

Mayor Deb Higgins-May 17, 2013

This past weekend, it was a privilege to address the members of the Saskatchewan Dragoons at a “Freedom of the City” ceremony, held to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Lieutenant Colonel D.V. Currie VC Armoury.

While the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the Armoury may have initiated the parade, it was not just a celebration of a building but a celebration of 100 years of involvement of men and women who have passed through the Armoury that we gathered to acknowledge and celebrate.

The Lieutenant Colonel D.V. Currie VC Armoury is a significant part of Moose Jaw’s heritage and history. This past weekend’s parade was an opportunity for our community to remember 100 years of dedicated service and activity that surrounds this facility.

Today, the Armoury is home to the Saskatchewan Dragoons but over the last 100 years, it has been home to the 95th Saskatchewan Rifles, the 60th Rifles, the King’s Own Rifles of Canada, the 77th Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, the 19th Medical Company, Royal Canadian Army Medical Corp, and the 142nd Transport Company, Royal Canadian Service Corps.

I know, as the parade travelled from the Armoury to City Hall, it brought back memories for many citizens in our community of those who came before and who may have participated in this same parade on their way to serve in conflicts across the world or support our country in peacetime deployments. For those of more recent times, who may not share these memories, the parade has created a better understanding of the Regiment’s importance and impact on our community.

The Freedom of the City is an honour bestowed upon a unit with historic ties to a community and is granted only to troops who have earned the trust of the local populace. Criteria clearly met by the Saskatchewan Dragoons through their activity in our City, their service in support of Canadians during civil disasters, and through their service both during times of conflict and peacekeeping throughout the world. It is also a token of appreciation by the City for long and dedicated service and an acknowledgement of the Saskatchewan Dragoons’ contributions to creating a better society, here at home, across Canada and around the world.

Deb Higgins
Mayor