

Honours And Awards



Bdr Tintinger who is part of the OR staff received his CD from OC Maj Kwok and SSM MWO Park

EXERCISES

Ex Healing Sapper 17-18 January 2026

44 ES conducted First Aid training for the squadron Ex Healing Sapper qualifying 8 personnel – with at least 1 member from all 3 squadrons of 39 CER.



Cpl Matern instructing the First Aid



Ex Relentless Warrior in Edmonton - 31 January – 1 February 2026



Cpl Luke Little recently won a gold in the beginner ultra heavy weight division at Ex Relentless Warrior. His success bolstered the 39CBG to achieve second overall in the tournament.

POLAR BEAR SWIM

Trail Times



Trail's 44-Engineer Squadron-39 Combat Engineer Regiment hosted a successful start to 2026 with its Polar Bear Swim at Gyro Park on Thursday, Jan. 1. The annual swim started in 1987 as a refreshing and invigorating way to kick off the new year, and after a three-year pause due to the pandemic, started back up in 2024. On a beach void of snow, the temperature at -1C, and the water around 4C, 123 brave souls took the plunge into the Columbia River at noon sharp and enjoyed warming up by the bonfire afterward. The Engineer Squadron gave out door prizes donated by local businesses, and the 531 Trail Air Cadet Squadron ran the concession so swimmers could enjoy a hot beverage and a snack. For family and friends it is a fun and fulfilling memory maker. Jim Harrold made his 24th dip with family in tow, saying the wind made it a little cooler, but the water was nice and inviting for the long time polar plunger. For the 44 Engineers Squadron, the Polar Plunge is a way to reach out and interact with the community. The event provides a fun and exhilarating way to say goodbye to 2025 and dive in with conviction to 2026. Thank you to the Kootenay Boundary Regional Fire Rescue for monitoring the plunge from their rescue boat and ensuring a safe swim.



CPL MATERN

Cp Laura Matern retired from the CF on 31 January 206. She was a stalwart in the Orderly Room and will be missed.



MCpl Rachael Hirschfeld, PO1 Kim Morrison, Cpl Laura Matern



Did you sign your paysheet yet?

Also, on her last parade night we had the OC gift her a silver coin and the RSM a coin holder made from refurbished wood from a bridge that was taken down at Stony Creek Range originally built by 44ES.





ROBBIE BURNS

On 31 January 2026, the J.P. Fell Pipes & Drums based in the 6 ES Armouries, held a fundraising dinner using Robbie Burns as the theme. A full house of 254 personnel attended. Guest were serenaded by the band and enjoyed the haggis and reading of Robert Burns' poem.



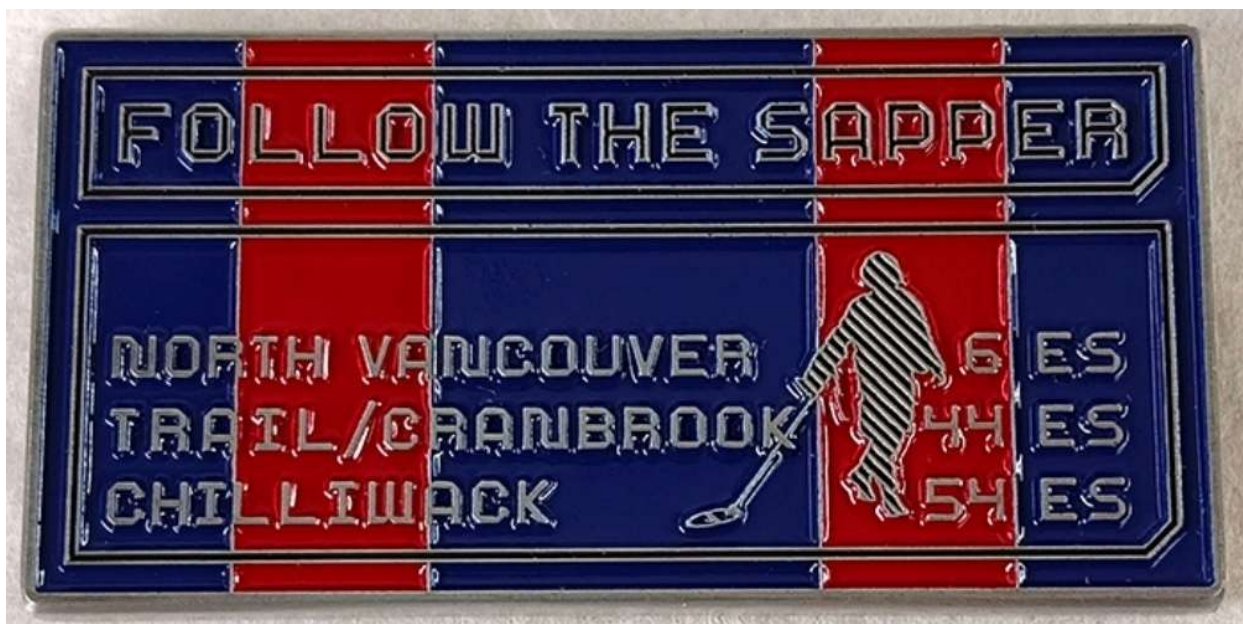


39 CER TABLET COIN

39 CER has just made a new coin. These "coins" are not numbered and the idea is that members can purchase multiples to use as trading currency or to give away at their discretion. There are 200, and are selling for \$15 each. Cash or e-transfer to; shanebatch@ymail.com



If anyone is interested in purchasing they can reach out to reach out to RSM or Shane directly. Coins are about 25x40mm



If you have any questions please let RSM Batch know.

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OP GRANITE II

<https://operation-granite-ii.info/>



Operation GRANITE II, planned for July 2026 in Chilliwack, is a commemorative event being organized by the CMEA, the Retired Sappers Association, and the Royal Canadian Legion. It will mark the 80th Anniversary of the All Sappers Cenotaph in Chilliwack, BC, that is the principal CME and central to our history and heritage.

The event is scheduled for the weekend of July 17-19, 2026. It is intended to be a major reunion and celebration, likely the last significant gathering in what was the "Home of the Engineers" from 1942 to 1998. The format includes:

- Registration and a Meet & Greet on Friday
- A Rededication and a Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph on Saturday, followed by a Memorial Dinner
- Optional church and group memorial services on Sunday morning, concluding with a farewell brunch
- Historical displays, kit sales, and a videographer capturing personal interviews and stories throughout the event

The organizing committee aims to reconnect thousands of people who served in Chilliwack, honour their history, and pay homage to those who have passed. The event has received financial support from the CMEA to help launch the event.

Operation GRANITE II is a significant military heritage reunion and commemorative event centred on the Canadian Military Engineers' legacy in Chilliwack, planned for mid-July 2026.

VETERAN AFFAIRS

Our Board member David Blake-Knox Maj (Ret'd) (blake_knoxd@hotmail.com) has offered his services to assist individuals in submitting claims to Veterans Affairs. David has had success in navigating the bureaucracy in submitting his own claims and those of others.

MEMBERSHIP

For those wishing to become members of 39 CER Association, a membership form can be acquired from: membership@39cer.ca

39 CER ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

President: Bill Wenman LCol (Ret'd)	wenman_39@telus.net
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The 39 CER Museum website can be accessed at: <http://www.39cer-museum.net/>

Recent editions of the 39 CER Newsletter can be accessed at: [39 CER Association \(39cer-museum.net\)](http://www.39cer-museum.net/). Earlier editions can be obtained from the Secretary or Editor.

For more Engineer news please visit the Canadian Military Engineer Association website at: <https://cmea-agmc.ca>