

# The Torch



November 2016

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## Laura Brandon Invested Into Order of Canada

On 23 September 2016, Dr. Laura Brandon was invested into the Order of Canada by the Governor General of Canada, His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston.

Laura Brandon is Canada's leading authority on war art. As a historian with the Canadian War Museum, she created exhibits and authored publications that have been instrumental in transforming our perception of war and art, and in helping us to better understand our history. Notably, her *Canvas of War* exhibit toured to rave reviews nationally and offered a compelling perspective of the realities of combat to a new generation. She has also championed women artists, both historical and contemporary, by showcasing their paintings to a broader audience. Dr. Brandon is a member of the Friends of the Canadian War Museum.



Photo courtesy of MCpl Vincent Carboneau, Rideau Hall ©Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Canada represented by the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General, 2016.

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**President's Message**

The fall newsletter presents an ideal time to update readers on this year's progress on fulfilling the Friends' mission. As a reminder, that mission is to promote, support and assist the CWM with the view to educating present and future generations of Canadians on Canada's military heritage; preserving historical artefacts; promoting research; and encouraging future generations to reflect on past sacrifices.

From a projects perspective let me tell you about three which are particularly exciting.

**The Gunter Awards:** Five awards of \$1,000 each were presented in June 2016 to:

- **Connor B. Hawes** of Grand Forks Secondary School in Grand Forks, BC for his essay "Ordinary People in Extraordinary Times";
- **Alexa Ishikawa** of Centennial Secondary School in Coquitlam, BC for her video "Paper Cranes";
- **Chantelle Masterson** of Fredericton High School in Fredericton, NB for her artwork entitled "Great Uncle Merle";
- **Eric Sheppard** of Etobicoke School of the Arts in Oakville, ON for his essay "Every Soldier has a Story";
- **Gaurav Varshneya** of Magee Secondary School in Vancouver, BC for his video "Operation: White Dove."

The winning student projects can be viewed by following the link from the Friends' website or by going directly to the Canadian War Museum site.

**Adopt-a Book Campaign:** While we are close to meeting our 2016 commitment, several books have yet to be adopted. You can help us complete this year's effort. Contact the Friends office at [books@friends-amis.org](mailto:books@friends-amis.org) to find out what books are still to be adopted and send along a cheque marked Adopt-a-Book.

**Medals Stories Project – The Stories Behind The Honours:** The Friends have committed \$130,000 over six years to this project. While to date we have contributed just over \$65,000 much of the remaining \$65,000 must be raised over the next three years. To do that, we will need to launch a special fundraising effort. One such effort will use the adopt a-book model. The adopt-a-medal set campaign will give donors an opportunity to sponsor single or multiple medal sets (approximate cost per set is \$200) or with smaller donations to contribute to group sponsored sets. Information under the title, "The Stories Behind the Honours" which outlines the major elements of the project is now available on the Friends website.

We now have a unique military style coin which was designed to show the linkage between the Canadian War Museum and the Friends of the Canadian War Museum. The coin, designated, the President's Coin, has been and will continue to be awarded to Friends who provide remarkable support to the CWM and/or the FCWM. Among the six recipients to date are Pierre Garneau and Maurice d'Amour. This dynamic duo works on Thursdays in the **CWM Military History Research Centre (MHRC)**. Close friends for nearly 80 years and members of the Friends for more than 20, among their recent accomplishments is the completion of a three-year project which required painstakingly renumbering, by hand, 30,000 document envelopes. — **Linda Colwell**

# Don Allen Presents FCWM with Royalty Cheque

In the last Torch we reported that Maj. (Ret'd) Don Allen, a Volunteer Interpreter in the LeBreton Gallery had published "*Steel Ladies*",

a book describing the backgrounds, operational capabilities and technical specifications of all the tanks and armoured cars currently on dis-

play in the Canadian War Museum. In conjunction with that achievement, he undertook to provide all profits reaped from its sale to the Friends of the Canadian War Museum (FCWM).

In the first picture, and in satisfaction of this selfless offer, Don is seen presenting his first royalty cheque to BGen (Ret'd) Linda Colwell, the President of the Friends.

As part of her thanks to Don, Linda presented him with the newly minted FCWM President's medal. The medal has been struck to recognise Friends and non-Friends who have made a special contribution to the aims and objectives of the FCWM. This second photo records that deserving presentation.



## Used Military Book Room

The Friends Book Room has had a very successful summer season of sales, so successful that they are appealing for donations. The shelves are getting bare, and they would love to be able to fill them up again. If you have any military books to donate please contact the Book Room by email at [books@friends-amis.org](mailto:books@friends-amis.org). The friendly folks there are willing to come out and pick them up if you wish, and will travel a reasonable distance from Ottawa to do so. Alternatively, you can drop them off at the Book Room, located in the Friends office area. All donations will be gratefully accepted.

