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436 Transport Squadron  
**75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
 75<sup>e</sup> anniversaire du 436<sup>e</sup> Escadron de transport

## Wing Commander's golf tournament raising funds for United Way



Photo by Makala Chapman

8 Wing Commander Colonel Ryan Deming takes a swing at the 20th Annual Wing Commander's Golf Challenge on Sept. 5.

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By Makala Chapman

Members of 8 Wing Trenton are once again swinging into action to help raise funds for the community through the Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign (GCWCC). To launch the first official day of the initiative, more than 140 participants gathered at the Wing's Roundel Glen Wing Course for the 20th Annual Wing Commander's Golf Challenge on Sept. 5. The GCWCC is an annual event created exclusively for federal public servants and federal retirees looking to make charitable contributions in their communities. Each year, throughout the fall, the Base holds a variety of local events to help raise money for the campaign. Like in years previous, the benefactors of the money raised through the GCWCC are HealthPartners and the United Way of Hastings Prince Edward. HealthPartners is a national charity that focuses on raising research funds to help

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# Operation Market Garden: 437 Squadron's baptism of fire

By Major (retired)  
William March

2019 marks the 75th anniversary of Operation Market Garden, the audacious and ultimately unsuccessful push to secure bridges over several rivers in Holland and thus open a corridor through which the Allied ground forces could sweep, with the goal of ending the war by Christmas 1944.

In May 1942, as part of updating the British Commonwealth Air

Training Plan (BCATP) ally agreed upon to form a agreement, Canada and third transport squadron: England had agreed, 437.

under Article XV, that the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) could form 35 squadrons overseas. By May 1944, there were still three squadrons yet to be established and the British Air Ministry urged Canada to commit these squadrons to No. 6 (RCAF) Group within Bomber Command. Senior Canadian air officers, conscious of the high level of casualties within bomber units felt that Canada's current commitment of 15 heavy-bomber squadrons was enough. They recommended the formation of a light-bomber squadron and two transport squadrons instead. Ottawa agreed and two transport squadrons (435 and 436 Squadrons) were established in India. As the British had sufficient light-bomber squadrons to meet their requirements in the European Theatre, it was mutu-

ally agreed upon to form a third transport squadron: 437. **437 Squadron is born** 437 Squadron, stood up on September 14, 1944, at RAF Station Blakehill Farm, Wiltshire, was part of No. 46 Group, Royal Air Force (RAF) Transport Command. Wing Commander John Alexander "Jack" Sproule, a Canadian who had joined the RAF in 1937, was selected as its first commanding officer. He came to the squadron with a wealth of experience, having completed a tour with Bomber Command, served as a BCATP navigation instructor and returned to Europe flying Dakotas with, and eventually commanding, an RAF transport squadron. He would need every bit of his hard-gained experience as 437 Squadron was to begin flying operations in three days. Fortunately for Wing Commander Sproule he got some unexpected help. Due to a reorganization resulting in the downsizing of RAF transport squadrons, 13 RCAF crews al-



An undated photo of a 437 Squadron Dakota aircraft in Europe. Inscribed beneath the cockpit window is "Fort Rae", in keeping with the tradition of naming squadron aircraft after Hudson's Bay outposts.

ready serving in Transport Command were available and all were transferred to 437. The first nine crews arrived at Blakehill Farm just in time to take part in Operation Market Garden, the combined Allied airborne and armoured thrust into occupied Holland.

**Market Garden begins** On September 17, Wing Commander Sproule, his nine Canadian crews and two other crews seconded to him, took to the air towing Horsa gliders containing personnel and equipment belonging to the 1st British Airborne Division. The drop zone was near Arnhem and they encountered little opposition, except for some light flak. All of the 437 Squadron Dakotas returned safely. Over the next several days, the Canadians crews continued to delivered reinforcements and supplies to the increasing hard-pressed airborne forces on the ground. As German resistance stiffened on the ground, so too did the gauntlet of flak that the transport aircraft confronted during each and every mission. Nevertheless, except for a few additional holes in their aircraft, the Huskies made it safely back to their home field.

**437's luck runs out** The squadron's luck ran out on September 21. Ten 437 Squadron crews joined the re-supply armada that day and the Luftwaffe finally managed to break through the Allied fighters. They had a field day amongst the slow, unarmed transport aircraft. And then there was the flak—made even more deadly as the Germans had overrun much of the anticipated re-supply area. One soldier on the ground wrote that . . . The cold-blooded pluck and heroism of the pilots was incredible. They came in in their lumbering . . . machines at fifteen hundred feet searching for our position . . . The German gunners were firing at point-blank range, and the supply planes were more or less sitting targets . . . How those pilots could have gone into it with their eyes open is beyond my imagination . . . They came along in the unarmed, slow twin-engined Dakotas as regular as clockwork. The greatest tragedy of all, I think, is that hardly any of the supplies reached us. Within minutes of arriving at the drop zone, four 437 Squadron Dako-

tas were shot down—the thick black smoke rising from the burning wreck-age adding to the grotesque forest of similar pillars marking the loss of other Allied aircraft. Heroism abounded that day as exemplified by Flying Officer Gerald P. Hagerman (Mallorytown, Ontario). At the controls of Dakota KG376, he made not one but two passes over the drop zone, trying with every ounce of his being to put the supply panniers (heavy wicker baskets containing an average load of 350 pounds or 159 kilograms) in the right place. His mission, accomplished he headed for England and was attacked by six enemy fighters. His skillful maneuvering could not prevent mortal damage to the Dakota, but it did buy time for his crew to bail out. Once he was sure that they had left the aircraft, Flying Officer Hagerman took to his parachute and landed within Allied lines. For his actions that day he was awarded a Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC). All told, five 437 Squadron aircraft were either shot down or crashed due to battle damage. Eight members of the squadron were killed: Flight Lieutenant

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Robert Wilfred Alexander (pilot, 24, Norwich, Ontario); Flying Officers William Stewart McIntock (navigator, 21, Regina, Saskatchewan); Charles Herbert Cressman (pilot, 27, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan); John Spencer Blair (pilot, 27, Lucan, Ontario); Paul N. Steffin (navigator, 28, Eastgate, Alberta); Pilot Officers Thomas John Brennan (wireless operator, 30, Coleman, Alberta); Michael Stanley Reece Mahon (pilot, 28, Barbados, British West Indies); and Flight Sergeant John Charles Hackett (RAF). Many more were wounded or wound up as "guests" of the Germans.

