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Retirement of MCpl Terry Dickison, CD, Vehicle Technician

MCpl Terry Dickison will be retiring on 15 February 2018 after 32.5 years of service. Terry grew up in Saint John, New Brunswick and in Sept of 1985, having just turned 19, he started out his career with the Canadian Armed Forces under the 1-year Youth Training Employment Plan program. He completed Basic Training at CFB Cornwallis and then went on to do his 031 Infantry Training at the Royal Canadian Regiment Battle School in Petawawa. In May of 1986, Terry was posted to the 3rd Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment in Winnipeg and in September 1986 he joined the Regular Force. In Feb of 1988 Terry and Sherrell were married and in July 1988 they moved to Germany as Terry was posted to CFB Baden with 3 RCR. He was fortunate to enjoy a 5-year posting in Germany. Many months during that time were spent on various courses, Brigade and Fall Exercises, Battalion and Platoon level training and even an operational deployment to the former Yugoslavia, but he still had much time to travel and enjoy wonderful German cuisine.

All good things must come to an end and in Feb 1993 Terry was posted back to Canada to 1 CMBG HQ & Sigs in Calgary. They purchased their first house in Calgary and spent the initial weeks completing minor renovations to their new home while adjusting back into the Canadian way of life. His posting in Calgary was cut very short as when he arrived at 1 CMBG HQ to clear-in, he was presented with the confirmation of Occupational Transfer to Vehicle Technician. This came with an immediate posting to CFB Borden. He initially proceeded on IR but following the sale of the house his family joined him in Borden.

After completing QL3 training at Canadian Forces School of Electrical Mechanical Engineering Terry's first posting as a Vehicle Technician was to CFB Winnipeg. He completed his QL4 and QL5 training in 18 months and in July of 1997 was posted to the Second Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in Winnipeg where he worked for 8 years and then he followed the Battalion from Winnipeg to CFB Shilo when they relocated. After one year of being on IR in Shilo Terry was promoted to MCPl in July 2005 and posted, yes, back to CFB Winnipeg where he was employed in various roles at TEME Squadron.

Terry completed three operational tours of duty. In 1992 he deployed for 8 months with 3 RCR N Coy to the former Yugoslavia as part of the United Nations Protection Force Op HARMONY. In 2000 he deployed for 7 months with 2 PPCLI to Bosnia on Op PALLADIUM and in 2009 he deployed with CFB Winnipeg on OP ATHENA – SWA Theatre Support Element - Camp Mirage Dubai and JTF TSE Afghanistan in Kandahar.



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Terry acknowledges the amazing mentors along the way, especially the Civilian Journeyman from the TEME workshop in Winnipeg who always took the time to teach him how to be a better technician and helped hone his skills. He has made some great lifelong friends during his career paths and he would like to express his heartfelt gratitude and wants them to know "it has been a true honour and a privilege to have served with all of you". Due to medical issues and being assigned a permanent medical category, Terry missed out on his promotion to Sgt in 2012.

Terry would like to thank all those who have passed on great examples of leadership, shared their knowledge, stood firm in their dedication and loyalty while serving this great country, and continually demonstrated solid character. Terry believes he has worked with some of the finest people in the Canadian Forces, far too many to mention but all being exceptional people. Terry thanks the Command Teams from WLE, 17 MSS and RCEME for their unwavering support they gave him throughout the last couple of years working at 17 MSS.

Terry and Sherrell will be celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary on a cruise just a few days after he retires. They are blessed to share life with their son Ryan and his family and daughter Ashley who all reside in Winnipeg. Terry is also known as "Grampy" to his two beautiful granddaughters Kayla and Cali. Terry will be staying in Winnipeg and will continue to spend time with family and friends, giving back to the community through volunteering and hopes to enjoy more time fishing and tinkering in his new garage.

A DWD luncheon is scheduled for 26 January 2018 at 17 MSS (Bldg 129 Canteen). Any congratulatory messages, best wishes or stories can be submitted to MWO Tintor at michael.tintor@forces.gc.ca



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