



TRIDENT

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Around the Rock

Members of HMCS Harry DeWolf operate Multi Role Rescue Boats in Conception Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador, on November 18, 2020. Harry DeWolf recently departed Halifax for a proficiency sail, and the ship has since circumnavigated Newfoundland, worked alongside the 5th Canadian Ranger Patrol Group, and continued tests and trials of new capabilities.

CPL DAVID VELDMAN, CAF PHOTO





Op CARIBBE during COVID-19

By Lt Sheila Tham,
Op CARIBBE PAO

I am a Public Affairs Officer and have spent my five-year career split between the Air Force and the Army. I was asked to deploy with the Royal Canadian Navy on Op CARIBBE and decided it would round out my experience. I had heard the slogan “join the Navy, see the world” and, given the global pandemic, have spent most of 2020 at home with the urge to travel. It sounded like the perfect opportunity to learn about the Navy and head to the tropics. This is my first impression of sailing and the reality of operational travel during COVID-19.

HMCS *Summerside* departed Halifax on October 26, 2020 headed for the Caribbean Sea as part of Op CARIBBE. Canada often conducts multiple iterations of Op CARIBBE in a year - the last deployment was with HMC Ships *Nanaimo* and *Whitehorse* earlier this year. On March 18, 2020, Maritime Component Command ordered that HMC Ships *Nanaimo* and *Whitehorse* cease activities under Op CARIBBE and return to Canada earlier than planned due to the worldwide spread of COVID-19. The deployment of *Summerside* is the first Op CARIBBE deployment since, and came with myriad new considerations and precautions to ensure the safety of personnel.

The members of *Summerside* were required to adhere to self-isolation

measures prior to sailing along with undergoing a COVID-19 test prior to departure. The same conditions were given to the United States Coast Guard (USCG) Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) participants who were picked up in Miami, Florida. Due to these precautions, members were not required to wear masks while at sea or adhere to physical distancing. Normally, sailors would be able to take some time off in port cities to explore. Staying onboard the ship fostered a sense of camaraderie amongst the crew as we were required to socialize with each other instead of going our separate ways in a port city. However, it was evident that many of the crew felt that they were missing out by being so close to civilization and yet so far.

The closest we got to mingling with the locals was during resupply. Only the Physician Assistant, Executive Officer, and Chief Cook were allowed on the jetty to screen the supplies arriving, dressed in non-medical masks and gloves and required to wash their boots and utilize hand sanitizer before returning to the ship. The rest of available personnel mustered on the fo’c’sle) at a sanitizing station wearing gloves. Personnel who formed a chain on the brow wore non-medical masks and gloves to pass packages up to the members on the fo’c’sle. Each

package was passed with an instruction: “sanitize the box,” “leave on the fo’c’sle,” “wipe down each package,” “discard the box,” repeated as each person passed to the next. Once the ship was resupplied it was considered secure and most of the crew was able to relax – change out of uniforms and open the bar.

Keeping spirits up

Since we weren’t allowed off the ship in Miami for our first port visit of the deployment, and for any future port visits, the Captain hosted a sun-downer on the back of the ship, the sweep deck, where the crew watched Miami locals on jet skis and yachts. A few party boats passed with loud music but it wasn’t long before the volume in *Summerside* drowned out any noise of passing boats. Coincidentally, it was Halloween night and we were hosting our own costume party, cheering on those brave and creative enough to don a costume. There was even modified trick-or-treating as some of the crew came onboard with bags of candy and chocolate to pass out.

After two days alongside, the crew was rested, ready to sail to the Caribbean Sea for operations, and integrate with the LEDET that was now onboard. The time alongside was different than usual - so I hear, anyway. Op CARIBBE is my first Navy deploy-

ment and Miami was my first port visit. Despite the disappointment of not being able to visit Miami, I didn’t hear a single complaint as we sailed away. In fact, one member of the crew told me that this port visit was better because we were all able to spend time together, get to know each other better, and build some team cohesion. I’ll report back on what they’re thinking after a few more weeks at sea.

