

RCEME GEMRC

RETIREMENT MESSAGE



Cpl O'Leary

Cpl William O'Leary will retire April 27, 2020 after more than 30 years of service in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) as a member of the RCEME Corps.

Cpl O'Leary enrolled in the CAF in Toronto, ON at the age of 28 on January 18, 1990. After waiting several months for his first choice as a machinist or finishing technician, he returned to the recruiting center and watched a five-minute video on the much better Vehicle Technician trade and said, "Where do I sign?"

The following Saturday, he was on his way to Cornwallis, N.S. to begin his basic military training. Upon completion of basic, he continued his training at CFB Borden. From course, he was posted to CFB Kingston in 1991. During his stay, he completed his QL4's and then returned on his QL5's at CFB Borden and was promoted to the rank of Cpl.

In 1996, he was posted to 2 Service Battalion (2 Svc Bn) CFB Petawawa, ON where he participated in the 1997 flood of the century in Manitoba and in 1998 in the ice storm in both the province of Ontario and Quebec.

His stay at CFB Petawawa was short-lived, as he was transferred to CFB Trenton, ON in 1999. 8 Wing Trenton became his new home for the next 11 years and by the same token the most demanding posting yet.



Arte et Marte

RCEME GEMRC

In January 2003, he was employed to CFS Alert as a mechanic for a 6 month tasking. In June 2005, he deployed as part of Operation Athena where he was stationed at Camp Mirage. In June 2006, he completed the grueling Heavy Equipment maintenance course at CFB Borden, ON. Once again in November 2006, he was redeployed to Afghanistan for a shorter stay of 3 months.

In 2010, he was posted to ASU London, ON, where he was present during the formation of Tech Svc's Platoon under the command of 31 Svc Bn. In July 2017, he received his last posting which was a joyful return to 8 Wing Trenton, ON.

During his career, he was very involved in all levels of sports whether it be playing inter section sports, unit or base level teams from curling to softball, ice hockey, ball hockey, indoor and outdoor soccer. His favorite sport has always been floor hockey.

Cpl O'Leary would like to thank his friends, colleagues and teammates that he met over the years and wish them good luck and all the best in their future endeavors. His wife Yvette and himself are looking forward to the next camping season and their daughter's wedding in Cape Breton, NS this coming August. They then plan to have an extended vacation to sunny Australia to visit their son.

A DWD ceremony will take place (to be determined) at the Earl of Bessborough, 8 Wg Trenton to celebrate his many career years. Messages of congratulation, stories and/or anecdotes can be emailed to Sgt Vaillancourt at:
ERIC.VAILLANCOURT@FORCES.GC.CA.

All are invited to join the celebration.

Link. <https://www.cafconnection.ca/Trenton/Facilities/8Wing-CFB-Trenton-Messes-and-Institutes/Earl-of-Bessborough.aspx>



Arte et Marte