



# 4 Wing Cold Lake E-newsletter



December 2016 - Edition 11



## Wing Commander's Message

Now that the holiday season is upon us, we can concentrate on spending time with our friends and loved ones. It is a much deserved rest after an extremely busy and challenging year. I will be taking the time provided to enjoy a few moments with my family and friends and hope you find time to do the same.

As I am sure you are aware, there have been many incredible achievements this year. We conducted yet another successful Exercise MAPLE FLAG, with great Canadian participation and a strong showing from our international partners, including France, the United States and the Royal Air Force. We also conducted a host of successful exercises both here at home and abroad.

There's been a great deal to be proud of this year. We were honoured to host Major-General Christian Drouin while he presented 4 Wing with the Royal Canadian Air Force Commander's Unit Commendation for our exceptional responsiveness to, and effectiveness in support of our 24/7 NORAD mission. Although a distinct honour, this isn't the only award worth mentioning in 2016, as 417 Combat Support Squadron received the JTF-W Command Team Commendation for their outstanding contributions to the Canadian Armed Forces' 2013 flood relief operations in Calgary, Alberta. There were also a variety of other individual and unit awards handed out throughout the year to members of 4 Wing Cold Lake, both at the local and national levels.

We also began what I hope is the first of many workshops for our leadership team here in Cold Lake. HCol Tom Trifaux, along with HCol Paul Starwick, led the charge on this challenge. This workshop provided an opportunity for all 4 Wing command teams to analyze and discuss what leadership here in Cold Lake means for us; it was a tremendous opportunity.

2016 was filled with a great deal of triumph, but also great tragedy. We lost two outstanding pilots this year, one of our own, Captain Thomas McQueen only a few short weeks ago, and Bruce Evans, a veteran air show pilot, who lost his life this summer during the 2016 Cold Lake Air Show.

I personally knew Captain McQueen, as I had the privilege of instructing him at 410 Tactical Fighter (Operational Training) Squadron when he was learning to fly the Hornet. I can tell you first-hand how much of an incredible person he was, and that he was dedicated to the service of Canada. He was a qualified flight lead with deployment experience in Eastern Europe on Operation REASSURANCE, and had combat flight time in the Middle East on Operation IMPACT. His energy and dedication caused him to be recognized as a leader among his peers; he is and will be forever missed.

The Directorate of Flight Safety is currently conducting their investigation having just recently completed their on-site recovery and salvage operations. The family and loved ones of Captain McQueen will be in my thoughts and prayers this Christmas season.

Looking toward 2017, there are many projects, new and old, to focus our collective efforts on. In the first half of the year, our commitment to force generation will continue as we conduct a variety of worthwhile training exercises. 401 and 409 Tactical Fighter Squadrons have Exercise COMBAT ARCHER/HAMMER in the New Year. 417 Combat Support Squadron will be taking part in Exercise SOUTHERN BREEZE, while 410 Tactical Fighter (Operational Training) Squadron will conduct yet another iteration of Exercise COUGAR SOUTH, and later in the year, Exercise PUMA STRIKE. Nearly all training opportunities 4 Wing will engage in will encompass other elements of the Canadian Armed Forces from across Canada, demonstrating our continued commitment to training alongside our partners at every level.

All of these training activities will prepare us to carry out our primary mission, which is to support the Government of Canada in overseas and domestic operations. One of the missions we are scheduled to participate in is Operation REASSURANCE in Eastern Europe this autumn.

It was an honour to become the Wing Commander this year, and it continues to be an honour to fill this role. I am excited to work with you as we continue to provide top-notch service to the members of 4 Wing and to our country. Thank you for your dedication and continued support; from my family to yours: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## Calendar