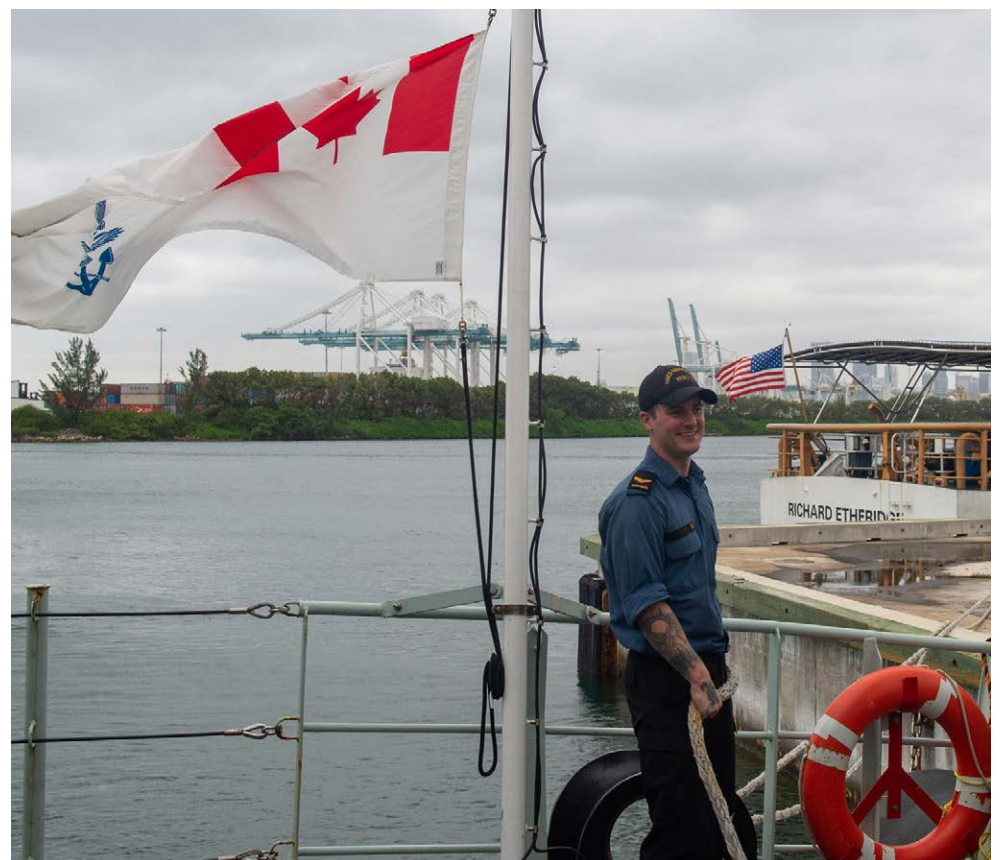
Op CARIBBE is Canada’s contribution to U.S. Enhanced Counternarcotics Operations under U.S. Joint Interagency Task Force South (JIATFS). The intent is to conduct international detection, monitoring, and interdiction of illicit trafficking in the Caribbean Sea and off the Pacific coast of Central America. To make this happen, Canadian ships embark a Law Enforcement Detachment from the United States Coast Guard (USCG). The synchronization of capabilities between the Royal Canadian Navy and USCG enables greater success in reducing drug trafficking while strengthening international interoperability.

Canada has been conducting Op CARIBBE since 2006 and the CAF has contributed to the disruption or seizure of approximately 105 metric tonnes of cocaine and more than 6.7 tonnes of marijuana



Royal Canadian Navy members pass supplies onboard HMCS *Summerside* in Miami, Florida during Op CARIBBE on November 2, 2020.

Image has been digitally altered for operations security purposes.
LT SHEILA THAM, PAO



A Royal Canadian Navy member prepares for departure from Miami, Florida on HMCS *Summerside* during Op CARIBBE on November 2, 2020.

