# **CIMVHR Newsletter**

Date: October 10, 2013

Over the past few months the planning for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Military and Veteran Health Research (MVHR) Forum has taken great strides. To date we have 87 oral presentations and 37 poster presentations that have been accepted for Forum 2013. We owe a huge a thank you to our College of Peer Reviewers who have chosen strong research presentations and for making the review process run seamlessly. We are also pleased to announce that Capt. Simon Mailloux has agreed to be our keynote speaker at this year's Forum Gala Dinner. Capt. Mailloux will share his story about being the first soldier to return to active duty in Afghanistan as an amputee. For more details on MVHR Forum 2013 and to see the Forum Agenda

#### Issue #6

please visit <a href="http://www.cimvhr.ca/forum/">http://www.cimvhr.ca/forum/</a>. In this issue we are please to update you on the first ever recipient of the Wounded Warriors Doctoral Scholarship; information on the second True Patriot Love Expedition: Arctic Circle; Serving Those Who Serve Us, a recent fundraiser that was launched to raise proceeds that will go towards military and Veteran health research that will help support and enhance the lives of Canadian military personnel, Veterans and their families; and an update on the Military Ethics Conference that was recently hosted by the Royal Military College of Canada (RMCC).

Alice B. Aiken, CD, PhD, Director and Stéphanie A.H. Bélanger, PhD, Associate Director

## **Wounded Warriors Doctoral Scholarship Announcement**

On Wednesday, May 15, 2013 Wounded Warriors Canada (WWC) presented CIMVHR with a cheque for \$400,000 which will be used to fund one doctoral student per year for a 2 year period. A new student will be funded each year for the next ten, from one of the university members of CIMVHR. The student who receives the scholarship must be supervised by a CIMVHR researcher and the focus of the research should be on mental health issues and the challenges of post traumatic stress disorder.

CIMVHR is pleased to announce that the first recipient of the Wounded Warriors Doctoral Scholarship is Duncan Shields from the University of British Columbia (UBC). Mr. Shields' area of research focuses on improving the mental health and well-being of military and Veteran populations by increasing access to and engagement in service through

"culturally" appropriate practice. Mr. Shields is supervised by CIMVHR researchers Dr. Marvin Westwood, Professor in the Counseling Psychology Program at UBC and Dr. David Kuhl, Physician and Professor at UBC. Drs. Westwood and Kuhl founded the Veterans Transition Program in 1999 which focuses on helping Canadian Veterans re-integrate with their families and communities. We look forward to learning more about Mr. Shields' research. CIMVHR would like to give a special thank you to our College of Peer Reviewers who dedicated their time to reviewing all of the applications.

For PhD students who wish to apply for the WWC Doctoral Scholarship we will be accepting 2014 applications in July, 2014. Information on the scholarship can be found at <a href="http://www.cimvhr.ca/content/cimvhr-funding-opportunities">http://www.cimvhr.ca/content/cimvhr-funding-opportunities</a>.

### **Wounded Warriors Canada Battlefield Ride 2014**

On September 5th, 2013 Wounded Warriors Canada (WWC) announced the dates for their WWC Battlefield Ride 2014 at the War Museum in Ottawa, ON. The Battlefield Ride will begin on June 5th at Juno Beach and end on June 14th in Vimy Ridge, France. The goal of this event is to honour and remember the lives of our fellow Canadians who paid the ultimate sacrifice while raising much needed funds to support the national expansion of PTSD animal assisted therapy programs for Canada's ill and injured Canadian Forces Members (both serving and retired). To learn more information on the event and for registration please visit <a href="http://www.decentle-2014/">http://www.decentle-2014/</a>.



## Did you know...



MVHR Forum 2013 is in 46 days! Visit <a href="http://www.cimvhr.ca/forum/registration.php">http://www.cimvhr.ca/forum/registration.php</a> to register today.

Discounted hotel rates are available until October 25 or until sold out.