# Awesome Sundays

by Helen McKiernan

Have you heard about Awesome Sundays at the Canadian War Museum? Let me tell you about them.

Awesome Sundays occur on the last Sunday of every month and are sponsored by the Friends of the Canadian War Museum. Activities on these Sundays are geared to children and families and are free if the activities are in the lobby and/or outside, or are free, with the price of admission, if the activities take place in the galleries (usually the LeBreton Gallery). They offer exciting demonstrations, hands-on experiences with experts and fun take-home crafts.

The most popular Awesome Sundays have been Awesome Tanks but others like Awesome Yarn, Awesome Swing Dancing and Awesome Camouflage have proved to be very engaging for children and adults alike.

You will see our large posters around the Museum on those days and you may pass the FCWM table in the lobby where we:

- greet visitors who stop to chat;
- demonstrate our role with the War Museum via a large screen;
- highlight some of the Personal Treasures on our website and the Day-by-Day of the First World War on our Twitter account;
- offer a pamphlet on our organization which you may take to read and perhaps complete the membership form to join us;
- provide colouring books to children who may send their best efforts back to us for inclusion on our website;

- have a draw for a one-year FCWM membership that includes free entry to the galleries for that year;
- accept donations for which you can receive a tax receipt for any donation over \$5.00. Donations go directly to realizing Museum projects and our public education programs; and,
- recruit potential volunteers by putting you in touch with our volunteer coordinator.

On these Sundays, our Book-room is also open where we sell used military books for incredibly good prices. These books are donated by Friends and friends of Friends and all the monies received go to the Museum via the Friends' support program.

Join us for some fun activities while learning about Canada's rich military history.

**Helen McKiernan is Chair of the FCWM Events Committee**

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## FCWM Vice-President Cmdre (Ret'd) Robert Hamilton

Robert Hamilton is semi-retired and volunteers with the Friends of the Canadian War Museum (FCWM) Book Room where he can pursue his life-long interest in military history. He is currently the FCWM Vice President.

He has had a comprehensive career experience beginning as a naval officer, then as vice-president of the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre and finally as a federal government auditor. Throughout, he has specialized in logistics, finance, accounting and audit and has particularly enjoyed the training and mentoring of others. In addition to his work with the FCWM, Robert does volunteer work with the Military Family Resource Centre (MFRC) and is active with the Naval Association of Canada (NAC).

He was recently invested as a Knight of the Order of St. George in recognition of a long career of community and humanitarian support activity.

Robert is a native of Quebec City and now lives in Kingston with a secondary residence in Ottawa. His hobbies include speed walking, auto mechanics, and motorcycling; as well, he continues his 30 year struggle with highland bagpiping.



# Bob Fowler Launches a New Book

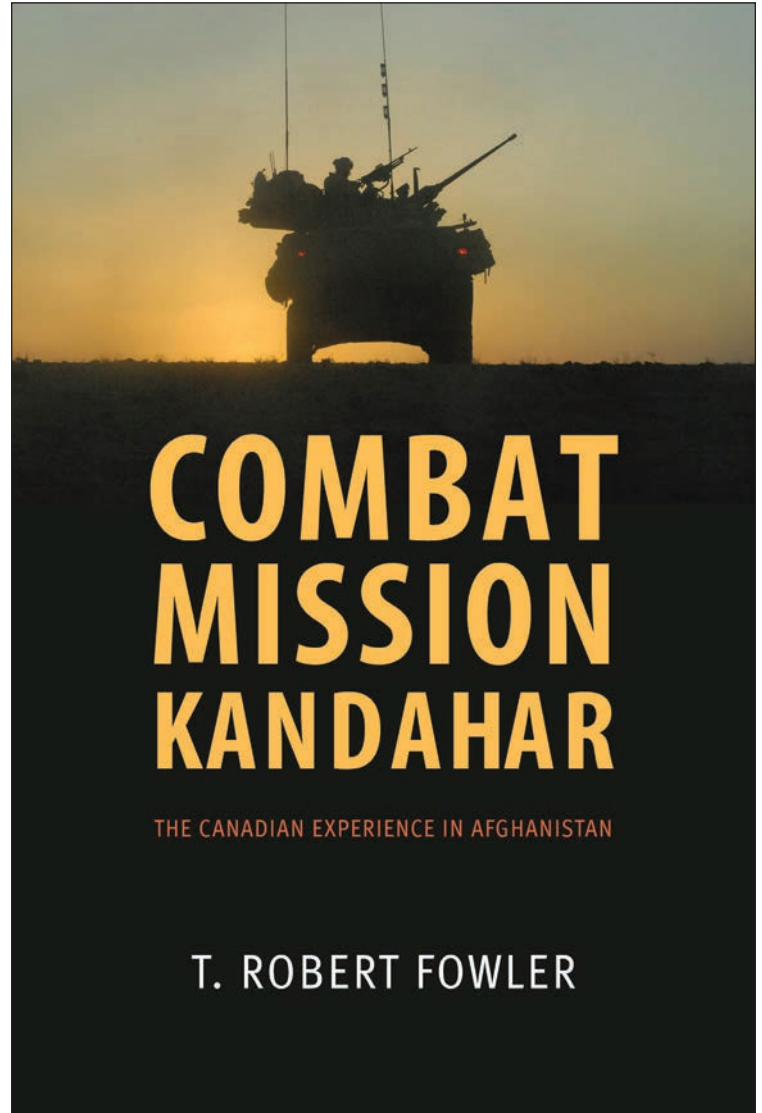
Bob Fowler is a Friend and the author of several books and articles on military history. On 18 September he hosted the launch of his latest book, briefly described below. Well done, Bob, we are sure that this book will be of interest to many of your colleagues in the Friends of the Canadian War Museum.