Image has been digitally altered for operations security purposes.
LT SHEILA THAM, PAO



A CH-149 Cormorant helicopter lowers a Search and Rescue Technician aboard HMCS Harry DeWolf on November 18.

CPL DAVID VELDMAN, CAF PHOTO

HMCS *Harry DeWolf* trials new capabilities at sea

By Ryan Melanson,
Trident Staff

HMCS *Harry DeWolf* sailed under Royal Canadian Navy Command for the first time in early October 2020, and has since been at sea regularly, with the crew conducting training, testing and trials on the new vessel.

The work is part of a normal process to incrementally test *Harry DeWolf* and its systems, and as sailors gain experience with this first-of-class ship, they're also making an immediate impact on RCN business, explains the ship's commanding officer.

"Tests and trials can be a limiting description. The ship is in naval service, and it has been since July 31, 2020," said Commander Corey Gleason, referencing the official date *Harry DeWolf* was delivered to the Department of National Defence this past summer. That delivery was followed by an initial alongside work period before heading to sea.

While trials will continue over the next 12 months, they will be taking place alongside naval operations, Cdr Gleason added. During the most recent proficiency sail to Newfoundland and Labrador, for example, the ship was

contributing to Canada's maritime domain awareness while also gaining proficiency with the new platform.

"We're providing sovereignty through presence in Canada's domestic waterways. As we encountered aircraft and surface vessels, we identified them, tied their broadcasted information with their registry and compared our own recognized maritime domain picture with our maritime command component ashore," he said, noting the ship is also ready to respond as a back-up search and rescue asset locally.

Through the remainder of the fall and winter, *Harry DeWolf* will conduct both cold-weather and warm-weather trials as it continues building operational capability – the ship will work with Cyclone helicopters and PUMA unmanned aerial vehicles, trial its main 25 millimetre gun, and continue operating its small boats, among other tests. In the spring, the crew plans to conduct their first replenishment at sea, which will prove the ability to remain at sea for months at a time.

"Each new step only adds to the ship's capabilities," Cdr Gleason said.

Work will continue through the spring, building toward a commissioning ceremony for HMCS *Harry DeWolf* in the summer of 2021, and a subsequent deployment on Operation NANOOK, Canada's premier annual northern operation.

Increasing the RCN's capabilities in the north is one of the key features of the Harry-DeWolf class, and HMCS *Harry DeWolf* and its sister ships will be at the core of an enhanced Canadian Arctic presence over the coming years. The thick-hulled ships can sail in up to 120 centimetres of first-year sea ice, and come with ample space for helicopters, small vehicles and cargo containers, which are particularly useful when operating in remote regions. The ships will also be available to support other government agencies like the Canadian Coast Guard.

In addition to Northern missions, the class will also operate offshore and internationally, complementing the capabilities of other current and future RCN warships – they will be capable of conducting anti-smuggling and piracy operations, contributing to internation-

al security and stability, and are also equipped to respond to humanitarian, emergency response and disaster relief situations, both at home and abroad.

In addition to the impressive modern operational capabilities, HMCS *Harry DeWolf* and the rest of the class are designed to meet the needs of a modern Navy and benefit the well-being of sailors, with individual crew accommodations, gender-inclusive washrooms, and flexible common spaces that allow for quiet and privacy to observe various religious or cultural practices.

Cdr Gleason said he and his team were proud to take the ship to sea for the first time, and that pride only continues to build as they put the platform to work.

"My crew and I have worked tirelessly to become subject matter experts in Canada's newest Arctic and Offshore Patrol Vessel. Each and every sailor in my crew has contributed in the development of procedures and policies required to safely operate HMCS *Harry DeWolf*. For all of us to be putting our own procedures and policies to work is incredibly satisfying."



Cdr Corey Gleason, Commanding Officer of HMCS *Harry DeWolf*, gives orders while conducting turning trials on November 9.

