

Major Grant Acheson, CD (1956 – Present)



Grant Acheson was born on the 9th December, 1956 in Edmonton, Alberta. He is a graduate of the Royal Military College in Kingston Ontario, obtaining a degree in Civil Engineering and a commission as a Lieutenant in the Canadian Armed Forces in 1978.

Grant served with 1 Construction Engineer Unit in Winnipeg between 1979 and 1982, completing engineering studies and construction projects at military establishments across Canada, with particular emphasis in Canada's High Arctic. He was promoted to Captain in 1980. He then was posted to 1 Combat Engineer Regiment in Chilliwack, where he commanded Park Troop, a heavy equipment, construction and water supply element of the Regiment.

In 1983, Grant took his release from the Canadian Armed Forces, and for the next 12 years was employed as the Engineering Officer at Canadian Forces Base Chilliwack. Responsibilities included the preparation of designs, tender documents and contract supervision of new construction and renovation of facilities at the former home of the Engineers.

Grant re-enrolled in the Canadian Forces, this time in the Primary Reserve, in 1993 as a Captain and served with 6 Field Engineer Squadron as Troop Commander, Training Officer, and finally as the Commanding Officer.

In his civilian career, Grant left the federal civil service in 1995, accepting the appointment of City Engineer with the Corporation of the City of White Rock, where he was tasked with capital programs and maintenance of the City's infrastructure. In 1998, Grant moved to the City of Abbotsford to the position of Manager, Inspection Services, responsible for building permits, building inspections, business licensing and bylaw enforcement. In 2001, Grant was promoted to the position of Director, Development Services. As the Director, Grant is responsible for development approvals, long range and community planning, environmental stewardship, as well as building permits and inspections, and business licensing.

In September 2004, Grant was promoted to Major and appointed the Commanding Officer of 6 Field Engineer Squadron. Maj Acheson completed his tenure as the "Last" CO of 6FES in May 2008, and became the Officer Commanding 54 Engineer Squadron of the newly formed 39 Combat Engineer Regiment.

Grant lives in Chilliwack with his wife Judy Quinn. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Building Officials Association of BC and the Association of Professional Engineers and GeoScientists of BC. He is an avid runner and snowboarder.

The following notable events occurred during Major Acheson's tenure as CO:-

On the 16th August 05, the 6th's Honorary Officer, Hon Lt-Col Bill Dow passed away after having served with distinction for 33 continuous years from 1972 until May 05. His funeral on the 23rd August was attended by the Colonel Commandant and many other distinguished military and civilian mourners.

In October 05, Major Jim Happer was appointed as the new Hon Lt-Col.