- 22 Dec - 8 Jan 17 - Reduced fly period
- 12 Jan - 12 Feb 17 - EX COMBAT ARCHER
- 16 JAN - 21 APR - FIGHTER WEAPONS INSTRUCTOR COURSE
- 16 JAN - 4 FEB - FLITEPRO VISIT
- 17 JAN - 24 FEB - EX FROSTED FLYER
- 17 JAN - 24 FEB - FOTEF/AETE CHINA LAKE
- 6 FEB - 24 MAR - EX SOUTHERN BREEZE
- 17 FEB - 20 FEB - COLD LAKE FAMILY DAYS
- 10 FEB - GRAND OPENING ALL RANKS LOUNGE
- 15 FEB - 3 MAR - EX ANTLER SOUTH (419 SQN)
- 20 FEB - 24 MAR - EX COUGAR SOUTH
- 24 APR - 5 MAY - 408 TAC HEL SQN GUN CAMP
- 23 APR - 23 JUN - FIGHTER WEAPONS INSTRUCTOR COURSE
- 30 APR - 12 MAY - EX MAPLE STRIKE
- 15 - 28 MAY - EX MAPLE RESOLVE
- 29 MAY - 23 JUN - EX MAPLE FLAG

Auf Wacht

Col P.J. Doyle  
Wing Commander



## 401 Tactical Fighter "Rams" Squadron

After a very busy summer, 401 Tactical Fighter Squadron (Tac F Sqn) have been able to slow operations down throughout the fall months. As you can well imagine, "slow down" is a relative term, considering throughout the same period, 401 Sqn managed to support 4 Wing's NORAD commitment, maintain a heavy training syllabus for Exercise PUMA STRIKE, and carry out many training missions and courses at home and abroad. Unfortunately, this period was also met with disaster as the Rams lost a member of our family when Capt Thomas "Toast" McQueen was killed in a tragic training accident on 28 November.

401 Sqn has been holding the torch for the protection of Canada for the majority of the fall season. Operation NOBLE EAGLE and Northern Sovereignty Operations are Canada's contributions to protecting North American air space alongside our American allies. NORAD has been the center of attention for not only 401 Sqn pilots, but the entire unit and Wing as a whole. Pilots, and most notably the technicians, have been working tirelessly around the clock to ensure we meet our alert mandate. In addition, 401 Sqn has successfully passed multiple evaluations at various operating bases with respect to NORAD requirements.

With the winter weather rapidly approaching Cold Lake, training flights continued to take place for as long as practical. But with the writing clearly displayed on the frozen wall which is 4 Wing Cold Lake, some of the Ram's assets decided to follow the warmer weather south, and participate in Exercise PUMA STRIKE in San Diego, California at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, home of Top Gun's Maverick, and co-incidentally Flanders (our USMC exchange pilot). The Air Station was temporarily occupied by 24 RCAF CF-188's from various 4 Wing Squadrons to enable the force generation of 401 Tactical Fighter (Operational Training) Squadron's Fighter Pilot Course (FPC) 57. Alongside FPC 57, many upgrade syllabus flights occurred for 401 and 409 Tac F Sqn fighter pilots. Exercise PUMA STRIKE was accompanied by Top Aces Alpha Jets, a CC-130T Hercules tanker, as well as the occasional United States airframe for support.

During this time at home and abroad, 401 Sqn has managed to make progress on many training syllabus flights for Tactical Instructor Pilot Level 2 (TIP2), Section Lead Upgrade (SLUG), Element Lead Upgrade (ELUG), and Combat Readiness Upgrade (CRUG) level members. Three Pilots successfully completed the final Tactical Evaluation flights (TacEvals) between the CRUG and SLUG X-Boards. We also had a week of night flying to re-hack Night Vision Goggle (NVG) currencies and to build night experience. 401 Sqn is also very proud to announce its 2017 Fighter Weapons Instructor Course (FWIC) candidate; Capt Evan "Junkie" Webb! The course is set to begin in the new-year.

Capt Brian "Humza" Kilroy went on the Composite Air Operations (COMAD) course in Albacete Spain as part of NATO's Tactical Leadership Program (TLP). The planning and simulated execution of Large Force Employment operations are taught to ensure inter-operability with allies. Canadian, American, German, Italian, Dutch, Polish, Greek and English participants were in attendance.

Additionally, Capt Justin "Boost" Catania completed the NATO Targeting course in Oberammergau, Germany. This course helps to ensure the understanding of Weaponneering and Collateral Damage Estimation (CDE) processes within NATO operations. Many skills were learned, and many Weissbiers were had.

A long overdue Rollcall has also named the squadrons 2 newest Pilots; Capt Kevin "POG" Bowness and Capt Patrick "Smaug" Shaver. POG is an acronym for a less than favorable email that was received from a top tier government official; thus the name **Pisses Off Government**. Smaug is the name of a most specially greedy, strong and wicked Dragon from J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Hobbit". Smaug is also voiced by Benedict Cumberbatch, an actor having a striking resemblance to the new guy.

