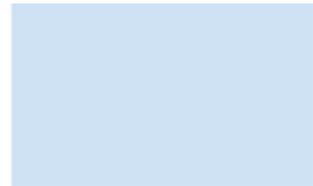


16 - Photo credit: CFB Kingston Public Affairs

Three members from CFB Kingston received MSE Op Occupation Chief's Coin at LSS Transport, presented by the Strat J4 TN Road & Vehicle Safety team.

From left to right: WO Christian Charron (Strat J4 Tn), Sgt Valery Switzer, MCpl Martin Carrier, Mr. Michael MacDonald, MWO Alexandre Pitt (Strat J4 Tn)

Bilingualism as a Strategic Asset in CAF Logistics Operations



By Major Elizabeth Johnston, CD

As logistics officers completing a year-long French Second Language Training program in Gatineau, Quebec, we have gained more than just fluency; we have strengthened a key capability that directly supports the CAF's international mission-readiness. In an environment where logistics is the backbone of operational success, language is a tool that enables reach, responsiveness, and results.

The CAF routinely deploys abroad – whether for NATO commitments, UN peacekeeping, disaster response, or capacity-building with partner nations. These missions often take place in French-speaking regions or in coalition environments where French is a working language. In such contexts, bilingual logisticians become force multipliers, ensuring smooth coordination across national and linguistic lines.

Effective logistics is built on clarity of movement, intent, and supply. From negotiating contracts with local suppliers to resolving customs delays, from drafting movement orders to briefing allied counterparts, French proficiency ensures fewer delays and stronger cooperation. In

regions such as West Africa, Eastern Europe, or the Caribbean, a French-speaking logistics officer can be the difference between a supply chain that moves efficiently and one that stalls.

Our year in language training challenged us to operate outside our comfort zones -much like deployments do. We built not only vocabulary, but adaptability, confidence, and professional agility. With this skill, we are now better equipped to represent the CAF in joint planning environments, liaise with Francophone allies, and support multinational exercises with fewer barriers.

French is often considered essential for leadership or public-facing roles in the CAF. However, its importance in logistics must not be underestimated. International logistics relies on precise documentation, local engagement, and clear coordination with foreign military and civilian stakeholders. Bilingualism enables that precision. It also reflects Canada's values of respect, diversity, and readiness.

Within mission-critical domains such as logistics, building linguistically capable teams enhances operational flexibility and long-term effectiveness. We hope our experience encourages others to view second-language training as more than a requirement - it is a professional asset that improves both individual capability and institutional success.

The operational landscape is evolving; so too must our skill sets. French is not just a language -it is a bridge to faster solutions, stronger partnerships, and successful missions. In CAF logistics, where every delay costs time and every word counts, bilingualism is more than a benefit, it's a necessity.



17 - Photo credit: Student, Class of 2025.

From left to right, Maj. R. Chernysh, Col. D. Smith and Maj. E. Johnston.

In June 2025, Maj. Chernysh and Maj. Johnston had completed a year-long French training programme, while Col. Smith was attending a French upgrade course at the CFLS Training Centre.

MSA and Change of Command in Petawawa



By Corporal Abdourahamane Dramé

The Change of Command ceremony between the outgoing Commander of Technical Services for the 4th Canadian Division Support Group, Lieutenant-Colonel Ronald R. Balkaran, and the incoming Commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Erin Stuber, took place on June 24, 2025, in the spacious Y-137 building of the Royal Canadian Dragoon (RCD), in the presence of a “*good-natured*” crowd and distinguished dignitaries from the Canadian Armed Forces.

The **Material Services Account (MSA)** is one of the key pillars of Petawawa's supply chain. Its activities are divided into four areas: the management of combat rations; the management of the vault, specifically for rifle loans; the shredding of old military uniforms; and the rental of various items such as tents and chairs. As part of this last area, MSA was asked by its chain of command to contribute both to the provision of equipment and to the practical organization of the change of command ceremony, which is a major biennial event for Petawawa's Technical Services.

During this preparatory phase, as usual, MSA received a request from the Operations Section regarding equipment requirements. Following this request, a brief but very important meeting, given the nature of the event, was held between PO1 Charest, the Unit Equipment Control Platoon Warrant Officer, and the MSA team. This meeting served as a leitmotif for the logistical organization of the ceremony in relation to the mission entrusted to the MSA. With clearly defined expectations and guidelines, MSA I/C MCpl Marc Leblanc pulled off a real “*masterstroke*” by skillfully and energetically managing the preparation and logistical organization of the event.

