

Canada
ARMY
Run



Course de
L'ARMÉE
du Canada

Presented by
Présentée par

BMO



Our History

2006

THE IDEA FOR CANADA ARMY RUN was sparked at the 2006 U.S. Army Ten-Miler in Washington D.C. when Lieutenant-General Beare (now retired, but then in the third highest ranked position in the Canadian Army) crossed the finish line. He turned to his Director of Army Training, Colonel Dean Milner (now a Major-General) and asked "Why aren't we doing this in Canada?" The Colonel replied, "Sir, you're the general. You tell me!"

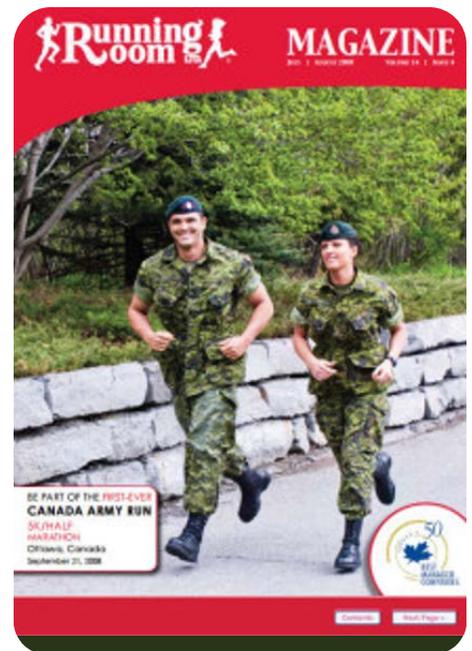


2008

MAJOR CHRIS HORECZY is appointed the first Canada Army Run Director and tasked with bringing the idea to fruition. "Generals had the idea," said LGen Beare, "but delivering the goods? That was Chris Horeczy."

RUNNING ROOM MAGAZINE runs a cover story on the upcoming first-ever Canada Army Run and becomes a major sponsor and supporter of the event.

On September 21, 2008, 7,000 civilians and military personnel participate in the first Canada Army Run, surpassing expectations of 1,000 participants and shattering records for the largest number of entrants for an inaugural Canadian run.





2009

CANADA ARMY RUN GROWS BY 50 PERCENT, to 11,000 people, and is recognized as the fastest growing run in the country.

"This kind of growth is unheard of in the running community, and sets the event up for a very exciting future." — John Halvorsen, President of Run Ottawa



ONTARIO'S RICK BALL 44, who holds single-leg amputee world records for the 10K and half marathon, breaks the world record at Canada Army Run for the half marathon with a time of 1:20:44.9 (the previous record was 1:21:46).

MASTER CORPORAL JODY MITIC who lost both legs in a landmine accident in Afghanistan, captures the interest of Canadians across the country when he successfully completes his first-ever half marathon using prosthetic legs.

2010

MORE THAN 14,000 Canadians and military personnel walked, ran, or rolled in the third annual Canada Army Run. The theme for 2010 was 'Many Stories, One Inspiring Run'. Rick Ball, a single-leg amputee who in 2009 earned a half marathon world record at Canada Army Run, taught a two-day advanced skills training clinic held for ill and injured military personnel. The clinic was facilitated by Soldier On in partnership with the Canadian Paralympic Committee, Athletics Canada, and the Canadian Forces Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Program.





2011

FIVE-TIME PARALYMPIAN medal recipient Jason Dunkerley – one of the world’s most prominent visually impaired middle-distance runners – runs his first Canada Army Run in 2011. He has run several times since. In 2012, he was a guest speaker at the Pasta Dinner.

2012

CANADA ARMY RUN Celebrated its 5th Anniversary with a special change to the logo.

New finisher medals were launched, featuring the same design of the Canadian Armed Forces dog tag.

New categories were added to the Ill, Injured & Disabled categories, honouring the visually impaired and handcyclists.

The Cheering Challenge was launched, with six non-profits, schools, cadet corps and charities competed for top prizes.



2013

THEIR EXCELLENCIES the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, and Mrs. Sharon Johnston become the first patrons of Canada Army Run.

2014

BMO becomes the presenting sponsor of Canada Army Run.

THE GROUNDS OF RIDEAU HALL – the official residence and workplace of the Governor General – become part of the half marathon course.

HONORARY COLONEL RICK HANSEN – one of the world's most decorated Paralympic athletes and accessibility advocates – participates in his first-ever Canada Army Run (in the 5K) and is the guest-speaker at the sold-out Pasta Dinner.



2015

CANADA ARMY RUN wins the Community Spirit Award at the Ottawa Tourism Awards Ceremony, and is recognized for its role in bringing together the local, national, and military communities in support of Canada's men and women in uniform.

2016

THE COMMANDER'S CHALLENGE event is added to the Canada Army Run weekend line up. The Challenge is an event within Canada Army Run where participants run, walk or roll officially in BOTH the 5K and half marathon events. Limited to 2000 entrants in its first year, the inaugural Commander's Challenge sold out fast. The Challenge returns for 2018 with 2500 spots available.

Born missing both arms and both legs, Chris Koch, founder of the organization If I Can, completed the 26.1 kilometres of the inaugural Canada Army Run Commander's Challenge on a longboard. Koch was also a special guest speaker at the annual pre-race Pasta Dinner.





2017

SEPTEMBER 2017 marked the tenth annual Canada Army Run. To celebrate this milestone, a new 10K event was added to the line-up for 2017, in partnership with Canada 150. The 10K returns for 2018, in partnership with Veterans Affairs Canada.

General Dynamics Mission Systems–Canada, a long-time supporter, stepped up in an even bigger way in 2017 as our 5K presenting sponsor. Canada Army Run 5K, presented by General Dynamics Mission Systems–Canada; the biggest 5K in the country!

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge (First World War), Canada Army Run added the Vimy Challenge, in partnership with Veterans Affairs Canada, to the event line-up in 2017. Participants in the Vimy Challenge ran, walked or rolled officially in BOTH the 5K and the 10K events and received a unique race shirt and, upon completion, a special coin as well as their dog-tag medals. For 2018, the 5K plus 10K Challenge returns as the Ortona Challenge, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Ortona, part of the Second World War Italian Campaign.

2018



TO COMMEMORATE THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY of the Battle of Ortona (Second World War), Canada Army Run added the Ortona Challenge, in partnership with Veterans Affairs Canada, to the event line-up in 2018. Participants in the Ortona Challenge participated officially in both the 5K and the 10K events and received a unique race shirt and, upon completion, a special coin as well as their individual dog-tag medals, one for each of the two distances. For 2019, the 5K plus 10K Challenge returns as the Normandy Challenge, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Normandy, part of the D-Day campaign of the Second World War.

2018 saw the departure of Major Gus Garant as Race Director. In June 2018, Maj Garant, the longest-serving Canada Army Run Race Director, handed the reigns over to Maj Dave Tischhauser. Welcome to the team, Major T!

Introduced in 2017 to mark our tenth anniversary, Canada Army Run's 10K event was back in 2018, presented by Accora Village. Fans of the 10K, rest assured; this popular event is here to stay!



2019

As a result of a new partnership, Canada Army Run race weekend moved to the Canadian War Museum, allowing runners and visitors to have a fuller experience of Canada Army Run's military origins.

2020

CanadaArmy Run launched a virtual event that went nationwide offering exclusive apparel items, themed coin, and access to the exclusive Virtual Race Kit.

