



## THE CME MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

Welcome all to the CME Museum Newsletter. The goal of this newsletter is to keep those within the Military Engineer Branch informed about the current and planned activities at your museum and to provide opportunities for those interested in offering support to the museum.

As this is planned to be a monthly newsletter the idea is to keep it short but interesting so everyone will continue to look forward to reading it and, when at CFSME, look take advantage of visiting the museum.

First, a brief reminder to all of the mission of the CME Museum:

"The mission of the the CME Museum is to gather, collect, restore, preserve, interpret and display materials that reflect the history of the Military Engineer Branch with the view to educating Branch members of the history of their Branch and to inform the public of the contributions of the Canadian Military Engineers in peace and war and in the development of Canada."

Canadian Military Engineers have played a significant role in the development of Canada, a fact that has likely not received as much fanfare as it deserves. The focus of the museum is "education" and after a short visit to the museum to see some of the many artifacts of our history, everyone comes away with a better appreciation of our historical impact.

With a new fiscal year comes a renewed effort to focus on attracting visitors and making improvements to the facility. This year the museum's main effort is on public awareness.

With the peak summer visitor period soon upon us, the museum staff has been strengthening its ties with the CFB Gagetown Base Museum to make both facilities a one-two attraction for the numerous tourists that wish to see some of the sites around the Oromocto-Fredericton area.

The CME Museum has also sent out hundreds of information letters to military units, cadet corps, and civilian groups, brochures

have been placed in dozens of Tourism NB information kiosks throughout the province, and we have joined the Assoc of NB Museums. Those are a few of the initial steps planned to greatly increase the number of visitors.

As well, the museum, working with CFSME, will be improving signage to better assist visitors in locating the facility and we will be initiating an outreach program taking some of our Engineer history to local schools, service organizations and so on, but there will be more on that in future issues.

We are very happy to announce that the Direction of Heritage and History (DHH) has recognized the continuing improvement efforts of the museum and has provided \$10.5K for a new floor plan design and for conservation of several key historical artifacts. This design will be part of a long-term project to further enhance the visitor experience at the museum.

Your museum is always looking for any assistance in achieving its mission. Assistance with funding is always appreciated, but you can also assist through donations of artifacts (photos, memoires, materials), provision of services, (carpentry, research, labour, etc), or even simply spreading the word about the museum.

This time of year is also a great opportunity to permanently recognize the achievements of someone within your organization that may be posted, retiring, or who has been a key member in some other way through the purchase of a Brick on the Sappers Wall. The cost is \$125 per brick, which includes engraving. This would be a lasting reminder to the member of the good wishes of those that purchased the brick and, at the same time, you are making a significant contribution to your museum.

Thank you for your interest in this, the first of many monthly CME Museum Newsletters. Please keep up to date and visit our website--which will soon be greatly updated--for further information on artifacts, events, support options, and history trivia at [www.cmemuseum.ca](http://www.cmemuseum.ca)