As mentioned earlier, 28 November was a dark day at 401 Sqn and across the nation. Capt Thomas "Toast" McQueen tragically died during an Air-to-Ground training mission in the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range. Toast was an amazing and dedicated pilot, and an even more incredible person. He was respected by all and was expected to achieve a high level of excellence among the CF-188 Hornet community. The Royal Canadian Air Force has lost an incredible person that will forever be missed and remembered. Tom leaves behind a Fiancée, Caitlin, and all of his loving family and numerous friends. The 4 Wing Officers Mess was full the night of 28 November to mourn the loss of Capt McQueen and to celebrate the amazing person he was.

On Friday 2 December, 4 Wing and CFB Cold Lake celebrated the life and legacy of Capt McQueen with a memorial service, attended by his close family, hundreds of Cold Lake defence team members and even the public. A military funeral was then held on Wednesday 7 December at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton, Ontario, a place Tom spent many hours as a youth, honing in on his love for military aviation. Like the memorial, his funeral was well attended, bringing together over two hundred members of his family, and even members of the public.



401 Tac F Sqn - 12 Dec 16:  
Capt Thomas "Toast" McQueen  
performing a closed pattern at 19 Wing Comox  
in September of 2016

The entire service was broadcast nationwide so all Canadians could share in remembering Tom, and his service. Captain McQueen, along with his family, friends and loved ones then travelled along the Highway of Heroes to Ottawa, where on Thursday 8 December, he was laid to rest at Beechwood National Cemetery. This remarkable final journey was once more well attended, as hundreds gathered along the many overpasses and interchanges along the route to once more thank Captain Thomas McQueen for his service and sacrifice to Canada.

*"So here's a nickel on the grass to you, my friend, and your spirit, enthusiasm, sacrifice and courage - but most of all to your friendship. Yours is a dying breed and when you are gone, the world will be a lesser place."*

*- Unknown author*



## 409 Tactical Fighter "Nighthawks" Squadron

### Exercise VIGILANT SHIELD 17

Exercise VIGILANT SHIELD 17 (VS17) was the latest iteration of an annual exercise sponsored by The North American Aerospace Defense (NORAD) Command and led by Alaskan NORAD Region, in conjunction with Canadian NORAD Region and Continental NORAD Region, who together, plan and execute this field training exercise aimed at improving operational capability in a bi-national environment.

This year's exercise had 409 Tactical Fighter Squadron (Tac F Sqn) deploy 200 Km north of the Arctic circle to Inuvik, NWT. The primary objective of this year's exercise was to demonstrate the RCAF's continued capability to curtail an Arctic-based attack at any given moment. In this vein, VS17 allowed 409 Tac F Sqn personnel to hone their skills among a diverse array of aircraft and assets from across Canada and the United States. The overall success of this exercise once again validated NORAD's ability to defend North America.

### Exercise PUMA STRIKE 16-B

409 Tac F Sqn participated in Exercise PUMA STRIKE 16-B held once again at Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar, California. This deployment was an unparalleled opportunity for the RCAF's fighter force to conduct uninhibited training in an operating environment much different than normally encountered in Cold Lake during the month of November. The exercise provided 409 Sqn personnel a measured means of exposing both aircrew and technicians to new agencies and procedures. The experience gained expanded the knowledge of all Nighthawks who attended, thereby ensuring the tip of the sword remains sharp.



### CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

409 Sqn will launch the Christmas season with the annual "Old Hawks vs Fledglings" hockey game. This tradition is deeply rooted and will no doubt provide infinite entertainment for those in the cheap seats. Last year's secret is out! LCol Radiff (Fat Daddy) told the press that the key to success was a well-placed Squadron coin in his glove. No doubt, there will be a significant amount of FOD on the ice when those attempting to follow his success face off at centre ice.

The annual Christmas party will surely be the highlight of the festive season. The 409 Sqn family will have the occasion to share eggnog by the crackling yuletide fireplace before departing back home.

