



INTERPRETIVE CENTRE & TOUR HOURS

October 16 to April 30

Mon to Fri 9–4:30

Tours on the hour from 9–3

Sat/Sun & Holidays 12 – 5

Tours on the hour from 12–4

Closed Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Good Friday.

May 1 to October 15

Mon to Fri 8:30–5

Sat/Sun & Holidays 9–5

Tours on the hour 9–12,

every half hour 12:30–4

Pedway Hours

Monday to Friday 6–6

Sat/Sun & Holidays

Same as Interpretive Centre hours above.

Tour Bookings, Educational Programs and Sessional Hours

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780.427.2826



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Alberta Legislature

fact sheet

The Regimental Colours

The regimental and King's colours displayed in the Legislature Building rotunda are memorials to the deeds of a regiment and the symbol of its spirit as expressed in those deeds. When colours were carried in active service, acts of heroic self-sacrifice were often performed in their defence, for colours were the rallying point of a regiment. This association of colours with heroic deeds has caused them to be regarded with veneration. Before colours are taken into use, they are consecrated, as battle flags have been associated with religion since ancient times.

In 1751 a British Army regulation prescribed that there would be only two colours in each infantry regiment: a King's (Queen's) colour and a regimental colour. This restriction of two colours to a battalion has remained to the present day. Colours have not been carried into battle since about 1900. Some of the stands in the rotunda are incomplete, as one colour is missing. Cavalry regiments have a single colour called a guidon.



418 (City of Edmonton) Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) Squadron Standard

This squadron was formed at Debden, Essex, England, in November 1941. It was the 14th squadron formed overseas and was recognized as the highest scoring squadron in the RCAF. The squadron eventually became a transport and rescue squadron before disbanding in June 1994. The word "piyautailili" is Inuit for "defend even unto death."



51st Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, Regimental Colour

This battalion was raised in Edmonton in July 1915. It sailed in March 1916 with a strength of 1,092, all ranks, under the command of Lt.-Col. R. de L. Harwood. The 51st disbanded in September 1920.

White Ensign

The White Ensign was the official identifying flag of the Royal Canadian Navy from 1911 until the adoption of the Maple Leaf flag in 1965. It was flown by Canadian naval vessels during both world wars and the Korean conflict. This flag from Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) *Nonsuch*, an Edmonton-based training facility, was placed here in October 1971, seven years after the ship was decommissioned. It was recommissioned in 1975 and continues to train Canadian naval reserve personnel in Edmonton. On May 6, 2006, a commemorative plaque was unveiled above the naval ensign.



South Alberta Regiment (29th Canadian Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment), Regimental Colour

This regiment was raised in Medicine Hat under the name of the Alberta Regiment in March 1920. Its origin can be traced back to the Rocky Mountain Rangers, which was raised in Fort Macleod for service in the Northwest Rebellion. The Alberta Regiment was redesignated in 1924 as the South Alberta Regiment (SAR) and allied to the East Surrey Regiment, British Army, in 1934. The regiment moved to England in 1942 and fought in Europe in 1944-45, returning home in 1946. There are 20 battle honours emblazoned on the colour. In 1954 the SAR amalgamated with other regiments to form the South Alberta Light Horse.



Loyal Edmonton Regiment, King's and Regimental Colours

This unit was raised as the 49th Battalion by Lt.-Col. W.A. "Billy" Griesbach in January 1915. The Edmonton Regiment was created in March 1920 out of the Edmonton-raised 9th, 49th, 51st, 63rd and 66th battalions, Canadian Expeditionary Force. This stand of colours was presented by His Majesty King George VI in England in 1941 and was laid up here in January 1968. In July 1943 the Edmonton Regiment was granted the designation "Loyal" by Royal Charter in recognition of their service. The regiment has won 39 battle honours. The regimental colours bear the regiment's major First World War battle honours.



66th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, King's Colour

This battalion was raised in Edmonton in August 1915 and sailed in 1916 under the command of Lt.-Col. J.W. McKinery with a strength of 1,007, all ranks. The battalion was absorbed into the 9th Reserve Battalion in England and disbanded in 1920.



194th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force (Edmonton Highlanders), King's and Regimental Colours

This battalion was raised in 1916 and sailed that year under the command of Lt.-Col. W.C. Craig with a strength of 937, all ranks. The battalion was absorbed into the 9th Battalion in England and was disbanded in 1920. Armorial description: superimposed on a maple leaf, the numeral 194 encircled by the words "Edmonton Highlanders," resting on two scrolls, the upper inscribed "Overseas Battalion," the lower inscribed "Canada"; the whole is surmounted by the crown.



202nd Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force (Edmonton Sportsmen's), Regimental Colour

This battalion was raised in Edmonton in early 1916 and sailed that November under the command of Lt.-Col. P.E. Bowen with a strength of 773, all ranks. The battalion was absorbed into the 9th Reserve Battalion in England and was disbanded in 1920.



218th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force (Edmonton Irish Guards), King's and Regimental Colours

This battalion was raised in Edmonton in 1916. It sailed in February 1917 under the command of Lt.-Col. J.K. "Peace River Jim" Cornwall with a strength of 915, all ranks. In England the 218th amalgamated with other units and became part of the 8th Battalion, Canadian Railroad Troops. The 218th was disbanded in November 1920. This stand of colours, which was laid up here in 1921, is a replica. The originals were burned in a fire that destroyed the All Saints' Pro-Cathedral in 1919.



180 Royal Canadian Army Cadets, Cadet Corps Flag

This corps was formed in 1907 by Capt. C.K. Flint, a local teacher and member of the militia, as the Edmonton Public School Cadet Corps. In March 1908 it became known officially as Cadet Corps #180. As of September 1, 1932, cadet training in Edmonton public schools ended, and the corps was later disbanded. During the Second World War cadet training by the schools was reintroduced. By the late 1950s it had ceased to be a responsibility of Edmonton schools. Finally, in 1965 the corps became known as 180 Corps, 20th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, by which name it is still known today. This flag was laid up here on February 23, 1997.



The Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) Regimental Guidon

In 1900 Donald A. Smith (Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal) offered to raise and equip a mounted regiment at his own expense to serve in the Boer War. The regiment was made up largely of cowboys and frontiersmen of western Canada and members of the North West Mounted Police. It served in action as a cavalry unit during the First World War. It was an armoured unit in Italy and Northwest Europe during the Second World War. The Strathconas participated in Canada's NATO and UN missions in Europe, Korea, the Middle East, Cyprus and Afghanistan.