



Latviešu Nacionālā  
Apvienība Kanādā

Fédération nationale  
Lettonne au Canada



Latvian National  
Federation in Canada

Oakville, ON  
February 1, 2026

To:

The Honourable David J. McGuinty,  
Minister of Defence

General Jennie Carignan,  
Chief of the Defence Staff

Lieutenant-General Steve Boivin,  
Commander Canadian Joint Operations Command

On behalf of the Latvian National Federation in Canada and all Canadians of Latvian heritage, please accept our heartfelt condolences on the tragic death of Gunner Sebastian Halmagean while he was deployed on Operation REASSURANCE with the Canadian-led NATO Multinational Brigade in Latvia.

Gunner Halmagean's service in Latvia as part of Canada's commitment to its allies is a legacy of honour that will not be forgotten by the Latvian people. His tragic death is a reminder to all that our freedom comes at a great cost of profound human sacrifices by those who serve. The burden and pain of Gunner Halmagean's death is felt not only within the ranks of the Canadian Armed Forces but also among all Latvians in Canada, Latvia and in the Latvian diaspora worldwide.

We extend our deepest condolences to Gunner Halmagean's family, his comrades-in-arms and friends. May they find strength and solace in the memories they share and in the knowledge that his service contributed to peace and security for Canada and Latvia.

Latvians stand with Canada in common grief as we honour Gunner Sebastian Halmagean's life, dedication and sacrifice.

With deepest respect and sympathy,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristbergs".

Rev. Dr. Fritz Traugott Kristbergs

President of the Executive Committee

Latvian National Federation in Canada