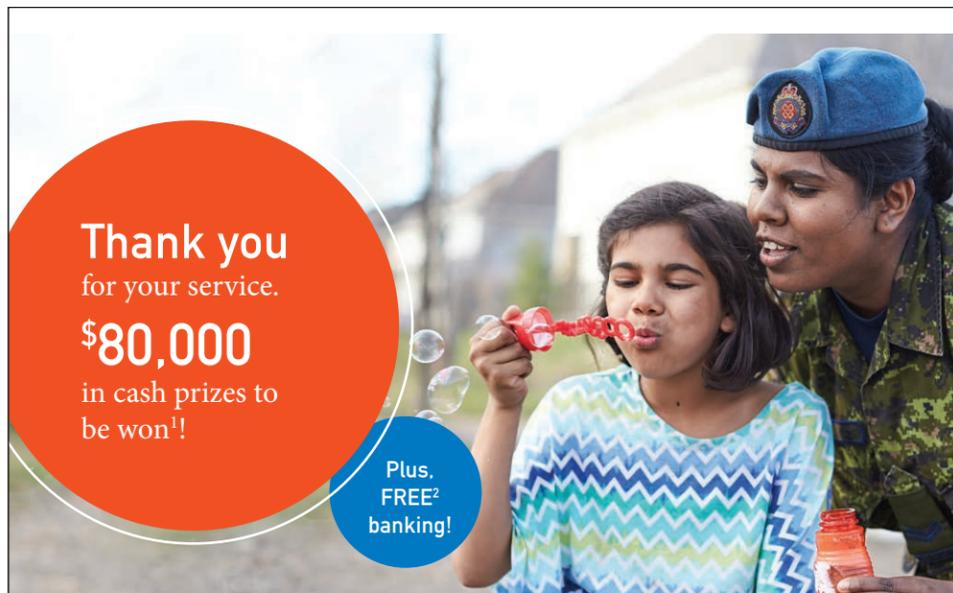
**The final day of battle** There was little time to mourn. The following day was spent absorbing additional crews and deal-

ing with the visit of a Very Important Person (VIP), but on September 23, the final day of the battle, 437 Squadron aircraft were in the air again. They faced no enemy fighters this time, but the flak was just as deadly and Dakota KB315 failed to return. Killed were: Flying Officers William Richard Paget (pilot, 21, Shelburne, Ontario); Donald Lawrence Jack (pilot, 21, Westmount, Quebec); Warrant Officer Roy Irving Pinner (wireless operator, 25, Fort William, Ontario); Flight Sergeant Denis Joseph O'Sullivan (navigator, 28, Montreal, Quebec) and three Royal Air Service Corps dispatchers—Corporal Thomas Henry Baxter and Drivers Frederick Walter Beardsley and Paul Williams. The dispatchers were responsible for

securing the supplies and then pushing them out of the aircraft over the target. In less than a week of existence, the Huskys had lost 12 squadron members. **"Anything, Anywhere"** The vital work of transport squadrons is rarely acknowledged in the annuals of military history as the vast majority of their time is spent on "routine" supply work. But when called upon, their crews are willing to make the ultimate sacrifice supporting the soldiers on the ground, doing their utmost to deliver their loads. For 437 Squadron, the "Arnhem" Battle Honour on the squadron standard is reflective of its motto "Omnia passim"—Anything, Anywhere—regardless of the obstacles in its way.



LEFT: Wing Commander John A. Sproule, DFC, photographed on April 26, 1943, was the first commanding officer of 437 "Husky" Squadron, which received its baptism of fire during Operation Market Garden. RIGHT: 437 Transport Squadron's badge portrays the head of a husky dog. Its motto is "Omnia Passim"—"Anything, Anywhere". The squadron is currently located at 8 Wing Trenton, and flies the CC-150 Polaris transport aircraft—fulfilling the same role it carried out during the Second World War.



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# Safety



## Staying safe on your feet and around water

Safety shoes, hardhats, goggles, and earplugs - these are the standard items of Personal Protective Equipment required for many jobs. If you work around open water, you have to consider some other types of PPE, to keep you out of the water and to keep you alive if you do fall in. Protect yourself from drowning by following all safe work procedures and by having the correct protective equipment in place.

If you work around docks, ships, lagoons and dams, you will be protected by railings. If you see any problem with the condition or the design of these guards, talk to your supervisor right away. When you go to work on a job around water, locate these two lifesaving devices so you can reach them quickly in an emergency:

- One is the life preserver ring, attached to a rope, which can be thrown in water for someone to grab in an emergency.

- Another is the ladder leading out of the water. These ladders should be located at intervals along the edge of the water.

- Also helping to prevent you from ending up in the water is fall prevention and fall arrest equipment. When working over water on jobs such as construction and painting you should be using this equipment correctly.

- Another type of PPE to prevent falls into the water is the correct footwear. Non-slip soles should be worn wherever there is danger of a fall from a dock or deck. In the forest industry, caulked boots are worn for walking on logbooms.

- When you are on board a watercraft, the kind of flotation gear you wear can make a difference in your survival. A Personal Flotation Device is made to keep you on top of the water. A lifejacket is designed to keep your face out of the water in case you are unconscious. You should talk to your supervisor about the correct gear to use for your particular on-board job.

- If you work around the water, learn all you can about the equipment designed to keep you safe and dry. And learn to swim!

Falls are a leading cause of injury in all kinds of work places. Slipping on a slick surface so that your feet go out from under you can cause them. Tripping on an obstacle can also cause falls; your feet get caught but your body keeps on going. Falls also can occur when you step off an elevated surface. Follow these tips to prevent falls:

- Keep pedestrian traffic areas free of obstacles and clutter. This can include scrap, trash, stored materials,

tools and equipment.

- Don't store things on the floor. There should be adequate shelving or other storage space for materials, tools and equipment.