CPL DAVID VELDMAN, CAF PHOTO



Small boat trials, including with the Multi Role Rescue Boat, seen here in Conception Bay, Newfoundland, have been a component of *Harry DeWolf*'s proficiency sail.

CPL DAVID VELDMAN, CAF PHOTO



S1 Smith, PO2 Hamilton and S1 Pelletier conduct an emergency steering drill aboard HMCS *Harry DeWolf* on November 13.

CPL DAVID VELDMAN, CAF PHOTO



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Members of Op ARTEMIS thank a Hidden Hero at CFB Halifax

By Lt(N) Melissa Kia
Op ARTEMIS Roto 14 PAO

Art Gilbert is a Commissionaire who stands watch over CFB Halifax's well-known Juno Tower. Little do most know of the extraordinary history of this humble and soft-spoken man. A veteran, with over 30 years of service, and notable tours in places like a divided Germany, Cyprus, and the First Lebanon War, Art is a stalwart fixture of the residence.

When members of Operation ARTEMIS's Roto 14 came to town to conduct their training in early November, Maj Angela Orme, a Legal Officer from CFB Edmonton, struck an unexpected friendship with the Tower's steadfast guardian. With over 40 members preparing to support CTF 150 based out of Bahrain, those from outside the Maritime bubble were confined to Stadacona for the duration of their preparations as part

of COVID-19 safety regulations. This allowed Art to share sweeping tales of his service with the Provost Marshall in times when 4-year tours were the norm, and when a one-hour turn over on an Israeli-controlled tarmac was the best preparation one could hope for on their next mission.

The long-serving veteran has lived through periods where he deftly dodged roads dotted with uncovered manholes in the Golan Heights, and had to diplomatically work with multiple international partner police forces. Art was even the survivor of a poisonous spider bite while on patrol in British-held Cyprus. Proud to serve, and ever-watchful, Art humbly cherishes a rock painted with a poppy given to him by a youngster while at a Remembrance Day cere-

mony years ago.

To show their admiration and thanks, the newly minted Op ARTEMIS team thought to honour Art with a formal presentation of a print of The Mural of Honour shortly before they departed after having completed their training. The Mural of Honour is a piece of mosaic art which depicts portraits of soldiers, sailors, and airmen and women which adorns the entrance to the Military Museums in Calgary, AB. "I wanted Art to know that he matters, and that his service is remembered," said Maj Angela Orme. "Art's motto is the Golden Rule – to treat people as you want to be treated. One thing Art asks is that people take a second look at their veterans – and not just on Remembrance Day. Because, as Art will tell you, with a cheeky and heartfelt grin, you never know what they have done, and what they have been through."

Operation ARTEMIS, Roto 14, will begin their mission shortly after the beginning of the New Year, when Canadian Commodore Dan Charlebois, will become the Commander of CTF 150, one of the three task forces operated by Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) - a naval coalition of 33 nations that promotes security and stability in the international waters of the Middle East region. The deployment, known in Canada as Op ARTEMIS, is the CAF's ongoing contribution to counter-terrorism and maritime security operations in the Middle Eastern and East African waters by interdicting and deterring regional smuggling operations which finance terrorism, while also building international capacity on the high seas.



Commodore Dan Charlebois presents Commissionaire Art Gilbert with a CTF 150 ball cap. Members of Op ARTEMIS Roto 14 also presented Gilbert with a print of The Mural of Honour, in acknowledgement of Gilbert's many years of service in the CAF and his ongoing work as a Commissionaire at Juno Tower

SUBMITTED



HMCS Fredericton receives 2020 Admiral's Cup

The crew of HMCS Fredericton have been recognized for their hard work through an extremely difficult year, receiving the 2020 Admiral's Cup during a presentation on November 17. The Admiral's Cup is presented annually to the ship that demonstrates the best "Efficiency, Morale and Leadership" during the previous calendar year, while excelling in all of its assigned tasks. For HMCS Fredericton, this meant completing a six-month Operation REASSURANCE deployment, despite the onset of a global pandemic while deployed and the tragic death of six crewmembers in a Cyclone helicopter crash at sea. The trophy was presented by RAdm Brian Santarpia, Commander MARLANT and JTFA, and Formation Chief CPO1 Tom Lizotte.