The honour of escorting Santa Claus through Western Canada on Christmas Eve has once again been bestowed to the Nighthawks. Crews are busy searching for ways to boost the CF-188s engine performance to help keep Saint Nick and his gang in sight. Aircrew are often left wondering what that blur was in the sky and how Santa keeps the radar cross section on that sleigh so small, Santa can rest assured that the Grinch will be grounded when the Nighthawks are in the sky!



Lieutenant-Colonel F.W. Radiff  
Commanding Officer 409 Squadron



## 410 Tactical Fighter (Operational Training) "Cougar" Squadron

It has been a productive fall in the Cougar Den at 410 Tactical Fighter (Operational Training) Squadron (Tac F (OT) Sqn). The busy month of September included several weekends on the road for the students of Fighter Pilot Course (FPC) 57, along with their instructors and a team of technicians. These extra days of flying enabled the course to complete the Air-to-Air (A/A) phase of the course in record time thanks to outstanding support from the Cougar maintainers. In contrast, inclement weather in October delayed the start of the Air-to-Ground (A/G) phase which meant many additional missions would have to be caught up while deployed on Exercise PUMA STRIKE 16B at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar in San Diego, California during the month of November. Taking advantage of the excellent flying weather, facilities and airspace Miramar has to offer along with 24 CF-188s and over 200 personnel, Exercise PUMA STRIKE averaged over 35 training sorties per day.



Images (Cpl M. Berger, 4 Wing Imaging)



Images (Cpl M. Berger, 4 Wing Imaging)

This high operational tempo allowed 410 Tac F (OT) Sqn to graduate FPC 57 on schedule. The graduation ceremony took place at the 4 Wing Officers Mess on 8 December and was a great opportunity to celebrate with friends and family. The graduates (Capt Rathbone (401 Tac F Sqn), Capt Hamilton (433 ETAC), Capt Quinn (409 Tac F Sqn), Capt Skipper (409 Tac F Sqn), Capt Argoselo (425 ETAC), Flt Lt Downs (410 Tac F (OT) Sqn Instructor) and Flt Lt Craig (425 ETAC)) are ready and eager to get started in their new units, and we wish them the best of luck in their new roles as Canada's newest fighter pilots.

With FPC 57 having completed the syllabus, the students have quickly been replaced by eight new Cougar fighter pilot students comprising FPC 58 who are scheduled to graduate in May of next year. While the bulk of the squadron was deployed on Exercise PUMA STRIKE, FPC 58 was just beginning their academic and simulator phase in Cold Lake. Now that the deployment has concluded, these concurrent activities have enabled FPC 58 to be ready to hit the flight line as soon as the weather begins to cooperate.



Images (Cpl M. Berger, 4 Wing Imaging)

On a much sadder note, the 410 Cougar family grieves with the rest of 4 Wing and the Fighter Force over the tragic loss of Capt Thomas "TOAST" McQueen from 401 Tac F Sqn, who was killed in a training accident on 28 November 16. Our thoughts are with the family, loved ones and friends of Thomas in their moment of grief.

In light of the recent tragedy and with the Christmas season fast approaching, 410 Tac F (OT) Sqn is ready to take a well-deserved break. 2017 is looking to be another busy year for the Cougars with a deployment to Key West, Florida scheduled for mid-February. Exercise COUGAR SOUTH will focus both on FPC 58 as well as the Fighter Weapons Instructor Course (FWIC). We look forward to another productive year, and we wish you a Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year.

Noctivaga



## 417 Combat Support Squadron

417 Combat Support Squadron (CSS) has had an incredibly busy year, which is probably why you haven't heard from us in a while. Early in May, our Squadron responded to the fires in Ft McMurray. Due to the strong effort by the maintenance team, we were able to send two helicopters out the door with one spare at home. The standby crews were able to successfully locate and rescue a man who had spent the night evading the flames after being cut off by the fire while trying to evacuate. The detachment received the Wing Commander's Team of the Quarter for their contribution to Operation LENTUS.



Not much time passed before Exercise MAPLE FLAG 49 spooled up at the Wing and 417 CSS was back at the helm holding standby for the fighters and even playing a role in one of the war scenarios. In the meantime, Capt Hill upgraded to utility Aircraft Commander and Capt Weston returned from paternity leave.

The unit also participated in the 2016 Cold Lake Air Show as one of the acts, demonstrating our SAR maneuvers and, for comedic effect, dropping a car on a target. Despite the great success of the airshow, tragedy struck on the second day when one of the civilian acts had a fatal crash during his performance. The standby crew was on scene immediately, but it was too late for Mr. Bruce Evans. Our sympathies continue to be with his family.