- Keep walking surfaces clean and dry. They should be free of water, ice, mud, oil and grease. Pay special attention to entryways.

- Areas where floors are being cleaned should be blocked off.

- Clean up any spills promptly, or barricade the area until it can be taken care of.

- Report any hazards on the surfaces for floors such as loose carpeting or tiles, which are starting to lift.

- Avoid running cables and cords across traffic areas. If these must cross walkways, run them overhead or use conduits. As a last resort, make sure cords are taped down to reduce tripping hazards.

- Keep trash and scrap cleaned up and disposed of.

- Always close drawers promptly. Leaving a lower drawer open can cause a serious accident if someone stumbles over it.

- Use ladders safely. Choose the right ladder for the job and make sure it is set up properly on a firm surface. Don't stand on the top few rungs, and do not lean away from the ladder.

- Set up scaffolding safely. Use approved scaffold



designs and uses them correctly.

- When working at heights, use approved fall protection and fall arrest equipment. Maintain this equipment well and check it regularly for defects.

- Wear proper footwear to prevent falls. Shoe soles should be made of non-slip material. Shoes should have low heels, fit well and be kept fastened.

- Long, loose pant cuffs present a tripping hazard, don't wear them.

- Maintain adequate lighting. Report any problems such as burned out light fixtures or obstructed windows. This is especially important in hallways and stair-

wells.

- Don't jump down from elevated surfaces such as vehicles or loading docks. Take the stairway or ladder.

- Walk, don't run up or down stairs, and use the handrail.

- Never store items on the stairs, even temporarily.

- Make sure any floor openings are correctly covered and barricaded.

- Never engage in horseplay. Pranks have led to many serious falls and other accidents.

- Slips, trips and falls occur in all kinds of workplaces, from offices to construction sites. Be aware of fall hazards, and repair or report them promptly.

### The Contact Newspaper

The CONTACT is an unofficial publication of 8 Wing/CFB Trenton. The CONTACT is a weekly military newspaper that provides accurate and timely coverage of issues and events affecting Canada's largest and busiest air base - 8 Wing/CFB Trenton.

We are the primary internal and external communications tool for 8 Wing/CFB Trenton and began publishing in November, 1940. We strive to build awareness, morale and 'esprit de corps' among both the military and civilian communities. It is our privilege to showcase the efforts of the men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces at work.

The CONTACT is published every Friday with the kind permission of Colonel Ryan Deming, OMM, CD. The Publisher reserves the right to edit copy and reject advertising to suit the needs of the publication. Views expressed are those of the contributor unless expressly attributed to DND, CAF or other agencies.

Where typographical errors are discovered in advertisements (including classifieds) that result in goods not being sold, this newspaper is only liable to refund the money charged for the advertising space.

The CONTACT is produced weekly under a Publication Service Agreement with a division of Metroland Media Group.

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### ARTICLES AND PHOTOS

The Contact produces news and information about 8 Wing/CFB Trenton at home and around the world. We depend on our military community for articles, personal stories and photos.

- Articles should be typed in upper and lower case (not all caps) and in plain black text. Acronyms should be spelled out on first reference, then abbreviated when referred to thereafter.

- Do not include clip art, graphics or photos within typed pages. Additional graphics, logos and photos must be sent as separate files.

- Articles may be mailed, e-mailed (cfbcontactnewspaper@gmail.com) or delivered in person and must include the author's full name, rank, (if applicable) unit and phone number.

- Whenever possible, photos should be included with your article and should contain the name of the person who took the photo and an appropriate caption to go with it. Photos should be saved in a jpeg format at a high resolution for quality reproduction.

- Articles must be received by Monday at noon prior to print date.

### Letters to the Editor:

All letters must be signed and include the name of the author, which will be published. Include a phone number for verification. We reserve the right to edit the text while preserving the main objective of the writer. We cannot guarantee that any particular letter will be printed. E-mail letters to: cfbcontactnewspaper@gmail.com

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# Gearing ready for Legion Week in Trenton

By Makala Chapman

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 110 in Quinte West is once again opening its doors to the community. At this year's Legion Week, which runs from Sept. 14-21, members of the community will be treated to live entertainment, food and fun for all ages. Longtime member and president of the local Legion, Master Corporal (retired) Douglas Duff, said he's excited to get the festivities underway. "It's a unique opportunity to open our doors and show the public what we do, who we are," he explained. He added that it was also a great chance to showcase some of the services and programs the organization offers. The non-profit group primarily provides aid and assistance to veterans, to those currently serving and their families. Whether it's medical appointments, clothing or housing, the Legion prides itself on being here for those in need. With approximately 1,100 active members, the Legion is also a big supporter of youth initiatives like the Scouts of Canada, Girl Guides of Canada, local cadet squadrons and more.

"We give back to the community upwards of \$50,000 a year," said MCpl (ret'd) Duff. "We like to keep the funds local. Legion Week is our chance to once again show the community that we care." As for what has been his favourite part of Legion Week, MCpl (ret'd) Duff noted it was watching how much it has grown over the years. He said that it was a good indicator that people are becoming aware of what the organization does and its importance in the community. "We share and care," he said. "Whether it's our senior citizens, our military or our community as a whole, we look after everyone." Another highlight he is looking forward to is the annual veteran and cadet breakfast at the Legion. He noted that the idea behind this event is to pair cadets up with a veteran for the morning in hopes that they learn a thing or two from one another. "Perhaps it will also give the young cadets a vision of what they can accomplish should they choose the military route," said MCpl (ret'd) Duff. "Veterans also love mingling with the cadets because they can see

younger versions of themselves. I know that when I look at them and it reminds me of my time as a cadet." He also noted he would be remiss if he did not thank the countless volunteers who made everything from the programs offered to the planning of Legion Week possible. "The volunteers are paramount and are the backbone (of the Legion)," he said. "If we didn't have volunteers, there are a lot of things we couldn't do." Legion Week events kick off on Sept. 14 at noon with a ribbon cutting and opening ceremony at the 19 Quinte Street Branch 110 in Trenton. A wine and cheese mingle with live entertainment will then be held on Sept. 15 at the Legion in the main floor lounge starting at 1 p.m. To thank the community's retired veterans, a special dinner will also be held for them on Sept. 17 at 7 p.m. Free dance lessons will be offered on Sept. 19, as well as a final dance to close off Legion week on Sept. 21 at 1 p.m. For those looking to become a member of the Legion, Duff said applications could be filled out and submitted for review at the Quinte West Branch.