In practical terms, four hierarchical phases, led by the MSA I/C, guided the execution of the tasks that enabled the ceremony to take place logistically.

1. First, using a forklift, he systematically placed all the requested items in a clean, unobstructed area of the MSA warehouse.
2. Next, MCpl Leblanc personally transported hundreds of chairs with a cart.
3. In addition, the MSA team, along with other designated military personnel, thoroughly cleaned the ceremony area before setting up all the logistics in the appropriate locations under

the supervision of PO1 Charest and the Sergeant Major to ensure compliance with standards, including the placement of chairs and flags.

4. At the end of the ceremony, the section collected all the items that had been taken out of the warehouse and return them to the MSA. The day after the ceremony, MCpl Leblanc stated, *“Cpl Dramé, we received congratulations from the chain of command for a job well done ”*.

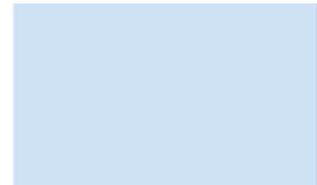
The MSA section is at the heart of logistical support in the Petawawa Garrison, and replacement of certain items under its purview should be a priority to continue to ensure its operational effectiveness.



18 - Photo credit: Cpl. Abdourahamane Dramé

MSA Warehouse/Petawawa

RCLS Announcements and Events



- RCLS Bursary Winners
- Logistician of the years 2025 Announcement
- Announcing the 2025 Lieutenant-General Bill Leach Memorial Essay Competition

RCLS Bursary Winners





19 - From left to right: MWO T.S. Zaremba, Alexane Bellemare (RCLS Bursary Program 2025 Winner), Stéphane Forgues.



20 - From left to right: MWO M.D. Russell, Alexa Russell (RCLS Bursary Program 2025 Winner), Maj S.L. Buckingham.



21 - From left to right: MWO J.D.S. Stuart, Sara Moynan, Alysha Stricker (RCLS Bursary Program 2025 Winner), LCol J.A.S Blais, CWO R.J. Martin



22 - From left to right: Colonel S.D.C. Trenholm, Cedric Gagnon (RCLS Bursary Program 2025 Winner), Maj Y.M. Gagnon.



23 - From left to right: CWO J.D.S. Desgagné, Maj R.J. Wright, Alice Prince, Nicole Tubb, Denis Wright (RCLS Bursary Program 2025 Winner), BGen V.C. Tattersall



24 - From left to right: CWO K. Trace, Jordan Goodfellow (RCLS Bursary Program 2025 Winner), Cpl J.K. Goodfellow, LCol J.A. Arsenault



25 - From left to right: Alina Todd-Quesnelle, LCol T. Osborne, Ava Todd-Quesnelle (RCLS Bursary Program 2025 Winner), MWO J. Krlin Quesnelle, Rejean Quesnelle.

Logistician of the Year 2025 Announcement



Each year, full-time junior officer, and a junior non-commissioned member (NCM) of the Royal Canadian Logistics Service (RCLS) shall be recognized as exemplary members of the Logistics Service. Nominations may be based on a specific act or event, or on overall performance in the delivery of quality services to the RCLS and Canadian Armed Forces (CAF).

An official portrait with a short biography of the recipients will be posted on the RCLS website and ultimately, this status will allow the RCLS Logisticians of the Year to represent the leadership of the Service as guests of honor during related activities.

Administrative points:

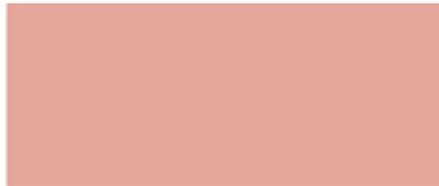
- a. Eligibility. All active members of the RCLS, Regular and Reserve force, at the ranks of Pte / S3 to Cpl / S1 and A/SLt / 2Lt to Capt / Lt(N), as of November 1st of the year of submission;
- b. Reporting Period. Only the year preceding the submission must be used in support of the narrative. More specifically, the period covered by the narrative is November 1st of the previous year to October 31st of the year of submission;
- c. Narrative. The narrative must not exceed 500 words. A Military Personnel Record Summary (MPRR) must be submitted along with any other supporting documents (recent course reports, appreciation letters, etc.). The narrative in support of a recommendation must contain a record of the person's accomplishments, including a full description of any event that gave rise to the recommendation, the degree of dedication of the person (with supporting examples), and any other information deemed relevant. A citation of up to 30 words summarizing the narrative must also be submitted. For guidance on what to include in the narrative and citation, refer to Annex C of the Royal Canadian Logistics Service Directives – Volume 4, Directive 4-004 (RCLS Logistician of the Year).
- d. Endorsement. All nominations for the RCLS Logisticians of the Year must be reviewed and approved by the member's Commanding Officer ([Annex A](#)) who will then forward them to their appropriate L1 RCLS representatives (N4, G4 or Dir CA, RCLS, A4, CJOC J4, and CMP Comptroller). It is the responsibility of the L1 RCLS representatives to screen and select the file that they wish to push forward to the National Selection Board;