417 Sqn - Adventure Training - 13 Dec 16

For the first time in recent history, a small group of adventure seeking Jokers embarked on a weeklong adventure training led by Cpl Bob Lamoureux. They set up camp at the Brazeau Reservoir, a park just southwest of Edmonton. Over the next few days the group of ten learned to work as a team as they participated in a scavenger hunt, a 12 km hike, and a 12 km canoe trip. They had excellent weather conditions and all came back with smiles on their faces, smelling of campfire.

To welcome the newest members of the 417 Sqn along with their families, the squadron hosted their annual Family Day at the start of September. There were helicopter rides, a potluck lunch, games and face painting for all. After the festivities, a few deserving members flew to Edmonton to meet HCol Suitor to watch the Edmonton Eskimos face off against the Calgary Stampeders.

In the last week of September, 10, members of 417 Sqn deployed to Yellowknife, NWT for the 2016 National SAREX. During the exercise, the maintenance crew amalgamated with technicians from other Combat Support Squadrons from across Canada, supporting three helicopters with distinction. Our aircrew performed flawlessly and Lead SAR Tech, Sgt Stephane Richard received top score in the Medical event. Always ready to answer the call, the crew completed their training and responded to a real-time emergency to assist a stranded boater on Great Slave Lake before returning to Cold Lake.

And because we can't get enough of the great outdoors around here, many of the Jokers took part in a SAR Tech led survival ex. Those that participated got checked out on quads and chainsaws, although not at the same time!

Congratulations are in order for Linda Caswell on her retirement after completing 13 years of employment at 417 Sqn. As well to our newly promoted SAR Tech, Sgt Geoff Rowan, and our fearless leader, LCol Brad Steels. Bravo zulu!

417 Sqn is finishing off 2016 under somber circumstances after responding to the fatal crash of Capt Thomas "Toast" McQueen. All members continue to provide support to the investigation and send their condolences to Capt McQueen's family and friends. He will be greatly missed.



### 1 Air Maintenance Squadron

1 Air Maintenance Squadron (1 AMS) had a very busy fall. The team hosted Exercise TAZ TORNADO, supported 433 Tactical Fighter Squadron (Tac F Sqn) during the Joint Terminal Attack Controller course and 410 Tactical Fighter (Operational Training) Squadron's deployment to Miramar for the execution of Exercise PUMA STRIKE 16-B all while maintaining their myriad of second line maintenance services to 4 Wing.

Exercise TAZ TORNADO is a national Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise sponsored by 1 Canadian Air Division. The aim of the exercise is to improve operator proficiency and Air Force, Army and Navy interoperability through exposure to advanced scenarios EOD teams could face domestically and in a deployed theater of operations. Participants included members from 3 Wing Bagotville, 4 Wing Cold Lake, 8 Wing Trenton, 14 Wing Greenwood, 17 Wing Winnipeg, 19 Wing Comox, 1 Combat Engineer Regiment Edmonton, 2 Combat Engineer Regiment Petawawa and Fleet Diving Unit (Pacific) Esquimalt. Throughout the two week exercise, the staff members and participants, with support from various units across 4 Wing, worked extended hours at the range to ensure all participants safely and successfully completed the scenarios.



On November 11, thirty-five members of 1 AMS, led by Captain Michaël Tremblay, participated to the Lac La Biche Remembrance Day Parade and ceremony at the Bold Center in Lac La Biche. Lieutenant-Colonel (LCol) Armstrong, 1 AMS Commanding Officer, and Chief Warrant Officer (CWO) Luczanko, 1 AMS Squadron Chief Warrant Officer, were invited to lay a wreath on behalf of the Royal Canadian Air Force. The ceremony was followed by a luncheon at the Royal Canadian Legion and a speech by LCol Armstrong.

As we move into the festive season, 1 AMS will soon be participating in several Christmas events such as the 1 AMS' Christmas Party, Strawberry Cup, Senior Non-commissioned Officers at Home and the Sticky Floor before giving their members a well-deserved break to recharge before coming back in the New Year to support local operations and get ready for the many upcoming exercises and deployments.



