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## BATTALION IS TO BE MOBILIZED AT PORT ARTHUR IMMEDIATELY



## 52ND BATTALION TO TRAIN LOCALLY

With confirmation that the Twin Cities of Port Arthur and Fort William would be training ground for the 52nd New Ontario Battalion, speculation began as to who the commanding officer of the regiment would be. By mid March, both local newspapers reported that Lieutenant Colonel S.C. Young (Samuel Crawford), Fort William's Mayor, would take the commanding reins of the battalion.

Unfortunately, this appointment would only last until April of 1915.

The number of soldiers required for the battalion would change during the month of March. It was first reported that the 52nd New Ontario Battalion would consist of 1140 men but that number was changed by the end of the month to 993. The decision was also made to include the 127 soldiers already recruited in the months previous in the Lakehead. Also joining the ranks of the 52nd would be members of the 96th Lake Superior Regiment and soldiers already recruited from areas outside of Thunder Bay such Dryden, Fort Frances and Kenora. Recruitment began March 23, 1915 and by the end of the month a total of 653 men were enlisted (including those already previously selected to join from other regiments), leaving 340 remaining soldiers to recruit.