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**Continued from page 1**

improve the lives of those suffering from major illnesses or chronic diseases, such as heart disease, cancer and diabetes. Like in many other communities across the country, the United Way has been working to improve the lives of some of the population's most vulnerable sectors through various programming and services. As for the local impact, the United Way of Hastings Prince Edward has been hard at work in the community for 60 years. The programs are directed towards the impoverished, those suffering from family violence and dependent seniors. "8 Wing Trenton is a significant part of the United Way family and we really can't do what we do without you," said the United Way of Hastings Prince Edward executive director Brandi Hodge. She noted that the Wing is the organization's second largest campaign contributors who have raised just over \$600,000 in the last five years alone. Last year, 8 Wing Trenton brought in more than \$98,000 through the GCWCC. "Together 8 Wing, United Way, along

with hundreds of other company and donors in the community epitomize the age-old concept of neighbours helping neighbours and people helping people," said Hodge. "We are committed to ensuring everyone has someone to help them when they need it." Also taking the time to share a few words at the tournament was 8 Wing Commander Colonel (Col.) Ryan Deming, who said he couldn't have been happier to be taking part in this year's event. "I've talked a lot, with my leadership team, about responsibility and our commitment to looking after our community and maintaining those strong relations," he said. "The bond that 8 Wing Trenton has with the local community is an unbelievable bond and is something that is a lot stronger than anything I've seen at other bases I've been to." In addition, he said he was looking forward to getting as much participation from everyone on the Wing to make the campaign a success and was happy to kick-start the festivities with the golf tournament. "Remember,

this isn't just about golf," explained Col Deming. "It's about camaraderie, about building relationships and forging them." While the golf tournament is a major contributor to the GCWCC, there are still other events in store for the military community to get involved in said GCWCC co-chair Major (Maj.) Kimberly Horan. "We are excited to be leading the campaign here at the Base," she explained. "Those of us who have been involved over the years have really come to understand the very impact that our volunteerism and efforts have." She added she was especially excited for this year, as a lot of new events have been planned. For example, this year, a charity concert is in the works for the end of November. Maj. Horan noted this would involve the musical talents of the Trenton Military Wives Choir and representation from the 8 Wing band. She added that the planning committee is also looking at hosting a pistol shoot, which would be run by the 8 Wing operational shooting team. One of the first

events the community can look forward to is the annual Herc' Pull on Sept. 27. This event will once again test the strength of competing teams as they must work together to pull a CC-130 Hercules in the fastest time. As for why it's so important to support the GCWCC, Maj. Horan said it came down to the need for building stronger communities. "It's now our opportunity to give back to the community that's supported us over the years," she said. "The military community is always interacting with the civilian community as our kids all who go to the same schools and we are all neighbours. This is just another example of us all working together." Another way members can contribute to the campaign is through a payroll deduction. Like in years previous, Maj. Horan said she hoped to get 100 per cent participation from the Wing and that canvassers would be busy over the next couple of months. For more information on GCWCC events, be sure to visit the Splash Page regularly over the upcoming weeks.

**TOP:** 8 Wing Trenton's leadership team thanks platinum sponsors, such as Bank of Montreal, for their contributions in supporting the Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign on Sept. 5. **BOTTOM:** United Way of Hastings and Prince Edward executive director Brandi Hodge thanks 8 Wing Trenton for their continual support of the organization on Sept. 5.



Photos by Makala Chapman





# TRENTON Military Family Resource Centre

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## September 2019

| SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY                              | THURSDAY                | FRIDAY                 | SATURDAY                                    |
|---|---|--|--|-------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 15<br><b>MFRC &amp; PSP<br/>BLOCK PARTY</b><br>11 a.m. – 3 p.m. | 16<br>Building Blocks begins<br>Rendez-vous francos   | 17<br>Mental Health First Aid<br>Mindful Masters begins                | 18<br>Mental Health First Aid          | 19                      | 20                     | 21  |
| 22  | 23<br>Knit & Chat<br>Second Language<br>classes begin | 24<br>CBSA Employment Café   | 25<br>SNIP Visual Calendar<br>Workshop | 26<br>Evening Book Club | 27                     | 28<br>Ottawa Bus Trip<br>Babysitting Course |
| 29<br>Babysitting Course  | 30  | 1  | 2                                      | 3                       | 4<br>Morning Book Club | 5<br>First Aid CPR Course                   |
| 6<br>First Aid CPR Course                                       | 7   | 8<br>Portfolio Development<br>Sessions – Military<br>Spouses & Members | 9                                      | 10                      | 11                     | 12  |

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### ● Trenton MFRC – Trenton Location

Monday – Thursday: 8 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Fridays: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Child care hours remain the same

### ● Block Party!

Save the date for the MFRC's annual Block Party, in partnership with 8 Wing PSP.

On Sunday, September 15, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., the MFRC & PSP will host a welcome event for military families. There will be a free lunch, community booths, inflatables, a petting zoo, and activities for all ages! More information can be found at [trentonmfr.ca](http://trentonmfr.ca), [cafconnection.ca/Trenton](http://cafconnection.ca/Trenton), or at MFRC reception.

### ● Book Club

Is your nose always in a book? Join us on the first Friday morning of the month for our Morning Book Club, at 10 a.m., at the Trenton MFRC. Children are welcome!

We also have an Evening Book Club - the last Thursday evening of the month from 6 - 8 p.m. Call 613-965-3575 for more information and to register.

\* Si vous êtes intéressé à un club de lecture en français, communiquez avec Hélène [helene.cg@trentonmfr.ca](mailto:helene.cg@trentonmfr.ca) or 613-392-2811 poste 2379.

### ● Knit & Chat

Our knitting and crocheting group resumes this fall! Plan to attend on any of these dates:

September 23, October 10 & 21, November 14 & 25.

For more information, please contact our Trenton reception: 613-965-3575.