MONA GHIZ, MARLANT PA



Remembrance Day beneath the waves

By Capt László Cserházi
5th Canadian Division

Many Canadians marked Remembrance Day this year with small, socially distanced ceremonies. But unlike the rest of the country, past and current members of 5th Canadian Division marked a ceremony on HMCS *Saguenay*, alongside past and current members of the RCN, RCAF, and RCMP.

Saguenay launched on December 15, 1956 and served our nation until 1990. It carried a complement of 249 fighting sailors and served originally as a destroyer escort and later as a destroyer helicopter escort. She has an interesting history riddled with dangerous events. On July 16, 1970 she ran aground off the coast of Cape Breton Island without sustaining any damage. On April 2, 1986, a 3-inch gun misfired, causing injuries to crew members and civilian technicians. While taking part in NATO Naval Exercises, *Saguenay* collided with German submarine U-17. She later clashed with the American fishing boat Concordia while it was in Canadian waters. *Saguenay* fired three warning shots after being bumped three times, causing minor damage.

Instead of a crowd or dignitaries, former and currently serving members – including a Divemaster in training – gathered aboard a chartered fishing vessel and transited to *Saguenay*'s coordinates off Lunenburg. We dropped an anchor on the sonar's sharp image and slipped down the anchor line to almost 90 feet beneath the rough ocean above. It was quiet. It was dark. My flashlight penciled a beam onto this big dark image that loomed out of the darkness as I dropped in from above on the bird's nest. We found a quiet spot away from the swift current that flowed over her – it would sometimes send blooms of silt as it surged and cavitated in and around the ship.

You could feel the echoes of time. I thought of the members who served aboard her in the Second World War, and of our many losses. It's incredibly important that we remember our veterans, and that we honour their sacrifice.



A group of former and currently serving CAF and RCMP members marked Remembrance Day with a dive to the wreck of HMCS *Saguenay* off the coast of Lunenburg.

NEIL CLARKSON, FIS

“We must never forget them”

By Cdr (ret'd) Len Canfield
Nova Scotia Naval Association of Canada



Chaplain Charlie Black offered a prayer during the 9 a.m. ceremony held at the Sailors Memorial in Point Pleasant Park on Remembrance Day.

SUBMITTED

Remembrance Day ceremonies this year may have been limited due to COVID-19 but this did not detract from the recognition and honor accorded all those who served and made the ultimate sacrifice.

Public health protocols included limiting the number of participants and social distancing at ceremonies at the Halifax Memorial (commonly referred to as Sailors Memorial) in Point Pleasant Park and other venues.

On November 11 prior to HMCS *Scotian* conducting a limited service at the 11th hour at the Halifax Sailors Memorial, the Nova Scotia Naval Association of Canada (NSNAC), the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust (CNMT) that maintains and operates HMCS *Sackville*, Canada's Naval Memorial, and Commissionaires Nova Scotia (CNS), held a limited service at 9 a.m.

Commodore Bruce Belliveau (ret'd), chair of NSNAC in his remarks drew attention to the striking memorial that is highly visible to ships entering and leaving the historic harbor. The me-

morial's 12-metre tall Cross of Sacrifice stands on an octagonal platform that bears 23 bronze plaques inscribed with the names of more than 3,000 veterans who lost their lives during the First and Second World Wars.

“We must never forget them...they made the ultimate sacrifice so that others may live free. We need to keep faith with the fallen forever and to explain to children the need to keep this faith,” he said.

Capt (N) Bill Woodburn (ret'd), chair of CNMT offered the Naval Payer.