e. Transmitting Submissions. Nominations must be received by the L1 Representatives **NLT 15 November 2025**. The L1 Representatives in turn must submit their nominations to the RCLS Secretariat **no later than two weeks after**, via encrypted email (Entrust) to: RCLSsecretariat@forces.gc.ca

Closing Statement:

The RCLS Volume 4 Directive detailing the Logisticians of the Year (LOTY) recognition is currently under revision and will be published in short order. This updated guidance will assist leadership across the RCLS community in identifying and nominating deserving candidates for this prestigious honour. A formal RCLS Communiqué will be distributed once the directive is finalized to ensure broad awareness and support for the nomination process.

Lieutenant-General Bill Leach Memorial Essay Competition 2025



It is with great pleasure for the Royal Canadian Logistics Service Integrator (RCLSI) to formally announce the 2025 LGen Bill Leach Memorial Essay Competition.

A Logistician for over 40 years, LGen Bill Leach held command and staff appointments at the tactical, operational and strategic levels predominantly in the Supply and Finance disciplines. He served in multiple foreign theatres including Germany and Egypt and was part of the National Joint Staff during the first Gulf War in 1990/91. An Ottawa resident for many years, he served at the Directorate and ADM levels and was selected as the Logistics Branch Advisor in the early 1990s. In 1997, LGen Leach made history as the first Logistician to serve as Chief of Land Staff, an honour which to date has yet to be repeated. His vision and strategic outlook shaped the army at a time of great transition, and many of the projects he began laid the foundation for combat successes in the years to come. Following his retirement from the CAF in 2000, LGen Leach continued to be a vital member of the Logistics Community acting as Colonel Commandant from 2011 until his death in 2015. It is in recognition of his years of service, his strategic vision, and his dedication to the Logistics Branch that a Memorial Essay Competition was established in his name.

The LGen Bill Leach Memorial Essay Competition is open to all serving CAF Royal Canadian Logistics Service (RCLS) personnel (Regular and Reserve) who are current subscribers to the

[RCLS Fund](#). There are two sets of prizes, one open to officers (LCol & below) and another open to NCMs. Each set of prizes includes:

1. 1st Place Prize of \$500.00;
2. 2nd Place Prize of \$300.00; and
3. 3rd Place Prize of \$200.00.

Competitors are to submit an essay between 1,000 and 3,000 words on any topic that pertains directly to the RCLS, such as history, doctrine, training, leadership, lessons learned, exercises and operations. While many topics may be relevant to the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) as a whole, the chosen topic must be related back to the RCLS to be eligible for consideration in this competition.

Participants must complete [Annex A](#) of the directive (link below) and submit an essay in either official language of Canada. Details on scoring criteria and format can be found at the following link:

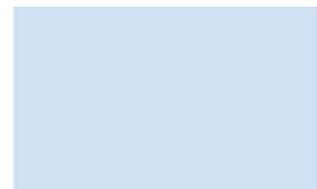
[Directive Vol 4, 4-003](#).

All submissions are to be original works specifically written for this competition. No papers written for other courses or programs are to be used. Further information on the board composition, scoring criteria and timelines may also be found at the Directive Vol 4, 4-003 link above.

Essay submissions will be accepted electronically. Please submit a completed [Annex A](#) of the application form, along with your essay in **PDF** format no later than **01 December, 2025** to:

RCLSsecretariat-SecretariatduSRLC@forces.gc.ca

The RCLS Newsletter - Staying Connected



We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the RCLS Newsletter, *The Logician*. As we continue to support you, we would love to hear from you. Your text of no more than 500 words must be submitted to us in both official languages before the submission deadline.

Although we encourage the writing of individual articles at any rank level, agreement and verification of the chain of command should be obtained in order to ensure that the message

conveyed is in line with the latter's expectations. Be sure to include high-resolution photos with the names of the people in the photo(s) as well as those who took them. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at:

RCLSSecretariat-SecretariatduSRLC@forces.gc.ca

[RCLS website](#) (DWAN Only)

Next Submission Deadline: 1 Dec 2025

Next Publication: 2nd week of Dec 2025