

November
2009

Moose Jaw Military Family Resource Centre



Deployment News



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Share your deployment stories with us. We would love to hear what you have to say!

Kelly.Aucoin@forces.gc.ca



Deployed families in Regina receive teddy bears from the Sasktel Pioneers

On October 21st, 2009 the family members of the Royal Regina Rifles, along with other families of soon to be deployed military members, gathered for an informational pre-deployment briefing. After all the important, serious topics were out of the way, staff at the MFRC presented

hand made, red bears to the families. The cute bears were made by the Sasktel Pioneers club. This turned out to be a great way to end the evening, with a few hugs and giggles as the group posed for the great picture shown above! A BIG thank you goes out to Jean Bryski and the Sasktel Pioneers for

taking the time to show their support for military families. The group also donated bears to families in Yorkton and Saskatoon.

Also, thanks to Capt. Tim Cheesman and the Royal Regina Rifles for organizing a lovely evening.

Christmas Tree Donation

The Canadian Christmas Tree Growers Association, is once again donating Christmas Trees to families of members who will be deployed over the holidays. Families wishing to receive a tree are asked to call Kelly Aucoin at the MFRC at 306-694-2222 ext: 5315. We have a limited number of trees, so put your name

down for one before November 30th! Trees will be available for pick up at two locations, the Regina Armouries and the Moose Jaw Military Family Resource Centre at 15 Wing.



Air Command Band Christmas Concert— Free Tickets for deployed families

FREE tickets are available to deployed families for the December 10th Air Command Band Christmas Concert being held at Peacock Auditorium. If you would like a **FREE** ticket, please contact Kelly Aucoin, 306-694-2222 ext: 5315



Canada Post will continue program of free parcel delivery to deployed troops

Canada Post announced it will again provide free delivery of letters and parcels from family and friends to Canadian troops deployed in Afghanistan and elsewhere overseas. This will be the fourth year that Canada Post has offered this service.

Free parcel service for family and friends of deployed Canadian troops will be provided from October 26, 2009 to January 15, 2010. Last year Canada Post forwarded more than 21,000 parcels to our Canadian troops serving in Afghanistan and elsewhere overseas, an increase of 60 per cent over the previous year. Family and friends of deployed troops will also be able to continue sending letters free throughout 2010. At the end of this period, Canada Post and the Department of National Defence will jointly evaluate the program.

"We are pleased to be able to show our continued support for our troops serving overseas and their families," said Moya Greene, president and chief executive officer of Canada Post. "This program allows Canadians at home to extend their best wishes to loved ones far away in the service of Canada, often in dangerous places," said the Honourable Rob Merrifield, Minister of State (Transport). "It is an excellent initiative and one I very much support."

With capacity limitations on military aircraft carrying supplies and munitions to deployed forces, this offer is restricted to family and friends of the deployed service men and women serving overseas in war zones. That includes members of the Canadian Forces serving in Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Sinai and Jerusalem.

Troops serving on any of the deployed Her Majesty's Canadian Ships are also included in the offer. To ensure the proper customs declaration form and addressing information, the letters and parcels will need to be deposited at one of Canada Post's more than 6,600 full-service retail outlets across the country (letters and packages dropped in regular street letter boxes will not qualify). They will then be forwarded to Canadian Forces Bases in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Victoria, British Columbia and Belleville, Ontario. Once delivered to the military bases, the Department of National Defence will take charge of the letters and parcels and ensure their delivery overseas. All mail must be addressed to a specific soldier, including rank and mission information.

Moose Jaw Sears Store makes special offer to military families

Date: Tuesday, November 17th, 2009

Where: Sears – Town and Country Mall
Moose Jaw

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Event Details:

- EXCLUSIVE COUPON SAVINGS - \$10 off purchases of \$50, \$15 off purchases of \$75, and \$25 off of purchases totalling \$100 or more!
- Contests and quizzes for those who wish to participate with great prizes!
- Door prizes.
- Complimentary Refreshments and Snacks!
- Complimentary gift wrapping!
- Many other great things in our store for you!!!!!!!

This event is our way of thanking you for shopping with us during the past year, as well as giving you the opportunity to spend an enjoyable evening Holiday Shopping!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Gordon Maier, Store Manager

“FROM OUR SEARS FAMILIES TO YOURS, A TRULY HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON, AND ALL THE VERY BEST IN 2010!”

Operation Wish at Sears:

Each holiday season, our friends at Sears in Moose Jaw ask for a family of a deployed CF member to come to the store to represent families who currently, or have had in the past, a family member deployed overseas. If you would like to take part in this event and to represent military families, please contact Kelly ASAP at 694-2222 ext: 5315. I would love to hear from you!

Family support meeting December 1st at the Regina Armouries

Please join us at the Regina Armouries on **December 1st at 6:30pm** for conversation, networking and information sharing. Come and share with us your feelings about the deployment thus far, get answers to any questions you may have and most of all, just be with others going through the same situation. If you are unable to attend this time, no worries, we will get together again in the new year. Feel free to call Kelly at the MFRC 306-694-2222 ext: 5315 if you have any questions or would like to help out planning the evening.