Chaplain Charlie Black reflected on the wartime sacrifices of Canadians. He read surgeon John McCrae's immortal poem *In Flanders Fields* written in 1915 during the battle of Ypres and noted that more than 60,000 Canadians lost their lives during the First World War. During the Second World War one million men and women served in the Canadian military and more than 45,000 gave their lives in the fight for freedom. In closing he offered a prayer for those who continue to serve Canada.

Several wreaths were placed at the memorial including NSNAC, CNMT/HMCS *Sackville*, represented by CPO1 Pat Devenish (ret'd) and Cdr Garry Reddy (ret'd), and CNS, represented by Cdr Rob Rounds.



A sentry stands at the Sailors Memorial during the small, socially-distanced ceremony held at 11 a.m. at the Sailors Memorial on Remembrance Day.

SI WILLIAM LEWIS, HMCS SCOTIAN



CNMT HMCS *Sackville* K181 - Just For the Hull of It Campaign

By Cdr (Ret'd) Patrick Charlton
CNMT Volunteer



After serving for almost 80 years, HMCS *Sackville* is gearing up to serve another half century or more as Canada's Naval Memorial.

BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC 1939-1945

The Royal Canadian Navy (RCN), in partnership with maritime units of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) and the Merchant Navy, played a pivotal role in ensuring that the sea

lines of communications and logistics were maintained during the longest and most critical battle of the Second World War. The RCN lost 24 ships and suffered 2,210 fatalities; it destroyed or shared in the destruction of 33 U-Boats and 42 enemy surface vessels. HMCS *Sackville* is the last of the Allies' fleet of 269 corvettes built for the war at sea. *Sackville* is owned, maintained and operated by the volunteer Canadian

Naval Memorial Trust (CNMT) in honour of all those who have served in our Naval Service, and in particular, in memory of those who made the supreme sacrifice. In 1985, the Government designated *Sackville* Canada's Naval Memorial.

HMCS SACKVILLE TODAY

The operation and long-term preservation of *Sackville*, commissioned in 1941, has changed in the last few years. HMCS *Sackville* will now be part of a new Canadian Maritime Heritage District in downtown Halifax. However, the watertight integrity of the 205-foot warship must be addressed to ensure that she can take full advantage of her place on the waterfront in the coming years. Specifically, the plan is to re-skin the ship below the waterline with new 3/8 inch plate steel, with the cost in the order of \$12 million. When the project is complete, *Sackville* will be safe in the water and continue to serve for another five decades and more. Continuing to tell the story of the Battle of the Atlantic, the arduous conditions that sailors lived through and the constant dangers of life at sea during the Second World War is important in keeping the rich history of

the Royal Canadian Navy and all who serve at sea relevant for Canadians. Just For The Hull of It Campaign Funds raised during the Just For The Hull Of It Campaign will be designated to the CNMT Preservation Fund for the critical and necessary work to safeguard the ship.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

The financial support from members of the CNMT and Canadians (individuals and corporate) from across the country is crucial to the success of this project. Those interested in supporting HMCS *Sackville* can consider taking out a membership or making a direct donation as well as a contribution "In Honour" or "In Memory" of a family member, friend or colleague. Support from HMC Ships and shore units is most welcome. All contributions, large or small, will help and an official tax receipt will be issued for a donation of \$10 or more. For more information on the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust, HMCS *Sackville* and the Just For The Hull Of It campaign, please visit the website. Your support is appreciated.

www.canadasnavalmemorial.ca



Admiral's Bell awarded to HMCS Goose Bay

The 2020 Admiral's Bell award was presented to the ship's company of HMCS Goose Bay on November 17, with RAdm Brian Santarpia, Commander MARLANT and JTFA and Formation Chief CPO1 Tom Lizotte visiting the ship for the occasion. The Admiral's Bell is awarded to a unit that demonstrates outstanding overall "Efficiency, Morale and Leadership." From left, CPO1 Lizotte, Lt(N) Sam Mercier, XO, HMCS Goose Bay, LCdr Daniel Rice, CO HMCS Goose Bay, PO1 Ian Van Zoost, Coxn, Lt(N) Michael Landry, former XO, and RAdm Santarpia.

