



**Credit Union
Central of Canada**

May 14, 2010

General Walter J. Natynczyk
Chief of The Defence Staff
National Defence and The Canadian Forces
PO Box 5058
NDHQ - 101 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0K2

Dear General Natynczyk:

Last week, over 500 delegates and representatives of Canada's credit unions met in Winnipeg for the annual Canadian credit union leaders' conference. On this occasion, we were pleased and honoured to be addressed by General Rick Hillier (ret.) as a keynote speaker at our conference. During his remarks, General Hillier spoke about the service and dedication of the men and women who serve in the Canadian armed forces and their families.

These remarks remind us of the great privilege that we as Canadians enjoy as citizens of a peaceful, prosperous and democratic nation. We know that this is in no small part due to the service and sacrifice of the members of Canada's military and their families. We are also reminded that many of the members of Canada's military who serve overseas, often in situations of great danger, are fathers and mothers with young children who must cope with long periods of separation from their families many miles away.

Canada's credit unions are proud to count amongst our 5 million members many of the men and women who serve in Canada's armed services. Canada's credit unions are also active in serving the communities across Canada where military bases are located and where the families of our military reside.

Our conference has expressed its wish to acknowledge the service and sacrifice of the men and women of Canada's armed services. We would ask therefore that you convey to the members of Canada's military and their families the deep thanks and appreciation of Canada's credit unions for their courage and dedication in the service of our country. They every day honour Canada with their service; their courage and commitment is an inspiration to us all; they are in our thoughts and prayers, and we pray for their safe return.

Yours with gratitude and thanks on behalf of Canada's 419 credit unions,

CREDIT UNION CENTRAL OF CANADA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Phillips".

David E. Phillips
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