

# RCEME GEMIRC



## RETIREMENT MESSAGE Warrant Officer Jim Trussler CD

WO Jim Trussler will be retiring from the CF after 29 years of service.

Jim joined the CF in 1986 as a Radio Operator (back when Morse Code was still a requirement). He had the joy of attending recruit training at Cornwallis through the winter months and can attest to the fact that the wind off the Bay of Fundy is very cold. On completion of basic training it was off to CFB Borden for Driver training then in early 1987 off to Kingston for 6 months of Rad-Op training. Having finished second (it was a coin toss between first and second and Jim lost) he was posted to 2 CER in Petawawa as opposed to Germany. In 1988 he deployed with the 88 Cdn Signals Sqn to Iraq to set up the communication grid and do border patrols. A fact he is quite proud of is the fact that this virtually unknown tour won the [Nobel Peace prize](#) that year.

By 1990 Jim decided he wanted to use his degree in Drafting and design and released from the Military.

Three years in July of 1993 later he realized he didn't like the real world and re-joined as a Vehicle Technician. On completion of his QL3 he was posted to 2 Svc Bn, Maint Coy in Petawawa. He was taken under the wing of MCpl Darcy Blanchard (MWO retired) and Cpl Twigg (MCpl still serving) and learned fieldcraft and forward repairs as a part of the FRG component of Maint Coy. In 1996 he deployed to Bosnia on Roto 0 and much to his surprise wasn't working on Armoured assets but had the entire contingents bus fleet to manage. He was promoted to Cpl on this roto. On return he went on his QL5 course. In 1998 he deployed back to Velika Kladusa, Bosnia but this time working on his preferred armoured assets.

On his return in 1999 he was posted to 427 Tac Hel Sqn and learned quickly that the Air Force did business differently.



## Arte et Marte

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(He was allowed to actually call the LCMM'...). Jim deployed twice more to Velika Kladusa, Bosnia during 2003 for 2-month stints. During his tenure at 427 he ran components, worked on the main floor and ran the Control Office for 6 months due to the entire upper echelon being posted out simultaneously. He was promoted to MCpl in 2004 and posted to LFCA TC Meaford as an SQ instructor.

Jim instructed SQs for his first year in Meaford then moved on to be the 2IC of Base weapons in a Control Office style management position. In 2008 he was promoted to Sgt. In 2009 he was posted back to 2 Svc Bn, Maint Coy, Garrison Petawawa.

Jim went into the Contracts cell as the Military component and quickly learned that dealing daily with civilians and living in a pickup truck on the road is different than bush bashing. During his 3<sup>rd</sup> year in contracts for the last 3 months or so he was also the Trg Pl Ops Sgt. He had 2 offices and 2 chains of command. In the fall of 2013 Jim was officially posted to the newly formed RCEME OJT Coy and helped stand that Coy up with its own infrastructure and assets. He filled the role of Standards, Trg Resources and then moved on to be the Coys Ops Sgt. Jim was promoted to WO in July 2015 and posted to the RCD.

He cleared into the RCD and then immediately left as he was attached to 1RCR to go overseas on ROTO 0, Op Unifier, Ukraine as the Ops WO. He returned in 2016 and filled the position of Pl WO at the RCD when the return spring called him back to 2 Svc Bn, RCEME OJT Coy as the Veh Pl WO. He filled that role and to broaden his horizons switched to the Artisan PL WO during his last months in the Coy.

He was posted to JPSU in October 2017 as cumulative health issues had caught up with him. Jim plans on retiring wherever his lovely wife Dina gets posted and takes him and their son Rory. He wishes to especially thank his wife Dina, daughter Katherine and son Rory for their support and as well the Military family as this career would not have been possible without their support.

Jim is looking forward to his retirement as it will alleviate issues with a service couple on an active base, allow him time to deal with his injuries and allow proper family time (including the honey do jar).

His DWD will be held at Danny's Restraunt on Petawawa Boulevard on 6 April 18 at 12 Noon. If you wish to share any stories, humorous anecdote and or best wishes you can send them to email at [Stephen.O'Reilly@forces.gc.ca](mailto:Stephen.O'Reilly@forces.gc.ca)



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