MONA GHIZ, MARLANT PA



CAF personnel at Whidbey Island join US colleagues for Remembrance ceremony

For the 2020 Remembrance Day ceremony, CAF personnel of Trinity Det Whidbey Island, who work at the Naval Ocean Processing Facility Whidbey, WA, hosted American military colleagues and the Base Commander for a socially distanced event. The ceremony was broadcast to friends and family via Zoom, and virtually attended across Canada.

PO2 MARC CUENCA, USN



Fleet Diving Unit (Atlantic) raises money for Christmas Daddies

By Mona Ghiz
MARLANT PA

'Tis the season to give! Meet some members of Fleet Diving Unit (Atlantic) (FDU (A)) and why they're running the Christmas Daddies Navy Divers Run 50 Km on Sat December 5 in support of children in need during the holiday season. Please help us spread the word!



S1 BRADLEY NORTHROP

Meet Sussex, NB native S1 Bradley Northrup, a Clearance Diver with FDU(A). He's running the Christmas Daddies 50 Km Navy Divers Run for the 4th time. "We run every year to support less fortunate children in our community. As a small unit, we're especially proud to be able to support children in need during these trying times."



PO2 MARCEL CROTEAU

Meet Brockville, ON native PO2 Marcel Croteau, a Clearance Diver with FDU(A). He's participated in the Christmas Daddies 50 Km Navy Divers Run multiple times. "Every year I get very excited when Christmas Daddies comes around because it's an incredibly fun event, and more importantly it gives us Navy Diver's the chance to really give back to the local community. This event has been run every year since 1983. Being able to maintain our tradition this year, given our current circumstances, is very important for the members of FDU(A) and even more so for children in need, all across the Maritimes."



S3 JULIA GARLOCK

Meet Dartmouth native S3 Julia Garlock, a Port Inspection Diver with FDU(A). She's running the Christmas Daddies 50 Km Navy Divers Run for the very 1st time. "I'm very excited to participate in Christmas Daddies this year as a member of the dive unit. Giving back to the community I grew up in is very important to me and seeing how much this charity has helped families over the years, I see no better way of doing that than to participate in this charity run!"



S1 VINCENT LEBLANC-LAVALLEE

Meet Ottawa native S1 Vincent LeBlanc-Lavallee, a Clearance Diver with FDU(A). He's running the Christmas Daddies 50 Km Navy Divers Run for the 2nd time. "Last year was the first time I took part in the Christmas Daddies charity and I was very impressed with the outcome and involvement of the whole HRM community. This year, because of COVID-19, the holidays may be less cheerful for some. This event has never been more important given the current circumstances and it's an honour to take part in restoring the holiday spirit."



NDWCC Amazing Base Race 2020

On November 5, 16 teams of local Defence Team members participated in the first ever NDWCC Amazing Base Race. Congratulations to the team from CF Health Services Centre (Atlantic) for their big win; the Montreal Madames for their Most Enthusiastic Team prize; and to all participating teams for their dedication and spirit. A big Bravo Zulu goes out to Lt(N) Callista Szachury and her team of volunteers who spent so much time and effort on this amazing activity, all for a good cause. They were able to have fun and encourage teambuilding while raising much needed funds for this year's charitable campaign.

SYDNEY MACLEOD, BASE PUBLIC AFFAIRS INTERN



A Message from the Formation Chaplain introducing Many Voices – One Hope

By Cdr Jennifer Gosse
Formation Chaplain CFB Halifax

This has been a difficult year for everyone and those of us at MARLANT have not been excluded from the tragedies of 2020. COVID-19 has changed the personal and professional lives of everyone in our country, and around the world, in ways we never could have foreseen a year ago.