Hope to see you there!

Free On-Line Courses for Spouses of Deployed CF Members

While Canadian Forces (CF) personnel are away on deployment, why shouldn't their spouses expand their horizons too?

Itplanit Services Corp. is offering the opportunity to do just that. The technology and professional development training company is holding 10 spaces in each of their virtual courses for the spouses of deployed members, free of charge. Itplanit is piloting this new initiative from September-December 2009 in three CF communities with personnel soon-deploying: Edmonton, Moose Jaw and Shilo.

"We decided to do this because we wanted to give back to the community," says George Lobo, Itplanit's Director of Operations. "We already give back by donating funds to The Snowsuit Fund for underprivileged kids, but this way, we can give something through our business that's unique."

Itplanit focuses on both the technological and personal sides of the workplace, offering courses in four major areas: technology, business skills, IT service management and office productivity. Though the bulk of their courses are offered in a traditional classroom, Itplanit also offers numerous online courses through their eLearnLife program.

"E-learning is new to us, and we're trying to roll it out

slowly to make sure we offer a robust selection," says Mr. Lobo. Though CF spouses have a full variety of professional backgrounds, Mr. Lobo is confident that there are e-courses to polish any résumé, and sharpen the skills of any worker.

To sign up for the free courses, Edmonton, Shilo and Moose Jaw spouses of deployed members will be referred to Itplanit by the Deployment Support Coordinators at their Military Family Resource Centres. The spouses will then be able to choose from courses in Microsoft Excel, SharePoint, project management, information security and more.

Courses are offered in two to three hour sessions, and are facilitated by a live instructor. Some take only a day or two days to complete, while more in-depth courses are offered in the evenings or mornings over a couple of weeks.

For more information and to view the complete eLearnLife schedule, visit www.itplanit.com.



15 Wing Family Christmas Party December 6th, 2009

All military families are invited to our 15 Wing Family Christmas Party. The festivities will begin at 11:00am and go until 2:00pm. Santa will arrive at 11:00am and start visiting with the children at 11:15am.

Join us for lunch and take part in the many crafts and activities planned for the children.

We will also have live music on hand for your enjoyment.

Our only request is that you bring a Food Bank Donation!!

To register and book your visit with Santa please call 694-2273 or go on-line at www.moosejawmfrcc.ca



Red Shirt Fridays!

Wear RED to show your support for our troops



Kids Kloset

Consignment Store

The Kids Kloset is a volunteer-run children's consignment store located in Building 80 at 15 Wing Moose Jaw. Our shop provides the means for Military and associate members to consign items for cash. When you bring in your items, we will assign you an account # and collect a \$2.00 annual membership fee.

When your items are sold, we retain 20% of the total and pay you the remaining 80% of the sale! Everyone is welcome to come and shop. The Kids Kloset also oversees the Baby Equipment and Toy Lending Libraries.

If you'd like to join our team and volunteer at the Kids Kloset, phone Karen at 694-2222 ext. 5324



15 Wing Moose Jaw

Building 80

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Moose Jaw Military
Family Resource Centre

The Moose Jaw MFRC is committed to enriching the lives of its individuals, families and community through positive action, education and support.



www.moosejawmfrf.ca

SASKTEL Special Offer to Deployed Personnel

Members of the Canadian Forces or Department of National Defence may have their personal Wireless Service suspended, for no charge, while they are posted to combat zones serving our country.

- Proof of deployment must be provided, such as a copy of their orders, or a letter from their Superior Officer on official letterhead. There will be no monthly charge and no SAF. There is no time limit on the suspension. The unit will be suspended until the customer returns to Canada and notifies SaskTel to reactivate the service.
- One unit may be suspended per customer. If multiple units are under the customer's name, only the primary unit that the customer mainly uses is eligible for the free suspension.
- The customer does not need to be the responsible party on the account (can be under a spouse or parents name); however he or she must be listed as a contact/user on the account.
- Both post-paid voice and data services are eligible for the free suspend.
- A customer is not eligible if they are traveling out of province or country for basic training or other activities. Only travel abroad into a combat zone ensures eligibility.

Canada

Financial Services
SISIP RARM
Services financiers

ARNDIA APT
ANTRA

Air Command Band

La Musique du Commandement aérien

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Thursday, December 10th, 2009
Doors open at 6:30pm—Concert Starts at 7:00pm
Peacock Auditorium
145 Ross Street, Moose Jaw

Tickets: \$5/person or \$20/Family
Rush Seating Only

**** All proceeds benefit the Naismith Foundation****

Purchase your tickets at the following locations:
15 Wing Fitness, Sport & Recreation Building and Mess * Call 694-2269
Look for our Ticket Kiosk at the Town & Country Mall (Nov.30-Dec.5)
(Tickets will also be available at the door on concert evening)

www.airforce.forces.ca/acband

WESTERN HYUNDAI, WESTERN DODGE, WESTERN JEEP, WESTERN HONDA, YVETTE MOORE

