



History of the PPCLI

Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) has a long and distinguished history while serving Canada. It was the last privately raised and funded regiment in the Commonwealth. In August 1914, Hamilton Gault raised an infantry battalion, named after Queen Victoria's granddaughter, Princess Patricia. The PPCLI was the first Canadian fighting unit to see combat during World War 1. Not many of the Regiment's original 1,098 members would survive. Three Victoria Crosses were awarded.

In December of 1939, the PPCLI sailed to Britain where they spent three years training and conducting security operations. They landed in Sicily in July 1943, shortly afterwards fighting their way up the "Italian boot". The Patricia's also fought in Northwest Europe.

During the Korean War, the 2nd Battalion PPCLI was the first Canadian unit to arrive for almost immediate combat in 1950. The Battle of Kapyong would be to Korea what Vimy was to World War 1. Despite overwhelming odds, the Regiment prevented the fall of Seoul. For its action, 2 PPCLI was awarded the United States Presidential Unit Citation, the only Canadian unit to do so. The First and Third Battalions PPCLI would maintain the Regiment's standard for excellence in combat, during subsequent deployments.

During the Cold war, the PPCLI served in Germany and as Canada's first peacetime parachute regiment. PPCLI units and individual Patricia's have served on numerous UN and NATO missions including Israel, Golan Heights, Egypt, Congo, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, Croatia, Bosnia, Kosovo and Cyprus. The PPCLI has served in Afghanistan in many combat, training and headquarters roles. With three battalions, the PPCLI remains operational and ready to be called out with little warning as has been seen during several domestic operations. All three battalions have been awarded the Commander in Chief Unit Commendation for their actions in Croatia or Afghanistan. Approximately 2,000 Patricia's have given their lives in the service of Canada.

PPCLI Association

The PPCLI Association is a private, non-profit organization comprised of war veterans, retired and serving members. Current and former serving members of the Regiment are encouraged to join one of the many branches across the country. Family members of Patricia's and non-infantry members of the Canadian Forces who have served in or with the PPCLI are also welcome to join. Other membership options include e-membership and joining as a member-at-large. Questions may be directed to the Secretary of the PPCLI Association at associationsectres@yahoo.ca or visit our website at www.ppcliassoc.ca.

First World War Patricia's welcomed back to Ottawa after the war with Parliament Hill in the background.



PPCLI Regimental HQ

PPCLI Regimental Headquarters (RHQ) is the focal point for regimental affairs; promoting and maintaining the Regiment's customs, traditions, heritage, welfare and esprit de corps. RHQ works closely with the PPCLI Association in order to remain closely linked to veterans and retired members of the Regiment. Contacts are as follows:

Regimental Major: (780) 973-4011 Ext 5459
Regimental Adjutant: (780) 973-4011 Ext 5453
Regimental Warrant Officer: (780) 973-4011 Ext 5452
Fax: (780) 973-1613 Website: www.ppcli.com

Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund (Memorial Fund)



Members of PPCLI while patrolling on combat operations in Afghanistan (above) and on peace support operations in Croatia (below).



**Supporting the Soldiers and Families of
Canada's Finest Infantry Regiment**

Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund Donation Form

(Registration Number 888786647 RR0001)



You are invited to assist with the Memorial Fund fundraising campaign. All donors will be provided with a charitable tax receipt.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ PC: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Credit card brand and expiry date: _____

Credit card number: _____

Signature: _____

I/we wish to donate: _____ \$ Cdn to
(please check one):

- ☐ Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund - General
- ☐ Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund – 100th Anniversary
Memorial Projects
- ☐ Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund – Student Bursary

Cheques/Money Orders can be addressed to either
fund and addressed to:

Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund Secretariat
The Military Museums
4520 Crowchild Trail SW
Calgary, AB T2T 5J4

The Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund

The Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund is the principal financial organization for the charitable operations of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) Association, committed to devote all of its resources to charitable purposes and activities. The Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund operates primarily as an endowment with accrued interest being disbursed annually to:

- Support the PPCLI Regimental Museum and Archives;
- Offer bursaries for serving and former members of the PPCLI, their families and the members of Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps that are affiliated with the PPCLI;
- Provide financial support to Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps that are affiliated with the PPCLI;
- Provide referrals and facilitate access to appropriate social, medical and legal agencies for serving and former members of the PPCLI and their families suffering hardship; and
- Develop and maintain various PPCLI Regimental memorials.



PPCLI Association presenting a cheque to the Regiment in support of the PPCLI Museum and Archives.

100th Anniversary Memorial Projects

The PPCLI Association has undertaken four memorial projects to support the 100th Anniversary. Hamilton Gault Memorial Park at Garrison Edmonton is being expanded with additional elements being added to the park. In Ottawa, the Regimental cairn in Landsdowne Park will be relocated to a more suitable location with the addition of a bas relief depicting the presentation of the original camp flag by Princess Patricia. The Regimental Memorial at Frezenberg will be updated to reflect the Regiment's marking the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Frezenberg. A Memorial Baton will be created to link these commemorations. The Memorial Baton will be run by relay from Edmonton to Ottawa and also play an important role in the commemoration at Frezenberg. Canada Revenue Agency has granted the Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund authority to accrue funds through to 2014 to be expended on these memorial projects.

You can donate quickly and easily by credit card on-line. Visit www.pplciassoc.ca and a link will direct you to the donation page or visit <http://www.canadahelps.org/BasicSearch.aspx> and follow the instructions. A tax receipt will be sent to you by email immediately after you make your donation.



Menin Gate of Ypres, just mere kilometers from Frezenberg, containing the names of 557 Patricia's with no known graves in Flanders.