

# Operation Santa Claus sends gifts of support

by Lisa Bailey,  
Contact Staff

Operation Santa Claus is sending support by the truckloads to deployed Canadian Forces members.

And 8 Wing/CFB Trenton's commander knows personally how precious the gift is to those serving in remote Canadian locations and overseas.

"Having received one of these boxes and speaking with others who have, I can say that it means a great deal, it really makes Christmas a lot easier," Colonel Russ Williams told those gathered by two tractor-trailers of donations at Brighton Sobeys September 8.

"It's a connection to home and that link . . . to

the local community, it's hugely important," Col Williams said.

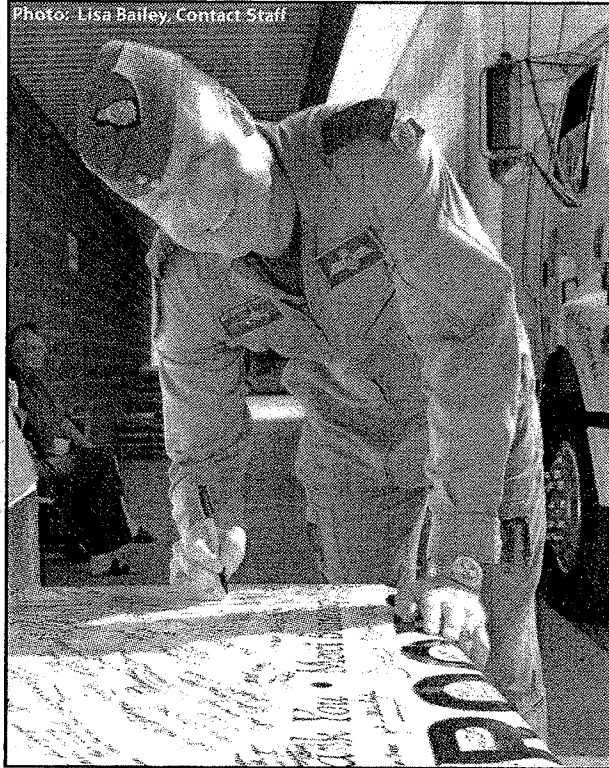
Thanking all those who contributed to and co-ordinated the effort, Col Williams declared that "it's really going to have an impact, there's no doubt about it."

In all, about \$85,000 worth of products ranging from water to deodorant were donated by various companies or purchased with money collected from the sale of \$2 cards to customers at Brighton Sobeys and 14 other Ontario stores in the grocery chain.

Several banners, totalling about 2,000 feet in area, provided by Sobeys and signed by the public, will also be distributed.

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Photo: Lisa Bailey, Contact Staff



**Colonel Russ Williams, Commander, 8 Wing/CFB Trenton, signs a support banner at Brighton Sobeys that will be sent to troops this holiday season.**