### ● Employment Cafe

Tuesday, September 24, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. at the Trenton MFRC

The Canada Border Services Agency is looking for officers. Come meet one of the recruiters at the Trenton MFRC. Contact Elizabeth to register for the event: [elizabeth.nicholas@forces.gc.ca](mailto:elizabeth.nicholas@forces.gc.ca).

### ● SNIP Visual Calendar

Wednesday, September 25 from 6 – 7 p.m.

Drop in workshop (come when you can!)

A workshop for parents to learn about visual calendars and their benefits and create one specific to their family's needs!

For more information contact: [brittany.j@trentonmfr.ca](mailto:brittany.j@trentonmfr.ca).

### ● Babysitting Course with Level D CPR Infant & Child

Saturday, September 28 & 29, 2019 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Course is offered by the Canadian Safety Council

Includes: Wall certificate, wallet card, reference manual, CPR wallet certificate & CPR reference book

- At the Trenton MFRC
- \$40 per child
- Lunch is not provided
- For youth 12+

Deadline for registration: September 20, 2019.

To register, visit the MFRC reception or email Rabia with your questions at [rabia.s@trentonmfr.ca](mailto:rabia.s@trentonmfr.ca).



## FALL HOURS

## HEURES AUTOMNALES

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Fridays: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Belleville Branch**  
Reception, Child Care, General Programs  
Monday - Friday: 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.\*  
\*as needed

**Batawa Branch**  
Monday - Friday: 6:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

**Trenton - Centre Siskin**  
début le 16 septembre  
Lundi - Jeudi: 8 h - 18h30  
Vendredi: 8 h - 17 h

**Le site de Belleville**  
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Lundi - Vendredi: 6 h à 23 h\*  
\*selon le besoin

**Le site de Batawa**  
Lundi - Vendredi: 6h30 h - 18h30

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at The Chapel

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\$75 Military Community / \$85 general



Register at the RecPlex  
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# CFS Alert: Scientists and Soldiers

By Second Lieutenant Sheila Tham

Jane Fonger, Station Program Manager with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), has been a staple at Canadian Forces Station (CFS). Jane spends a lot of time in Alert, usually in 3 month increments, but also works at Eureka and occasionally a weather station in Stony Plain, near Edmonton. With about half of her year on Ellesmere Island, she is very familiar with the challenges of working in the arctic. Prior to joining ECCC, Jane was in the birding world. During our interview, between stories of polar bears, muskox, and wolves, she excitedly shared that she had seen a potential gyrfalcon earlier in the day. "I always wanted to come to the arctic, in my field everyone wanted to go to Baffin Island," she said, "This [position] was a great opportunity for me to explore the arctic."

Environment and Climate Change Canada has been releasing weather balloons twice a day, every day, for years. They have roots in Alert; the station was originally established in the 1950's as a joint Canada/USA weather station under the acronym JAWS. The original mandate still stands, and the oldest building in Alert is still in use by ECCC, known as the Hydrogen Shed, containing the electrolyzer which makes the hydrogen required for their twice-daily balloons.

Jane is involved in the community, she has participated in all kinds of station events over the years and has watched Mess committees come and go. "Usually the station gets to be a family, and then you have different groups come in, like BOXTOP, and they will completely change the energy around the station," she said. "Some short term groups come in and they don't really interact with a lot of people."

It's a delicate balance – soldiers sharing space with scientists. Adding to that dy-



Photo by 2Lt Sheila Tham

Jane Fonger, pictured inside the Hydrogen Shed, explains the technology used to collect meteorological and environmental data. The device in her hands is attached to the balloon before it is released into the atmosphere.

namic, the scientists are often "repeaters" while the soldiers normally only see Alert once. But Jane navigates this tension effortlessly, regularly encouraging station members to come along with her for a balloon release. She gives a field trip-style explanation as she breaks down her routine tasks for observers. When asked what value her tours give the station, Jane says, "You can't really show people what most people in Alert do for their job [for OPSEC purposes], but we're the science people, we've got the fun stuff to do!" Often, the ECCC crew is asked (and graciously agrees) to give tours to VIPs and visitors at the station. "This is why Alert started, it was a weather station," Jane said, "It's our history and it's important work that we do so why not share that?" Her passion for her work is evident in the way Jane

speaks about the history of the station; her recollection of dates and facts would make her a tough Alert History trivia opponent.

Corporal (Cpl) Nicholas Lavergne he recently accompanied Jane on one of her tours. An Aerospace Telecommunication and Information Systems Technician by trade, at Alert he is responsible for managing the video-on-demand system, music selection, tv schedule, powerpoint displays, and any other audio/visual requirements that are imagined for him. Although ECCC will take anyone who wants to release a balloon, the weather balloons are considered even more interesting to the tech trades that frequent CFS Alert. "I have two years of

college in Electrical Engineering Technology," said Cpl Lavergne, who released his own weather balloon recently (pictured). "It's really interesting, especially the science behind the process." Another excursion-type activity for members at the station, the field trips provided by ECCC break up the monotony of never-ending sunlight for soldiers and also allow them some insight into the civilian work. Cpl Lavergne was impressed with Jane's recent tour, "You can tell when she's explaining stuff that she knows what she's talking about, but she's trying to articulate it in such a way that it's accessible to everyone," he said. The balloons themselves are simple – a biodegradable totex material, filled with hydrogen gas so it will ascend into the atmosphere. Attached to it is a radiosonde measuring barometric pressure, temperature, relative humidity, wind speeds, and wind direction. When the balloon is released, the radiosonde sends the collected information down to the computers in Jane's office. Weather balloons are released across the world all at the same time every day. All of the data collected creates a global data set which forecasters use for predicting the weather. Alert is the most northern location releasing weather balloons, making this a special experience for the soldiers who get involved.

When asked what he thinks of the tours and whether he would recommend it to future station visitors, Cpl Lavergne said, "Maintaining some kind of relationship between the military and government agencies [on station] is important – we're all helping each other out here for morale and welfare." Jane feels the same, "We have a long history together here... and working together we can all benefit from the unique opportunity of working up here!" she noted. "It's such a special place."

