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**COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT  
REGIMENTAL DAY MESSAGE  
TUESDAY, 17 MARCH 2020**

Wendy and I approach March 17<sup>th</sup> Regimental Day with a happy outlook. This date not only commemorates the birthday of our original namesake Princess Patricia but provides a day when we can look forward to the end of winter and the imminent close of the high readiness posture that the Regiment has been in for a year and more. We at home hold of course a long and good thought for the hundreds of Patricias and their supporters who are deployed in a host of missions in Iraq, Latvia, Ukraine and more. Across our land and overseas, all those of our family will think positively and proudly of you men and women in the front lines of today's troubled world, and we will raise a glass of spirits or just send a wish of good luck, for the PPCLI.

In Canada the units are contending with the impact of COVID-19 whilst considering what comes after the demands of high readiness – for what months follow will of course be as busy as ever, for in designing the rotational readiness system the army always knew that the periods between deployment cycles was not going to be easy – the army is not big enough to have a third of its force resting. Even while the units have been managing deployments the new recruits arrive, the training system must be fed, qualifications earned and milestones met.

I hope that every one of our regimental family who are reading or hearing this message feels the same pride that we all should have in the continuing excellence of our current soldiers of the Regiment. It is those soldiers whom we see today, even as clearly as we see the soldiers of our past, and that make it easy to raise that glass of cheer on March 17<sup>th</sup>, and to say aloud or to ourselves: “The Regiment.”

Bless you all, now and all year long.

VP

Brigadier-General V.W.Kennedy, OMM, MSM, CD  
Colonel of the Regiment  
Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry

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