

39 COMBAT ENGINEER REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi all, as we roll into May, I reflect on the Royal Canadian Engineers, founded in 1903, that the Sappers of Canada are 123 years old. Young and old, we have a long proud history and wherever you are and whatever you are be proud that you are serving or have served. I would also like to acknowledge all the corps that have supported the Royal Canadian Engineers, so that we can be "first in and last out".

Another important part of history is the upcoming 6 Engr Sqn, D-Day Dinner. On June 6, 2026, it will be 82 years since the Sappers of 6 Squadron landed on JUNO Beach with 7th Infantry Brigade supporting the Regina Rifles and the Royal Winnipeg Rifles.

The 39 CER Association Annual General Meeting is scheduled for 1900 hours on Wednesday 20 May 2026. An Agenda and Zoom joining instructions will be issued separately by the Secretary.

Chimo,

Bill Wenman
President

EXERCISES

Ex Cougar Fortress – 13-22 March 2026

Members of 39CER were part of approximately 350 soldiers from 39 CBG who conducted Ex Cougar Fortress in the Chilcotin Training Area. The brigade level exercise focused on defensive operations to strengthen operational readiness. Training consisted of field manoeuvres, blank ammunition, live-fire activities including demolition within approved safety areas, military vehicle movement, and the use of Uncrewed Aerial Systems (UAS).



A group photo of soldiers from 39 Combat Engineer Regiment on the brigade level exercise, Ex COUGAR FORTRESS 2026



Master Corporal Cooper from 39 Combat Engineer Regiment, 54 Engineer Squadron on a dry-fire raid in Hayes Meadows, Ex COUGAR FORTRESS 2026, in Block 7741, Northern British Columbia. 19 March 2026



Engineers of The 39 Combat Engineer Regiment place explosive charges at the demolition range during the penetration demonstration (PENDEM) Range





The following persons received a CO's coin for their efforts as part of Ex Cougar Fortress: Cpl Getz, Cpl Nicolson, Sgt Boechler, Capt Murseli.

Rank Qualification Sapper Mod 8 field exercise 24-26 April 2026

Members of 39 CER converged in Chilliwack to complete the Rank Qualification Sapper Mod 8 field exercise on the weekend of 24-26 April. The purpose of this exercise was to confirm training from the previous months where the course was run in a decentralized manner between the various locations. Troops laid tactical and protective minefields in Columbia Valley then removed them on the first day of training. The next day was held at Sleese Demolition Range where the troops armed and disarmed live DM-21 anti-tank mines. By the end of the weekend approximately 40 people received their qualification. The 39 CER in-house course is the sixth serial of Mod 8 to be run nationally. The course staff and instructors were extremely dedicated in facilitating the training on behalf of the unit members.



D-DAY DINNER



YOU ARE CORDIALLY
INVITED TO THE

**D-DAY
MEMORIAL
DINNER**

MILITARY MESS DRESS &
FORMAL EVENING WEAR

1630 JUNE 6TH, 2026

JP FELL ARMOURY | NORTH VANCOUVER

PRICE PER PLATE TO FOLLOW

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

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>