

The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery (RCA)  
has contributed to the history of Canada throughout the years.

Niagara's Gunners, as citizen soldiers, have served their country  
since the first European settlers first immigrated to the Niagara  
Peninsula.

The local artillery unit is the 10th Field Battery, 56<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery  
Regiment, RCA.

This Battery traces its history back to 1794 when a Battalion of Lincoln Militia Artillery Cavalry  
under Lt. Col. Robert Hamilton consisting of four Companies of Artillery was raised with No. 1  
at Newark, No. 2 at Queenston, No. 3 at Fort Welland and No. 4 at Fort Erie.

The 56<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment traces its record of service to Canada as far back as the War of 1812  
when the Lincoln Militia Artillery, the Niagara Light Dragoons and the Norfolk Militia defended  
our land. During the two centuries since, the Gunners, Dragoons and Soldiers of the  
Regiments, Battalions and Batteries the Regiment perpetuates, have earned distinction in war  
and peace.

The Artillery Room in the Niagara Military Museum presents objects, photos and  
stories about the thousands of men and women who have devoted their  
weeknights, weekends, weeks and months to train as Gunners. The lure of this  
profession of arms, a sense of duty, the camaraderie and the ability to earn extra  
income explain, in part or in combination, the attraction to the Regiment.  
However, this service has its challenges, as it requires a sustained commitment  
and a sacrifice of personal time far beyond most extra-curricular pursuits. The  
commitment to both a technical and tactical professionalism remains a must for  
today's Gunners in order to fight on the modern battlefield. Whether it was the  
18 pounder in World War 1, the 25 pounder in World War 2, the Regiment's  
current 105mm C3 Howitzer, or the 155mm M777 Howitzer used in Afghanistan  
and Latvia, the Regiment's Gunners still evince the same professionalism and  
esprit de corps that sustained those before.

For a national perspective, Canada's National Artillery Museum, The Royal Canadian Artillery  
Museum, is dedicated to telling the complete story of Canadian Gunners who have served in  
war and peace.

It is located in CFB Shilo, Manitoba. <http://en.rcamuseum.com/>