



For Immediate Release
March 3rd, 2006

Brandon Salutes Formally Salutes Master Corporal Gordon Olson

MCPL Olson is the third recipient of a Brandon Salutes "Salute" recognizing the significant contributions his volunteer efforts have made to building a strong and healthy community and strengthening the ties between the military and civilian communities.

In the 2 years since MCPL Gordon Olson and his family arrived in western Manitoba, he has immersed himself in both the Brandon and Shilo communities. He is an active volunteer on the Shilo United Way Campaign committee. In Brandon, where he lives with his family, he is involved with the Kirkcaldy Playground Committee, a project to revitalize the playground and green space area at Kirkcaldy Heights School. He also assists with a youth group at Grand Valley Community Church, planning social activities for the church's teens, and until recently he also served as Vice-Chair of the Kirkcaldy School Parent Advisory Council.

MCpl Olson exemplifies the way in which many Canadian Forces personnel in the Brandon/Shilo area improve the quality of life for all residents. MCpl Olson, in particular, has taken an active role in the organizations important to his family and to many other Brandon residents. "Since moving to the Westman area he has become very active in our community. When others ask for help, he gives it." says Sergeant Rod MacKenzie, MCpl Olson's supervisor.

Brandon Salutes Chairperson, George Haggerty presented MCpl Olson with a certificate of "salute" as formal recognition of his significant contributions toward achieving Brandon Salute's mission: "to foster unity of the military and civilian communities in the Brandon area" today at CFB Shilo.

*The **salute** is as old as history itself and is at once a greeting and a mark of respect. It is also a mark of trust and confidence and an act of courtesy, good manners and loyalty.*

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SALUTE recipient
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