



Edmonton United Services Institute
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19 January, 2019

EUSI Annual Report submitted for the CDA AGM to be held on February 11, 2019

The following represents the summary of activities of the EUSI from January 01, 2018 to December 31, 2018. A description of planned activities for the next 12 months are also included.

1. **Membership** - The EUSI currently has 75 regular members and 7 group memberships of local veteran and Reserve units. The number of members have stayed fairly constant. New members have replaced members who have passed.

2. **Board of Directors** --- The EUSI has a full board that include a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Director of Membership, Public Information/Media Liasion Officer, Director of Social Media and Website Maintenance, Military Liaison Officer, Social Function Director, Director of Protocol, Awards and Honours, and two Directors at Large. One of these Directors at Large was reassigned to become Director, Legal Affairs. His primary function is to review and update the EUSI bylaws. The current President was relected to a two year term during the Annual General Meeting held on October 2017.

3. **DND Policy change regarding use of DND services and facilities-** Due to changes of DND policy that require non miliary organizations to pay for services and use of facilities in kind, and that a number of United Services Institutes in Alberta that hold meetings in armouries previously are having to look for other accomodadtions as they do not have the fund for the very expensive demand for payment. This situation has improved somewhat in that the EUSI was able to engage the Reserve Militia Music Band for our annual mess dinner held in October 2018. The EUSI continues to have problem securing an office space or meeting room at either armouries in Edmonton. Consequently, the EUSI has been holding its AGM or Board Meetings at a local hotel. We have been fortunate to partner with the local Royal Canadian Navy Base, HMC NONSUCH, and held a number of functions without having to fork out expensive user fees.

4. **Newsletter** – The EUSI continues to publish a monthly newsltter with distribution to all EUSI members plus roughly 200 non members. Those who have internet services receive our newsletter by Email. Those who do not have internet receive the newsletter via regular postal services.

5. Social Media and Web site – All EUSI publications, past and current events are available through Edmonton United Services Institute at Facebook and through our website, EUSI.CA. All information contained in our website are available to the public, military, and educational institutions free of charge. The educational symposium held in the last three years are uploaded in Youtube and Facebook. A number of colleges and universities have researched the web with no charges.

6. Public Education/Annual Symposium - The EUSI has hosted annual symposium for the last 10 years, except in 2015 and 2017 Previous topics were

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- a. Canada at War in Afghanistan
- b. Canada at War in Afghanistan – Going the Distance
- c. Canada at War in Afghanistan – Winning on the Home Front
- d. Canada at War in Afghanistan – Keeping the Promises
- e. Canadian Defence Against Cyber Invasion, held on May 24, 2013
- f. Threat to Canadian Northern Land and Marine Sovereignty, held on October 18, 2014
- g. Future Role of the Canadian Military, Peace Keeping Vs Peace Making, held on September 17, 2016. This symposium was videotaped and uploaded into the EUSI website. A number of individuals and organizations have take advantage of the information in their researches.
- h. Canada's Preparedness Against Intentional or Accidental Nuclear Destructions was the theme of the 2018 Symposium held on September 22, 2018. This was one of the most successful symposiums event held. There were over 150 audiences. A number of the panel speakers were invited by several organizations to speak on their meetings subsequent to their panel presentations. For example, the 700 Wing RCAF Edmonton. The Canada Club.

For the year 2019, suggestion for a possible topic is to examine the economic and military expansion of China. Its rivalry with USA and impact on Canada's trade, as well as Canada's foreign policy as illustrate in the recent detention of Canadian citizens in China.

7. Partnership with The Memorial Project, Historica Canada. In 2015, EUSI began a partnership with the Memorial Project, a program funded by Veterans Canada and Department of Heritage Canada, in which our members volunteered to speak at educational institutions and community gatherings. In the last 12 months, members of EUSI have spoken on approximate 23 times at high schools, churches, Legions, and community gatherings. More speech engagements are expected in the coming months.

9. The Last Post Fund – Three of the EUSI members have been serving as directors of the Alberta Chapter of the Last Post Fund for the last five years. One is a current president.

10. Edmonton Salutes Committee – EUSI is one of the founding members of the Edmonton Salutes Committee, stand to in 1996 to honor Edmonton area soldiers and to commemorate their returning home from overseas deployments. In addition, the Committee actively supports the 3rd Canadian Division and its endeavours such as the recent deployment to Poland, Ukraine, Latvia and Iraq, The president of EUSI was

selected to be the chair of the Edmonton Salutes Committee in October 2017 and continues to serve in this capacity. The co- chair is an elected City of Edmonton Councillor.

11. Renaming of 97 Street to Canadian Forces Trail - Via the Edmonton Salutes Committee, EUSI members participated in a number of fund raising functions for the benefit of the Military Family Recreational Centre in Edmonton. (MFRC Edmonton). EUSI also partnered with the City of Edmonton in re-naming of an Edmonton street to commemorate Canadian soldiers. Hence, 97 Street Edmonton is renamed Canadian Forces Trail. As the war in Afghanistan has ended, the Edmonton Salutes Committee has been involved in helping military personnel and their family intergrating and transitioning into the community. EUSI provided vintage military vehicles to support Edmonton Salutes Committee in the annual Capltal City Parade.

12. Difficulties anticipated in the coming years for EUSI - Securing funding for our activities and programs continue to be a challenge in the year ahead. EUSI does not receive any government funds and operates solely on private donations, membership dues and fund raising activites. However, the economy in Alberta is in a downturn and not expected to recover soon,

Alexander H. Tsang, CD
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