### 10 Field Technical Training Squadron

**10 FTTS Conducts Landing Gear Training with USN and Swiss Engineers**  
WO Paul Swansburg, 10 FTTS

Late this past summer, 10 Field Technical Training Squadron (10 FTTS) hosted a group of engineers for F-18 specialized landing gear training.

The group included F-18 Hornet fleet-specific United States Navy (USN) and Swiss engineers, who gained two weeks of hands-on exposure to various landing gear systems. This is the second year the USN engineers from NAVAIR at North Island in San Diego, California participated, and the first time for the Swiss. The visit gave them practical experience they are unable to get in their home work environments.



1 AMS - Visiting Engineers

In addition to training, USN personnel trialed new practical procedures and tested new tooling methods. These trials will help the aerospace engineers re-write or correct their technical publications and give them a better visualization of the complex system components.

RUAG Aviation (Switzerland), a contractor in Emmen that specializes in maintenance repair, overhaul work, modifications and system upgrades, sent two mechanical engineers to train on landing gear and door rigging procedures. Captain Bruno Carrard, an engineer from Payerne Airforce base, also participated in the training, which gave him a better appreciation for the work his maintenance team does at home.

The visitors were introduced to other areas of 4 Wing during their stay. The engineers enjoyed a familiarization ride in a CH-146 Griffon helicopter courtesy of LCol Steels and the team at 417 Sqn, giving them an overview of the Cold Lake landscape. LCol Armstrong, and the 1 AMS Component Shop and Phase Line personnel, provided some parts insight and practical maintenance training. Col Barker and the engineers at the Aerospace Engineering Test Establishment provided a tour of their facility and a detailed description of what they provide on the wing and across the country.

The training experience gave 10 FTTS the opportunity to showcase their professionalism and offer a glimpse at how we train future technicians for the CF-188 Fleet. It also provided a chance for staff to learn from the visiting engineers and build an information gateway for the future.

10 FTTS Commanding Officer Maj Jonathon Pilon was pleased the squadron had the opportunity to work with the American and Swiss engineers. "We look forward to future partnerships with our fighter world allies, and we hope to see another group next year," he said.

## 4 Wing Logistics and Engineering



### Focus on Foods Services

Maj Suzanne Kaprowski, Replenishment Officer, 4 Wing Cold Lake

The cook's trade encompasses a variety of knowledge and skills, with the opportunity to learn about finance, contracting, staffing and hiring in addition to honing culinary skills. The mandate of Foods Services is to provide cost efficient and effective food services support to the Royal Canadian Air Force and meet the national standards for quality, choice, value, nutrition and service. They do this within a framework of strict food handling safety protocols such as the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Food Safety and Defence System, and all food products we purchase and use in our kitchens must adhere to numerous industry standards such as the Food and Drug Act, Dairy Products Regulations and Meat Inspection Regulations.

Food Services follows the National Standardized Cycle Menu (NSCM), which is a four-week cycle that dictates daily menus in harmony with the Canada Food Guide. Its aim is to help CAF members eat healthier meals as part of living a healthy lifestyle. Part of the recipe selections include a healthy and a heartier option (for example, two different soups are offered daily). One of the advantages of the NSCM is that food production is consistent across the CAF; the same meals are served in every kitchen in Canada and members can expect the same high quality regardless of where they are serving.



The cook's trade is demanding, CAF kitchens must feed customers daily and support taskings, operations, exercises, and emergencies. In Cold Lake this means we feed customers at the kitchen, provide box lunches as required for flights and exercises, send cooks to other locations such as Inuvik, Yellowknife and Wainwright to support operations and exercises, and we support a surge of up to 2000 Maple Flag participants and cadets during the summer season.

When a cook starts off in the trade, his or her focus is on learning culinary skills. As they progress in rank they become exposed to other aspects of providing food services; their focus shifts from cooking to managing and supervising personnel. One of the first steps is monitoring and ordering food from standing offers and contracts, and being closely involved in the contracting process by providing expertise when new standing offers and contracts are being developed and awarded. Managing the budget, ensuring invoices get paid, and recovering monies from customers are a large part of a senior cook's job. Hiring and managing civilian staff to complement and augment the military cooks is also part of a senior cook's duties.