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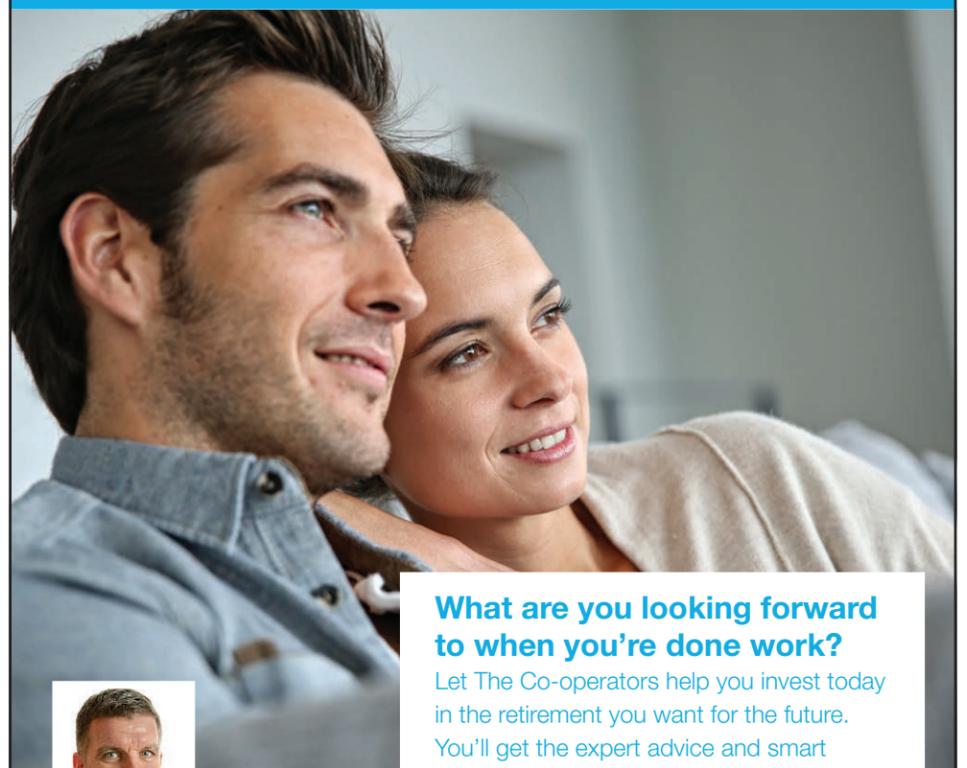
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# Local air cadet squadron ready for new season

By Makala Chapman

Staff with 704 Air Force City Squadron are welcoming new and returning cadets. On Sept. 9, dozens of local youth gathered at école secondaire Marc-Garneau for the first cadet training night of the year. Looking sharp with their signature blue uniforms and polished shoes the cadets also donned smiles as they greeted newcomers and caught up with old friends.

Cadets is a national program available to all youth ages 12-18. Through the co-curricular organization, cadets are able to engage in a myriad of opportunities from playing sports to taking part in lo-

cal initiatives within their communities. There is also the chance to participate in a variety training courses where they learn leadership, citizenship and physical fitness skills. From learning basic survival skills to learning to play an instrument in a musical ensemble, there's a little something to capture everyone's interests.

Returning to wish all her friends an exciting new year was 18-year-old Warrant Officer First Class (retired) Rebecca Frederick. She noted this was the first year she wouldn't be returning as a cadet due to her age. "It's bittersweet because I had such an amazing time in cadets," she said. "The amount of life-long friends I've made is amazing. Most of the reason I

am who I am today is because of cadets." As for how she got involved with the program, WO1 (ret'd) Frederick said it was a matter of her mother signing her up as a shy 13 year old. She noted she could relate with many of the new cadets as she remembers being nervous about her first training night. "I was very intimidated by everybody and I think I cried during most of my events the first year," she said jokingly. "But I stuck with it and I'm glad I did. Now I have no problem walking up to someone and starting a conversation. The experiences and skills I've made because of cadets is just unreal."

Reflecting on her time with cadets WO1 (ret'd) Frederick said she was grateful for two unique opportunities. The first was when she was accepted into the Glider Pilot Scholarship course two years ago. This program helps senior cadets obtain their Transport Canada Glider Pilot Licence in seven short weeks – despite many of them not yet having a driver's license. The program runs out of several locations across the country, which includes the Picton Airport and Mountain View Cadet Flying Training Centre in Prince Edward County. "I didn't think it was a possibility for myself and I didn't think I had what it took to be a pilot," she said. "But with encouragement from my family and the squadron I worked hard, got accepted and it was the most incredible experience." In addition to becoming a pilot, WO1 (ret'd) Frederick said her time on the air cadet intentional exchange this past summer had also been a highlight. Each year, only a handful of cadets are selected to travel overseas to join cadets from all over the world for a three-week program. WO1 (ret'd) Frederick explained she was lucky to have been selected to go to Australia, where she met up with 30 other cadets from more than 10 different countries. "We got to learn so much about each other's culture and the differences and similar-

ties between our cadet programs," she said. "Travelling in general had seemed out of reach and didn't seem like a possibility because I had never really been anywhere. But I was selected and it was a fantastic experience." As for her advice to the new cadets, she smiled, and noted that with a little hard work and perseverance it would all be worth it and to take advantage of everything being offered.

In addition to supporting the new and returning cadets, WO1 (ret'd) Frederick noted she was also present to support her mother, Officer Cadet (OCdt) Leigh-Anne Frederick, who was celebrating her first night in uniform as a member of the Canadian Armed Forces. As the new level one training officer, she will be responsible for helping oversee the cadets and assisting the instructors with the lesson plans. In fact, OCdt Frederick noted she specifically chose to join the Canadian Armed Forces, as a reserve forces member, so she could continue giving back to the cadet organization in a more permanent position. "I've been associated with the squadron and volunteering over the last six years as a result of my daughter," she said. "But I decided that regardless of whether my own kids are in the program, I wanted to continue to support other kids in all that the cadet program has to offer. The cadet organization is dear to my heart and I've seen so many kids excel and I just want to be part of that." As for what it was like making the commitment to serve her country and now wearing the uniform, OCdt Frederick said it was a dream come true and something she was proud to do. "There was a thought pattern when I was 19 years old of joining the military, but, I didn't have the encouragement or anyone to tell me how awesome it could be," she said. "But here I am now and I want to be that encourager for others who may have the same dream."