## Seven soldiers. Seven military specialties. Seven stories.

What was it like to serve in the combat mission in Afghanistan? Journalists' reports from 2006 to 2011 could only give brief glimpses of the reality on the ground for Canadian soldiers. This book reveals the full story of what happened to seven soldiers throughout their deployment in Operation ATHENA, Phase 2. The operation became known as "the combat mission" as Canadian battle groups engaged in a deadly multi-year war of counter-insurgency in Kandahar province. Each of the seven soldier's experiences covered in *Combat Mission Kandahar* highlights a facet of one of Canada's longest, most complicated, and challenging operations.

**T. Robert Fowler** is the author of several books about the military, including *Courage Rewarded* and *Valour on Juno Beach*. His articles on Canadian military history have appeared in *The Canadian Army Journal* and *Canadian Military History*, among others. He lives in Nepean, Ontario.

ISBN 978-1-4597-3516-3,  
242 pages, 73 b&w illustrations index,  
\$21.99 Paperback



## Transitions

### New Friends

From 1 July – 30 September 2016 the Friends of the Canadian War Museum have welcomed the following new Friends:

Mr. Alex Babcock	Mr. Roy Hostetter
Neil Erickson	Ms. Sigrid Hough
Ms. Sheila Han	Mr. Bruce Paynter

### In Memoriam

Since distribution of the last Torch in August 2016, the Friends have been notified of, and mourn, the passing of the following colleagues:

Mr. John Bannerman	CWO (Ret'd) John Smith
Mr. Stephen Dunne	Ms. Patricia D. McClenahan
Mr. Milan Joncas	Mr. Vincent Berlinguette
Mr. Bradley Ralph	Mr. Douglas Bothwell
Mrs. Rhoda Diebel	

## Group Friends

As of 30 September 2016, the following organizations are Group Friends and we thank them for their support.

ANAVETS in Canada - Dominion Command, Ottawa  
 Royal Military Colleges Club (Ottawa), Ottawa  
 The Black Watch Association - Pacific Coast Branch, North Vancouver  
 The Polish Combatants' Association in Canada, Head Executive Board, Toronto  
 The Polish Combatants' Association, Branch 8, Ottawa  
 The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command, Kanata  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 006 (ON), Owen Sound  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 015 (AB), Cochrane  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 024 (ON), St Catharines  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 029 (QC), Montreal  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 037 (AB), High Prairie  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 047 (NL), Labrador City  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 055 (SK), Grenfell  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 099 (ON), Belleville  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 120 (SK), Nipawin  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 130 (SK), Hudson Bay  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 153 (MB), Carberry  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 167 (ON), Exeter  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 177 (AB), Caroline  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 185 (QC), Deux Montagnes  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 290 (SK), Nokomis  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 314 (ON), Manotick  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 341 (SK), Pense  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 542 (ON), Westport  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 561 (ON), Elliot Lake  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 580 (ON), Cobourg  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 593 (ON), Nepean  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 636 (ON), Minden  
 The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 638 (ON), Kanata

## Donations

The Friends are grateful to the following who made general donations during the period 1 July – 30 September 2016

LCol. William Aikman	Mr. Joseph Gambin
Maj. Donald Allen	Kerrie Hale
Mr. Donald Buchanan	F/L Harry Hardy DFC, CD
Mr. Paul Eastwood	Mr. Michael Koch
Mr. Colin Franklin	Mrs. Geraldine Plomp

## In-Memoriam Donations

The following is a list of donors making in-memoriam donations during the period 1 July – 30 September 2016. The tributes are recorded in the language in which they were provided.

