

CO 39 CER - LCol Jim Julien, CD



LCol Jim Julien enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces on 21 June 1990. He attended Royal Roads Military College and went on to enjoy 25 years of regular force service. Jim has filled command and staff jobs from the tactical to the strategic level in the Army and Joint environments. He is particularly proud of having commanded in 1 Combat Engineer Regiment at the Troop, Squadron and Regimental level – each with at least one operational deployment. Jim’s final job in the regular force was as the G3/J3 of 3rd Canadian Division/Joint Task Force (West). It was then that an entirely new adventure began.

In his first year of retirement, Jim and his family sold their home and packed their world into a fifth wheel RV and set out to tour North America for a year on the road. This was a defining time for the entire family and great education for everyone. The end of this ‘deployment’ saw them settle into a new life in the Comox Valley where they now reside. Jim, his lovely wife Christina, and their three children; Ben (19), AJ (18) and Sophia (15) are happy to call Vancouver Island their home. Despite being a happy islander, Jim spent his next year of retirement working for NOREX Engineering travelling to and from Fort McMurray as a strategic planner supporting the municipality in its recovery from the devastating wildfire of May 2016.

Having many friends serving in the Army Reserve and now finding himself in the 39 CBG area of operations prompted Jim to reconnect with the army of the west. It was at this point that a mutually beneficial opportunity to once again Command Engineers came about and Jim was announced as the CO designate of 39 CER. He took command of the Regiment in June of 2018 and has made it his primary goal to keep the 4 disparate locations of the unit; North Vancouver, Chilliwack, Trail, and Cranbrook; connected as one Regimental family. He is a strong proponent of the Unit Association and Regimental Museum, believing that honouring our past – accomplishments and members alike – is the best way to forge ahead together. Follow the Sapper!