

# US Major wants to strengthen ties

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In support of the Canadian military's complex training scenario Maple Resolve, currently running at the Canadian Manoeuvre Training Centre (CMTC) in Wainwright, the state of Georgia's Army National Guard is contributing multiple sophisticated aircraft and 73 personnel to the exercise.

Among the air assets provided by the Georgia Task Force are two new, state-of-the-art CH47F Chinook helicopters, of which the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) will be acquiring a fleet this summer.

Integration of these vehicles into the exercise gives Canadian pilots a chance to train with the helicopters before they arrive.

However, technical training is not the sole purpose of Task Force Georgia's involvement in Maple Resolve.

Major Barry Simmons, Executive Officer of the Georgia Army National Guard, thinks the greatest value to be taken from the joint exercise is the strengthened relationship built between the two allies.

"It's all about building close relationships and I feel like our countries are very close, not only geographically, but in thought and spirit," Simmons said. "We're all up there supporting freedom. That's why we're training here."

"You look over the last ten years, and you look to the left and to the right at who's in the foxhole with you, and it's important to keep not only those relationships going, but that joint training going."

"We can conceivably find ourselves together again. It's highly probable," he stressed.

Simmons hopes Georgia will be included in future CMTC exercises. The experience, their first involvement with Maple Resolve, has been valuable as practice in long distance deployment, as they flew their aircraft 1,800 miles here from Georgia.

"We have to build a future. We have new soldiers coming into both of our militaries . . . we should be constantly trying to improve and adapt for future missions."



(Above) US Major Barry Simmons of the Georgia National Guard, with a contributed American Chinook helicopter. (Below) A US Army Chinook takes off at CFB Wainwright's Airfield 21.

Photos: Stacy Thomas



## OPEN HOUSE

### Highway 14 Access Management Study in the Town of Wainwright

Alberta Transportation has retained Associated Engineering to complete an Access Management Study for Highway 14 within the Town of Wainwright. As part of long-term plans to improve Highway 14, this study identifies recommendations for access changes to improve highway operations and safety.

You are invited to view plans and provide input on the study at an open house on:

**Wednesday June 5, 2013 - 3:30pm to 7:30pm**  
**Community Hall 3 (Auditorium)**  
**700 - 2 Avenue - Wainwright, Alberta**

Project Team representatives will be in attendance to outline the project and answer questions. The open house is an informal venue, drop-in style.

For more information on the Highway 14 Access Management Study, please contact Shawn Benbow, P.Eng. at Associated Engineering collect at 780-451-7666 or by e-mail at [benbow@ae.ca](mailto:benbow@ae.ca).




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