Cooks are extremely proud of their trade and the work they do. The meals they produce and serve are often a morale boost for members serving away from home. And they are well aware that the meal, coffee or snack they provide to people in the field, working long hours on ship, on deployment, or outside on a search and rescue mission is often just what they need in order to continue their work and focus on demanding tasks.

## 4 Wing Environment



### Investment in new technologies

Shona Lawson, Wing Environment Officer, and Theodora Alexakis, VP Business Development, Terragon Environmental Technologies Inc.

4 Wing has recently acquired a Micro Auto Gasification System (MAGSTM) V7. MAGSTM is a small self-fueling appliance (~2m x 3m) that converts mixed waste to thermal energy and bio-char using a patented process called Auto gasification. The technology is used to generate up to 2,500 kWh of thermal energy daily by treating up to one tonne of solid waste or 500 kg of waste oils. The technology was developed over a period of nearly 10 years by Terragon Environmental Technologies Inc. with support from Canada's Department of National Defence, the US office of Naval Research and Sustainable Development Technology Canada.

From 2011 - 2012 MAGSTM V4 & V5 Prototypes were evaluated by the Canadian Navy's HCMS Protecteur and US Marine Corps base Camp HM Smith. In 2013 MAGS-in-a-box, was purchased and evaluated by U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific (MARFORPAC) during two expeditionary Exercises LAVA VIPER in Hawaii and BALIKITAN in Philippines. MAGSTM technology has also been installed onboard a number of commercial ships, including luxury cruise ships travelling to environmentally sensitive areas, industrial sites, as well as in Northern communities.

In 2014, Canada's Department of National Defence purchased a MAGSTM V7 that was fully evaluated at the Naval Engineering Test Establishment (NETE) to assess its suitability for use onboard Canadian Navy vessels. Following the evaluation at NETE, the system was containerized, upgraded and transferred to CFB Cold Lake in September 2016. MAGS will be used to process a variety of combustible by-products produced by 4 Wing Sections and Lodger Units such as: HAZMAT, biomedical waste, oily rags, oils and classified information.

4 Wing is the first RCAF Wing in Canada to get this piece of specialized equipment allowing the Wing to lead the way in new technological advances for operational and regulatory aspects. The acquisition and operation of MAGSTM has been a team effort that included Environment & HAZMAT, Head Quarters, Comptroller, WLE, Replen, RCEME, CE, Real Property Operations and IAMS. MAGSTM will help the Wing, Lodger Units and the RCAF reduce HAZWASTE disposal costs and the amount of HAZMAT ending up in landfills from operations.





## Wing Administration

### MFRCS News and Updates

As we prepare for the busiest time of the year, the 4 Wing Military Family Resource Centre Society (MFRCS) wishes to take this opportunity to send Holiday Greetings to our extended military families. May you all look forward to the New Year of opportunities and pride in your roles as Honorary Colonels.

The 4 Wing MFRCS celebrated a special milestone in the fall of 2016 with 25 years of dedicated service to its military members and their families, and to the community of Cold Lake and surrounding areas.

As a registered charity, the MFRCS serves the unique needs of the military and the community of Cold Lake as the only local non-profit, nationally mandated front-line service provider. Our programs and services have grown to the extent that we are expanding our Day Care capacity, our Out of School Care programming, as well as the addition of Employment Services and Veterans Services.



Mrs. Elizabeth Morris

In April of 2016, the MFRCS welcomed Mrs. Elizabeth Morris to the team as the new Executive Director. Elizabeth grew up in a military family, is married to a military member, and both of her brothers served in the CAF. Elizabeth has worked for the Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services (CFMWS) for 14 years and truly understands the military life from all aspects.

Further, in November 2016, Judith Chance accepted the position of Fund Development Manager and will be responsible for the MFRCS' corporate sponsorships and donations, planned giving, stewardship and recognition, as well as numerous fundraising initiatives. Judith has worked for 4 Wing in various capacities since 2010 and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this new position.

2017 promises to be an exciting year for the MFRCS as we continue to focus our strategic planning on areas that directly impact our serving members and their families. To highlight just a few of our events, the May 2016 Youth Conference is a highly anticipated annual community event. In April of 2016, we will honour our tireless 4 Wing volunteers with an Appreciation Evening devoted entirely to recognizing their contributions.