For more information on 704 Air Force City Squadron and how to get involved, visit them online at [704aircadets.ca](http://704aircadets.ca).



Photo by Makala Chapman

Contact file photo of local cadets at a candlelight vigil prior to Remembrance Day in 2018.



Photo by Makala Chapman

Contact file photo of local air cadets prior to Remembrance Day in 2018.



Photo by Makala Chapman

Local air cadets at the memorial service for those who served at Camp Rathburn and Camp Mohawk held in Deseronto in summer 2018.





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# 434 Squadron Reinvigorates its affiliation with the Infamous Bluenose II

By Rob Aman

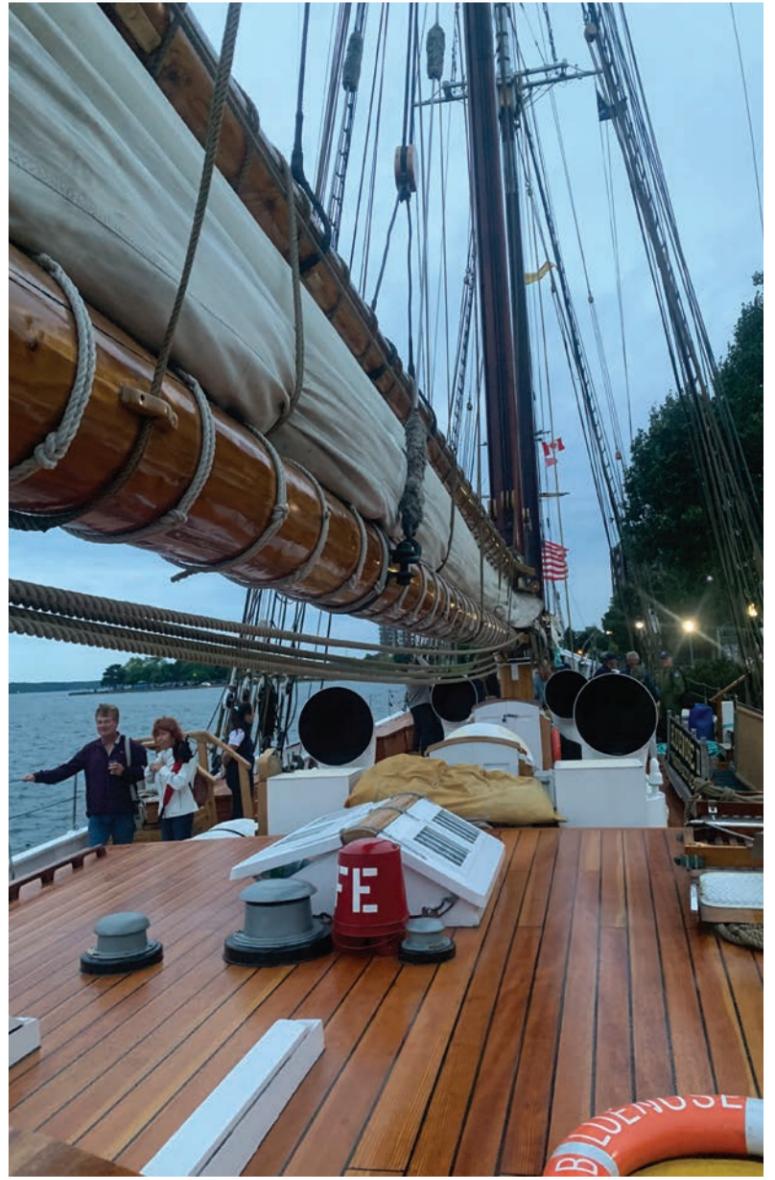
434 (Operational Test and Evaluation) Squadron was authorized as No.434 (Bomber) Squadron in 15 June 1943 and uses the motto IN EXCELSIS VINCIMUS (We conquer in the heights). Later, the Squadron was adopted by the Rotary Club of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and took the nickname "Bluenose" in reference to the common nickname for Nova Scotians. The schooner Bluenose is well known for its fine record. Over the years 434 Squadron stood up multiple times. As of May 2018 it was designated as the Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron with its headquarters in 8 Wing Trenton. The Brockville Tall Ships Festival, 31 Aug – 1 Sep, 2019, provided the Sqn an

opportunity to reconnect with its lineage. During the Festival, the Squadron manned an information booth to raise public awareness of its historical linkage with the Bluenose. The activity was held at Canteen Park, Brockville, ON (see below). Place [www.tallshipsbrockville.com](http://www.tallshipsbrockville.com) into your browser for more info. The activity was a huge success. There was a lot of public interest in the relationship and history between the Bluenose schooner and the RCAF Squadron (Sqn). The weekend ended with a reception of the Bluenose crew and members of 434 Squadron and families. Speeches were delivered by Capt Phil Watson (Bluenose skipper), LCol John Whalen (CO 434 Sqn) and LCol Graham Edwards (former CO 434 Sqn) highlighting the con-

nection and history between the two 'crews.' Memorabilia were exchanged and histories shared, creating a great opportunity to re-build relations. 434 (OT&E) Sqn is looking forward to participating in the 100th anniversary of the launching of the original Bluenose. Celebrations are planning to take place during the summer of 2021. \*Rob Aman is a Test Coordinator at 434 (OT&E) Sqn



Photos submitted by Major James Fell



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Ce programme appuie les militaires en voie de libération pour des raisons médicales, les vétérans libérés pour des raisons médicales et leur famille. Si vous êtes en transition, visitez [ConnexionFAC.ca](http://ConnexionFAC.ca) ou votre centre de ressources pour les familles des militaires, ou appelez la Ligne d'information pour les familles au **1-800-866-4546**





