

## PEACEKEEPING AND PEACEMAKING MINUTES



*LCol Phillip Berthiaume, past Commanding Officer of The Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006 in Dieppe France, monument designed by Rory O'Connor  
Photo: Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment*

### Lieutenant Colonel Phillip A. Berthiaume: an epitome of transition

Born in Windsor and retired from the military after 28 years of regimental service and eight years in the Army Reserves, Lieutenant-Colonel Phillip Berthiaume epitomizes the changes in Canada's Armed Forces from WWII to the present. He served in Germany with "Cold War" forces stationed there. In 1974–75 Berthiaume did a

UN tour in Cyprus as a peacekeeper; he was Adjutant and Company Commander of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment in Cyprus during some of the most difficult times there.

After a very full career as an instructor in a variety of senior roles throughout Canada, the Lieutenant Colonel returned to Windsor to be the Regimental Deputy Commander and then Commander of the Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment from 1998 to 2008. In this capacity he oversaw the training and deployment of more than 40 soldiers who went as peacekeepers to Bosnia, Afghanistan and other international destinations. He transferred to the Armed Forces Reserves in 2000.

By the time he retired in 2008, Lieutenant Colonel Berthiaume had lived through tremendous changes in Canada's Armed Forces. He'd experienced, first-hand and through his students, its various new roles in the world.

Throughout it all Lieutenant Colonel Berthiaume knew that he and his brothers and sisters in arms were standing on the shoulders of giants—the soldiers of WWII. He showed his respect for the past by becoming instrumental in the campaign to place a memorial for the soldiers of the Essex-Kent Scottish Regiment who fell at Dieppe. On August 19, 1942 the regiment suffered 121 fatalities on the pebble beach of Dieppe. By the end of the war, the regiment had more than

550 dead and the highest number of casualties of any WWII unit.



*Sister Agnes, a Dieppe nun who tended to our wounded, escorted by  
LCol Berthiaume, presenting a gift to HLCol Robert (Bob) Bradley  
The Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment*

The Dieppe Memorial Project led to the erection of a monument designed by student Rory O'Connor in 2006 at the spot in France where the ill-fated regiment landed. Chatham-born opera singer David Curry sang as part of the Dedication Ceremony. Lieutenant Colonel Berthiaume was on hand to escort Sister Agnes, a Dieppe nun who tended to the Regiment's wounded in 1942.