



Celtic Cove Retreat

Seeking Your Help in Honoring the Memory of MCpl. Scott MacDougall.

Scott's Story: In 2007, at age 18, Scott MacDougall joined the military. He deployed to Afghanistan in 2010 with the Royal Canadian Regiment to serve his country and fellow soldiers as a gunner of a light armored vehicle (LAV). After only 12 days on the ground, Scott and all of his crewmates suffered severe injuries when their LAV struck an improvised explosive device. While recuperating in a military hospital in Kandahar, Scott witnessed the physical and mental anguish of many other wounded soldiers.

Although his own wounds were severe enough to give him the option of repatriating home, he chose to stay and support his comrades, telling his mom "I'm staying for my brothers." Assigned to the relative safety of radio watch, it was not long before Scott decided to conquer his fears; His request to be returned to active patrol duty was granted and he went "outside the wire" once again.

Although Scott survived the remaining 7 ½ months of his tour and returned to Canada, he was not yet out of a raging battle. He was in great physical and mental pain, suffering from the effects of debilitating PTSD. To escape his pain he would retreat to his small cottage in PEI as often as he could. This was a place he called his "piece of paradise". With no phone, internet or TV it was just him, the water, the red sand, and his Island family. He made plans to renovate the cottage and move there following his scheduled medical release from the military, which was to be in Sept. 2018. Tragically that never happened. Scott lost his final battle with PTSD on April 4, 2018.

The Celtic Cove Story: In the days and weeks following Scott's death his family and friends struggled to find a way to memorialize him in a way that Scotty would appreciate. It was his sister who thought of going ahead with the renovations and making the cottage available as a retreat for members of the military, either serving or retired, who need help to heal a wounded mind, body, and soul. "Celtic Cove" will offer up to 8 struggling military families a year a chance to visit PEI in order to experience the peace that Scott once felt while at his cottage.

Scott's parents, John and Diana (who are both Veterans), and sister, Shana, really want to make a difference in the lives of others but they cannot do it all by themselves. The renovations to turn "Celtic Cove Retreat" into a comfortable wheelchair accessible facility suitable for wounded warriors will cost \$60,000. About \$30,000 will come from the family. We are hoping to help them raise at least some of the remaining \$30,000, through donations from the community and local businesses as well as a benefit at our Legion Branch on Feb 23, 2019.

It's a lot of money, and our expectations may be high, but we know that the generosity of our local community, family, friends and supporters of our active Service Members & Veterans will prevail and help the MacDougall's reach their dream of helping others like their Scott who struggle with PTSD. If even one family can be spared the pain of having to hear a stranger give the most terrible and unimaginable news that can be delivered, it will be well worth it.

Please show your support by donating to this worthy cause. Any amount that you can offer will be gratefully appreciated.

They have stood for us and bear the scars. Now it's our turn to stand for them.

Sincerely,

Executive and Members, Kingston Branch # 30 Royal Canadian Legion.