Canadian Army Staff College Class of 1963-1655,  
 in memory of Robert Grenier, died 16 June 2016  
 Dr. Jack Granatstein, in memory of Jeffery Grey  
 Dr. Jack Granatstein, in memory of Isobel Danson  
 Mrs. Valerie Mansfield,  
 in memory of Howard Mansfield  
 Lori Parent, in memory of Robert Parent

## The FCWM Research Committee

The Research Committee is actively involved in recording interviews of residents of the Perley and Rideau Veterans Health Center, recalling some of their experiences. These recordings are made for the Military History Research Center's Archival Fund (The George Metcalfe Archival Collection). Some people interviewed are more than 100 years old.

The Committee also puts out daily notes of "The First World War Day-by-Day." They produces a 150-word note and picture every day on what happened in the First World War on that day, one hundred years ago. The notes are available on the Friends' Web Site under the Twitter link, and can also be accessed through your own Twitter at the address @fcwm-amcg, or through the hashtag #daybyday1914\_1918.

## Mai-yu Chan and Michael Braham Receive the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers

At a ceremony at Rideau Hall on 7 September, FCWM Volunteers Mai-yu Chan and Michael Braham received the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers from His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada.

The Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers recognizes the exceptional volunteer achievements of Canadians from across the country in a wide range of fields.

As an official Canadian honour, the Medal for Volunteers incorporates and replaces the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award. The Medal builds on the legacy and spirit of the Caring Canadian Award by honouring the dedication and commitment of volunteers. To learn more about the program, visit [www.caring.gg.ca](http://www.caring.gg.ca).

Mai-yu's citation acknowledged her dedication of both time and resources to the Friends of the Canadian War Museum, inspiring volunteers and visitors alike through creative programs involving the institution's art collection. It also recognised her service on the Friends' Board of Directors.

Michael was recognised for his volunteer activities at the Diefenbunker Cold War Museum. The citation noted that he had lent his experience and historical knowledge to help bring the Cold War facility to life; represented the museum at trade shows; participated in public outreach programs; developed a health and safety program for the museum; and, engaged with the media on the museum's behalf.

*Photos courtesy of Sgt Johanie Maheu, Rideau Hall © OSGG, 2016 © Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Canada represented by the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General, 2016.*



# Red November: Inside the Secret U.S.-Soviet Submarine War by W. Craig Reed

Reviewed by John Anderson

Harper Collins 2010.  
ISBN 978-0-06-180676-6

This is an absolutely fascinating book that turned up in the FCWM Used Military Books Room a few years ago. Even though it was published relatively recently, it seems to be hard to find.

Reviewers have compared this book to Tom Clancy's *Red October*, but this book is not fiction. It is partly biography and partly autobiography, based on personal experiences and first-hand interviews.

The biographical part concerns the author's father, Lt. William J. Reed, who was deeply involved in the development and subsequent upgrading of the U.S. Navy's radio direction finding systems for locating Soviet submarines -- just in time for the Cuban missile crisis of October 1962. The Soviets sent four submarines armed with nuclear-tipped torpedoes into the area, and finding and neutralizing these four submarines therefore became the U.S. Navy's top priority. This they were able to do, but when finally cornered the captains of these submarines chose not to use their nuclear weapons, but chose rather to admit defeat and return home. And the U.S. Navy let them go.

The next part of the book chronicles some of the major submarine-related incidents of the Cold War, including the *Thresher* disaster, the *Pueblo* incident, the sinking of *USS Sturgeon*, and the attempts by *Glomar Explorer* to recover the sunken Soviet submarine *K129*. All of these incidents have been reported previously, but the author's detailed recounting is enhanced by interviews with personnel who were directly involved.

The author then moves on to discuss the super-secret *Ivy Bells* and *Holystone* missions, so dangerous -- technically, operationally and politically -- that each mission required the personal approval of the President. The *Ivy Bells* missions, which began in the early 1970's, involved submarines going deep into Soviet territorial waters to rest on the sea floor at depths of up to several hundred feet, sometimes for many weeks, while saturation divers exited the submarine to tap Soviet undersea communications cables.

The *Holystone* missions also involved going deep into Soviet territorial waters to seek out Soviet submarines at close range to obtain intelligence information. By this time the author himself had become a submariner, and he was involved in one such mission in which his boat collided with a Soviet submarine, leading to their detection and subsequent very narrow escape from Soviet anti-submarine forces.

The final humanizing part of this narrative resulted from the author being invited to a reunion of Soviet submariners in St. Petersburg in 2009 where he met and befriended some of the Soviet submariners who were on the opposite side of many of the encounters chronicled in this book, and whom the author subsequently interviewed for this book.

Being himself a fire control tech, a diver and a submariner, and with extensive contacts in the "spook" world, the author writes with authority on these events; he is neither bombastic nor sensational: his story speaks for itself. Also, the extensive notes on each chapter reinforce the notion that this narrative is very solidly fact-based. Most highly recommended.

