

Battle Honours Of The Regiment

Raised in 1757 as The Second Highland Battalion Of Foot

Battle of Louisbourg June 1758
Wintered in New York1758/59
HalifaxMay 1759
Montmorency and Beaufort FlatsJuly 1759
Battle for QuebecSept. 1759 - Aug. 1760
Ste. FoyApr. 1760
Capture of Montreal1760
St. John's, Newfoundland1762
Quartered Quebec and Nova Scotia1759/63
Disbanded in CanadaDec. 1763
StrengthMay 1758

82 Officers, 65 Sergeants, 30 Pipers and Drummers ..1,365

Other Ranks

Total All Ranks - 1,542

(These figures include reinforcements and are an increase over the authorization in the Royal Warrant of 14 January, 1757).



Motto: Je Suis Prest

**War Cry: Caistal Dhuri
(Castle Downie)**

**Pipe Music: Spoidsearachd
Mhic Shimidh (Lovat's March)**



78th Fraser Highlanders
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History Of The Regiment

In Canada's story, the Fraser Highlanders have a uniquely romantic place. They were specially raised for service in Canada in 1757, fought in the major battles which determined Canada's history, and were disbanded while still in Canada in 1763. They were the first of the many red-coated settlers who played so large a part in the development of the Nation, and their descendants are still with us.

The 78th Fraser's Highlanders were raised in 1757 by Colonel Simon Fraser, Master of Lovat, under warrant from George II at the urging of Lord Chatham. They were recruited largely from Clansmen who only a dozen years earlier had fought for Bonnie Prince Charlie. When someone in high authority questioned the wisdom of arming former rebels, General James Wolfe replied "If a highlander gives his Oath, he can be completely trusted".

In September of 1759, on the Heights of Abraham, they shared General Wolfe's day of glory. The General's body was carried from the battlefield in the plaid of a 78th Fraser Highlander.

There followed a bitter winter's siege in the City of Quebec, broken in April 1760 when they sallied out under the Command of General Murray, against the army of General de Levis.

In this venture, the Battle of Ste. Foy, they were unable to prevail, but inflicted such damage that de Levis was unable to recapture Quebec before the ice broke on the Saint Lawrence, and the British Fleet sailed to the rescue.

The 78th marched to Montreal in 1760 and, under the Command of General Murray they invested the City. On the 8th day of September 1760, the City capitulated, and the 78th marched in, followed by the 42nd Royal Highland Regiment and Montgomerie's Highlanders, who had arrived at Lachine under General Amherst.

Their final engagement was the recapture of St. John's, Newfoundland, on September 12, 1762.

When the Seven Years War was over, the Regiment was disbanded. The order was received December 1763, at Murray Bay on the lower Saint Lawrence. About 150 of the men accepted land grants and settled in the area. Many married French girls, and their descendants are numerous in Quebec today, especially in the Fraserville or Riviere de Loup area.



With the onset of the American Revolutionary War, The Master of Lovat, now Major-General Simon Fraser, raised 2,340 Highlanders who were formed in the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 71st Regiment (Fraser's Highlanders). Concurrent with this, Lieutenant Colonel Allen Maclean, resident in Canada, raised the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 84th Regiment (Royal Highland Emmigrants). Many of the men who enlisted in the 84th had served in the 78th.

Since that time, the Clan Fraser of Lovat has remained an active contributor to the British Army, raising the 15th Fencibles in 1792, the Lovat Scouts at the onset of the Boer War, and the Lovat No. 4 Commandos. The latter was commanded at Dieppe by Lord Lovat, the immediate past Colonel-in-Chief of the 78th Fraser Highlanders.



Since 1967...

The 78th Regiment operates across Canada as a not-for-profit charitable corporation, its headquarters in Montreal, with the aims of preserving this part of Canada's military history and Scottish traditions associated with the period.

The Fraser Highlanders take great pride in our achievements of the past, take comfort in adding understanding to the present, and look forward to a strong Canada with hope for the future!