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| <p><b>79 ACRES WITH BARN</b><br/>705 CLOSSON ROAD</p>  <p>Beautiful 5 bed, 2 bath, brick bungalow on 79 acres of farmable land w/ 50ft x 100ft barn and 32ft x 32ft loafing barn.</p> <p><b>MLS#199230* \$799,900</b></p> | <p><b>BRICK CENTURY HOME</b><br/>14 MERICA STREET</p>  <p>5 bed, 3 bath brick century home with all the original charm, just 5 minutes to CFB Trenton and walking distance to all amenities.</p> <p><b>MLS#220415* \$325,000</b></p> | <p><b>3 ACRES OF PRIVACY</b><br/>77 CRESTVIEW LANE</p>  <p>Spectacular 5 bed, 4 bath, 2 storey hidden gem with double garage on 3 acres of privacy, just 10 minutes to CFB Trenton and minutes to Walmart.</p> <p><b>MLS#200627* \$650,000</b></p> | <p><b>72 ACRES WITH WATERFALL</b><br/>1037 GULL LAKE ROAD</p>  <p>FANTASTIC LAND!! Beautiful 92+ acres of vacant land with 80 acres of bush, 6 acres cleared, huge outbuilding, Bunkie, outhouse, flag trails &amp; small waterfalls. 15 minutes to Cloyne and 8 minutes to ON-41.</p> <p><b>MLS#203152* \$200,000</b></p> | <p><b>SPECTACTULAR BUNGALOW</b><br/>25 MCQUADE DRIVE</p>  <p>Spectacular 4 bed, 3 bath bungalow with huge shed, on ground pool and many updates in a fantastic neighbourhood.</p> <p><b>MLS#220284* \$300,000</b></p> |
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| <p><b>IMPECCABLE 5 PLEX</b><br/>109 FOXBORO-STIRLING ROAD</p>  <p>Impeccable multi family 5 plex with 4 occupied units, with bachelor/office space used by owner and separate commercial building on a supersized lot with plenty of parking just North of the 401.</p> <p><b>MLS#203583 &amp; 203556* \$600,000</b></p> | <p><b>SUPERSIZED LOT</b><br/>1367 HAMILTON ROAD</p>  <p>3 bed, 2 bath bungalow on a supersized lot with garage and master bed ensuite and walk-in closet. Minutes from CFB Trenton and Belleville.</p> <p><b>MLS#210775* \$350,000</b></p> | <p><b>SPECTACTULAR BUNGALOW</b><br/>242 DOWNS ROAD</p>  <p>Spectacular 5 bed, 2 bath Colorado bungalow in a private country setting on a huge lot with double car garage, minutes from all amenities, and CFB Trenton.</p> <p><b>MLS#211581* \$525,000</b></p> | <p><b>SOLD!</b></p>  <p><b>63 RICHARDSON POINT LANE</b><br/>Classic character on the Trent! Main level living, close to Oak Hills Golf Course, village of Stirling and just north of the 401 for easy commutes.</p> | <p><b>3 OUTBUILDINGS</b><br/>946 SALEM ROAD</p>  <p>One level 2 bed, possible 3rd, with upper loft, sun room, detached garage on 1 acres plus 3 outbuildings.</p> <p><b>MLS#220047* \$300,000</b></p> |
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| <p><b>SOLD!</b></p>  <p><b>72 REID STREET</b><br/>Spacious 4 bed, 2 bath bungalow with attached garage in a fantastic neighbourhood, close to all amenities and CFB Trenton.</p> | <p><b>DOUBLE LOT</b><br/>63 WHITES ROAD #150</p>  <p>Supersized lot with 3 beds, 1 bath, renovated mobile with double wide at the front living area and shed in Sunny Creek Estates.</p> <p><b>MLS#214067* \$175,000</b></p> | <p><b>1 ACRE PLUS</b><br/>674 2ND DUG HILL RD</p>  <p>4 bed, 2 bath bungalow with 1.5 car garage on a supersized lot, minutes to CFB Trenton, Walmart, Schools and more!</p> <p><b>MLS#219720* \$375,000</b></p> | <p><b>SOLD!</b></p>  <p><b>3 ARBOUR LANE</b><br/>WOW! Impeccable 3 bed mobile, with carport in pristine Kenron Estates lot fees only \$170.00 per month.</p> | <p><b>SPECTACTULAR BUNGALOW</b><br/>115 HOSKIN RD</p>  <p>Spectacular 4 bed 1 bath bungalow with steel roof and above ground pool just 30 min to CFB Trenton.</p> <p><b>MLS#220301* \$300,000</b></p> |
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| <p><b>SOLD!</b></p>  <p><b>7 NORTH ELM DRIVE</b><br/>Impeccably maintained 3-bedroom 2 bath brick bungalow with detached garage with electricity just minutes from all amenities and CFB Trenton.</p> | <p><b>1 ACRE PROPERTY</b><br/>21983 LOYALIST PARKWAY</p>  <p>Impeccable 4 bed, 3 bath, High Ranch on 1 acre + property with 2 car garage, new furnace, AC. Just 5 minutes to all amenities, Walmart and 401.</p> <p><b>MLS#217555* \$499,900</b></p> | <p><b>WATER ACCESS</b><br/>6285 OLD HIGHWAY 2</p>  <p>Impeccable vacant lot on 1.933 acres with un-deeded water access to Salmon River. Located 25 minutes to CFB Trenton, 15 minutes to Belleville and 5 minutes to the 401. Owned land.</p> <p><b>MLS#217955* \$85,000</b></p> | <p><b>SOLD!</b></p>  <p><b>10 GEARIN STREET</b><br/>3 bed, 2 bath side split is in a fantastic family friendly location, walking distance to Walmart, schools and amenities.</p> | <p><b>SPECTACTULAR TOWNHOME</b><br/>21 ANNA COURT</p>  <p>Spectacular 3 bed, 1 bath townhome with attached inside entry garage in a fantastic neighbourhood.</p> <p><b>MLS#218389* \$225,000</b></p> |
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**RECENTLY SOLD BY FUSSY HUSSEY!**

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| <p><b>SOLD!</b></p>  <p><b>117 CHURCH STREET</b></p> | <p><b>SOLD!</b></p>  <p><b>16058 TELEPHONE ROAD</b></p> | <p><b>SOLD!</b></p>  <p><b>12 DUNNETT DRIVE</b></p> |
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