In late June 2017, the Wing Commander Col Paul Doyle and the MFRCS will host a combination celebration of Canada's 150th Birthday and Acknowledgment of our many 4 Wing sponsors and donors. Details will be forthcoming in the New Year so please keep your calendars open.



## The Aerospace Engineering Test Establishment

### AETE Deploys to California for Ex. Southern Spin

A unique and important part of being a Test Pilot or Flight Test Engineer is having diverse experience flying a multitude of different aircraft. In order to be an effective evaluator, test crews need to fly both "good" planes and "bad" planes, and in fact, it isn't uncommon for a Test Pilot or Flight Test Engineer to have 30 or more aircraft types in their log book. Much of this experience comes from the intense year of Test Pilot School.

Each fall, a deployment of aircraft, test aircrew, and technicians from AETE pack up and head south to the United States Air Force Test Pilot School (USAFTPS) at Edwards Air Force Base in California to conduct Exercise SOUTHERN SPIN. During this two-week period, senior students from USAFTPS have the opportunity to conduct Qualitative Evaluations of unique RCAF aircraft – the CT-114 Tutor and the CH-146 Griffon. AETE's pilots conduct two intense flights each day, consisting of aerobatics, helicopter hover performance, spins, chase, and flight test techniques related to aircraft handling and performance, in an effort to help the students diversify their experience.



The exercise also provides some valuable experiences for AETE as well. Each flight has its own challenges, and even experienced Test Pilots learn while teaching. For the aircraft maintainers, it offers an excellent opportunity to practice putting together the required equipment and enable flying operations at a foreign location with limited support networks – a challenging task that AETE does not have the opportunity to exercise very often.

In the same time frame as Exercise SOUTHERN SPIN, AETE test aircrew have the opportunity to attend the Annual Symposium for the Society of Experimental Test Pilots (SETP) in Anaheim. This four day learning opportunity gathers the flight test community from around the

world to discuss lessons learned, new innovations, and share experiences. This is always a great professional development opportunity, and this year was no different.

Headed into the Christmas season, AETE is full steam ahead on project work, with many exciting test programs being executed over the coming months. We look forward to sharing some of them with you in the future, but for now, Happy Holidays from AETE!





## 419 Tactical Fighter (Training) Squadron

Pilot production continued albeit at a slower pace due to poor October and November weather. In order to mitigate against the many cancelled sorties during the winter months, much staffing continued for the first NFTC 419 Sqn Fighter Lead-in Training (FLIT) Southern Deployment (likely to be dubbed, Exercise "Antler South"), planned for Feb/Mar 2017. A new RAF Instructor Pilot, Sqn/Ldr Chris Pearson, and his family joined 419 Sqn in November.

November proved again to be another fantastic opportunity for the Moosemen to connect with their adopted City of Kamloops.

On 2 Nov, the Moosemen were invited to the Kamloops Blazers (WHL) military appreciation Hockey Game where CO LCol Grover took part in the puck drop ceremony with local Rocky Mountain Rangers CO LCol Dionne and WWII Veteran Joe Pringle, 1rst Canadian Parachute Battalion. Following the game, the Blazer players and coaches took time out for a photo in front of the 419 Sqn 75th Anniversary Commemorative Hawk Jet VR-W.

On 11 Nov, 419 Sqn conducted their annual flypast at the Kamloops Remembrance Day ceremony and attended the official dinner the night prior. On 12th November, 419 Sqn was proud to attend the Kamloops Black Maria Cadet Sqn's 75th Anniversary dinner.



After 28 years of distinguished service, Maj Carl "Sleepy" Cottrell retired from the RCAF and was "Mugg'ed out" in the traditional-style by fellow Moosemen, family and friends. Fortunately for 419 Sqn, Sleepy will continue serving with the Moosemen as an RCAF Reserve Fighter Jet Instructor Pilot and CAE FLIT GBTS Team Lead.



On 18 November 2016, the "Moosemen" proudly dedicated one of their six Aircrew Briefing Rooms to Hank Bullis, former WWII Halifax pilot and veteran of 419 Squadron. Along with unit staff, associates, and alumni, 419 Sqn HCol Guevremont presented a fitting tribute of Hanks's wartime efforts and time spent as a Moosemen flying the Halifax bomber. In attendance was Hank's son, Mike Bullis, who also provided an emotional history of his Dad's wartime and devoted family achievements.