MVHR Forum Rate: \$179

Government Rate \$139



## **Serving Those who Serve Us**

This past July CIMVHR and The Kingston Brewing Company joined forces to support military personnel, Veterans and their families by designing a special edition red t-shirt, which features The Kingston Brewing Company's signature dragon character wearing Canadian military armour. \$20 of each t-shirt sold (\$25 each) goes directly towards military and Veteran health research to help support and enhance the lives of Canadian military personnel, Veterans and their families.

Due to the large military population in Kingston and because Kingston is the home base for CIMVHR it seemed the perfect place to launch the t-shirt. At the launch the positive

## **True Patriot Love Expedition: Arctic Circle**

The True Patriot Love Foundation is proud to announce the launch of their second True Patriot Love Expedition: Arctic Circle, this incredible journey to the North Pole will be taking place on April 18 to May 2, 2014, in order to raise awareness for ill and injured Canadian Armed Forces members and their families as they triumph over their wounds on the road to recovery.

The two week expedition will consist of twelve soldiers, wounded while on duty, who will be paired with twelve corporate leaders to complete the mission. Participants will begin their journey in Resolute Bay, Nunavut where they will spend three days acclimatizing and testing gear. Then, a chartered Twin Otter aircraft will bring the team to 100 kilometers from the North Pole where they will begin their ski trip

response about the institute from the public was evident. "People see there's a need in Canada for something like this" said Alice Aiken, Director of CIMVHR. Van Allen Turner, owner of the Kingston Brewing Company, went on to say "We're so honoured to be a part of anything to do with the military and military families."

To date The Kingston Brewing Company has sold over 550 t-shirts which is an enormous step towards reaching their goal of selling 1000 t-shirts. T-shirts can be purchased at The Kingston Brewing Company, 24 Clarence St. Kingston, ON or ordered by email at kbrew@cogeco.net.

from the Last Degree to the Magnetic North

The True Patriot Love Foundation is actively seeking retired and reserve personnel from across Canada who have sustained an injury, illness, or Operational Stress Injury (OSI) as a result of their military service to participate in the True Patriot Love Expedition: Arctic Circle. All expenses related to the expedition for former service personnel will be covered by the True Patriot Love Foundation.

If you are prepared to join the journey, please email the completed application before **Friday**, **October 11, 2013** to Hilary Coles

at <a href="https://truepatriotlove.com">https://truepatriotlove.com</a>. The application and further details on the expedition can be found at <a href="https://truepatriotlove.com/true-patriot-love-expedition-arctic-circle/">https://truepatriotlove.com/true-patriot-love-expedition-arctic-circle/</a>.

## Military Ethics Conference

September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 RMCC, with support from CIMVHR, was proud to host its first ever Military Ethics Conference. The conference focused on the need to draw attention to the fact that the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) is drawing down its participation in the NATO-led mission in Afghanistan. As new security challenges present themselves on the global stage, it is of vital importance that a substantial body of knowledge on the subject of military ethics is available for political and military leaders at all levels. In order to ensure that the ethical "lessons learned" in the past

are retained by our personnel and so that the CAF is adequately prepared to face the challenges of tomorrow in an ethical manner keeping with the highest standards of military professionalism.

The two day conference had experts in the field of Military Ethics from across the country and the United Sates who gathered together to share their research with one another. With the success of this conference RMCC plans to publish a collective of this research that will act as an educational resource for individuals studying in the field of Military Ethics.



The Kingston Brewing Company's signature dragon redesigned in military armour to help support and enhance the lives of Canadian military personnel, Veterans and their families.



Applications for the True Patriot Love Expedition: Article Cirlce are due this Friday, October 11, 2013. Visit <a href="http://truepatriotlove.com/true-patriot-love-expedition-arctic-circle/">http://truepatriotlove.com/true-patriot-love-expedition-arctic-circle/</a> for the application and further event details.



For comments on this issue or for suggestions for future issues please contact Lauren Hanlon at lauren.hanlon@queensu.ca