

# RCEME GEMRC

## RETIREMENT MESSAGE



**MWO M. Couture, CD**

Master Warrant Officer Michel Couture will be retiring from the Canadian Armed Forces on March 27, 2019, after serving for over 33 and a half years with the RCEME Corps.

He enrolled in the CAF in Chicoutimi QC, on July 25, 1985, as a Weapons Technician Land. After basic training in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, QC, he has been posted to Base Maintenance, Borden, for OJT in the Weapons Shop while awaiting for his QL3 course to begin in April 1986.

After finishing his QL3 in Oct 1986, he was posted to 5 RALC, Valcartier. During this posting, he served with both Q and R Batteries maintaining M109 Howitzers.

In 1987, he volunteered to deploy with the Regiment to Cyprus as a rifleman (out of trade), manning observation posts and conducting foot patrols in Nicosia. During this 6 month tour, he also took part in a personnel exchange with the Danish contingent. In 1989, an unusual sequence of events occurred. He was sent on the M109 OSQ course in Borden, promoted to Cpl in advance later that spring and, during the following year, sent on his QL5 course.



**Arte et Marte**



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In 1991, he was posted to SVC Coy, 3R22R. In 1992, he was deployed again to Cyprus but this time as acting Mcpl and IC Weapons Shop. During this deployment, he was one of the eight soldiers from 3R22R that completed the DANCON march: a two days march of 25km each day, in the Troodos Mountains of Cyprus. In 1993, with the closure of Germany, where 3R22R became 1R22R, he deployed to the Krajina region of Croatia for a sometimes harsh but memorable winter tour.

In the summer of 1994, he was posted to 5 SVC Bn, and the following year promoted to MCpl. In 1999, he deployed with the NSE to Bosnia and was IC of the NSE Weapons Shop in Velika Kladusa, Bosnia.

Promoted to Sgt in 2001, he was posted to the LFQA Combat Training Center in Valcartier as Ancil IC. In 2004, he deployed back to Velika Kladusa, Bosnia, with the NSE for a short 3 month deployment.

In 2006, he was promoted to WO and posted to 12 RBC as IC Ancil. After a busy year of training, in March 2009, he deployed to Khandhar, Afghanistan, for a sixth and final mission in his career. During this 7 month tour, he had the privilege of serving as Ancil Pl commander; a mission he will never forget. He was promoted to MWO at the end of the tour in Oct 2009.

Upon returning to Canada, he was posted to METC (Munitions Experimental Test Center) Valcartier for two years as test director and technical adviser. In 2012, he was posted to DSSPM, DGLEPM with the Small Arms Modernization Project. In 2013, since his old job at METC appeared to have no takers, he was offered to go back. In 2014, he was one of the 300 soldiers that completed a 30 km march from CFB Valcartier to Quebec City's port to commemorate Valcartier's 100th year. In 2015, he was posted back to the NCR with DAVPM, DGLEPM, as LCMM for the ADATS divestment. In late 2016, after the fire in Building Louis St-Laurent, he was appointed as DAVPM A/CWO for 8 months. Since 2017, he has gone back to divesting the ADATS.

MWO Couture is honored to have served beside countless, dedicated individuals throughout his career. He is grateful to the mentors, friends, team members, and fellow soldiers he has worked with throughout his career and he will deeply miss the camaraderie of the military.



Arte et Marte



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After over 3 years of working away from home, MWO Couture plans on getting projects done around the house before embarking on a new job. Carole and Michel plan on remaining in Quebec City for the time being.

He has opted to not hold a DWD, but a few presentations will be made during DAVPM monthly coffee on March 14, 2019. Please forward your stories and anecdotes to MWO J.D. Maurice at [dominique.maurice@forces.gc.ca](mailto:dominique.maurice@forces.gc.ca).



Arte et Marte