In Nova Scotia, and in MARLANT specifically, 2020 had a significant impact on us. We all experienced the horror of a mass shooting in the nearby small community of Portapique. We lost six of our own when our Cyclone, Stalker 22, crashed during OPERA-

TION REASSURANCE and we lined the highways to receive our Fallen. We mourned with the country when a Snowbird jet crashed on a routine mission, and again, lined the route to bring another fallen member back to her Nova Scotia family.

We have been in mourning for the past six months. How in the world do we begin to celebrate the December holiday season which is quickly approaching? As the days lengthen and the darkness of winter sets upon us, where do we look to find light?

Our chaplains are people who believe

that no matter how deep the darkness may seem at times, there is always hope. This December, your chaplain team is proud to bring you a series of messages which are based on our experience as people of faith.

Many Voices – One Hope is a series of video messages, from your multi-faith chaplain team, aimed to help you find hope at the end of a difficult year; to help you see light, even if the world has seemed a dark place lately. Throughout the month of December, these videos will be available as a source of inspiration and good cheer.

Please keep in mind that if you need further help, or if you want to talk to someone about whatever might be troubling you, your chaplains are available.

You can call 902-721-8660 to be connected to a chaplain during regular working hours. During silent hours and over the holiday leave period, you can reach the Duty Chaplain by calling the Administrative Support team at 902-427-7788.

If you need help, reach out. We are here.

Un message de l'aumônier de la formation pour présenter Plusieurs voix – Une espérance

Par Cdr Jennifer Gosse
Aumônier de la Formation

Cette année a été une année difficile qui n'a pas épargné les Forces maritimes de l'Atlantique (FMAR[A]). La Covid-19 a changé nos vies professionnelles et personnelles d'une façon que nous n'aurions jamais pu imaginer il y a un an. C'est tout aussi vrai pour toutes les personnes au Canada et partout autour du monde.

En Nouvelle-Écosse et aux FMAR(A), 2020 a eu un impact significatif. Nous avons tous vécu l'horreur de la tuerie qui a eu lieu juste à côté, à Portapique. Nous avons perdu six des nôtres lorsque notre Cyclone, Stalker 22, s'est écrasé pendant l'OPERATION REASSURANCE et nous nous sommes

rassemblés au bord des autoroutes pour recevoir ceux qui sont tombés au combat. Nous avons pleuré avec le pays entier quand un Snowbird s'est écrasé, et de nouveau, nous nous sommes rassemblés le long de l'autoroute pour ramener un autre de nos membres disparus à sa famille en Nouvelle-Écosse.

Pendant les six derniers mois, nous avons été en deuil. Comment pouvons-nous alors commencer à célébrer la venue du temps des Fêtes? Comment faire pour trouver de la lumière quand les jours raccourcissent et que la noirceur de l'hiver s'installe autour de nous?

Nos aumôniers sont des personnes

qui croient que peu importe la profondeur de la noirceur apparente par moment, il y a toujours de l'espoir. Votre équipe d'aumôniers est fière de vous apporter une série de messages de lumière en décembre, d'après notre expérience comme croyants.

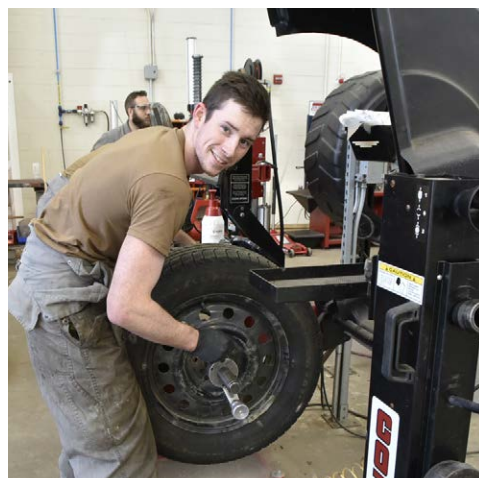
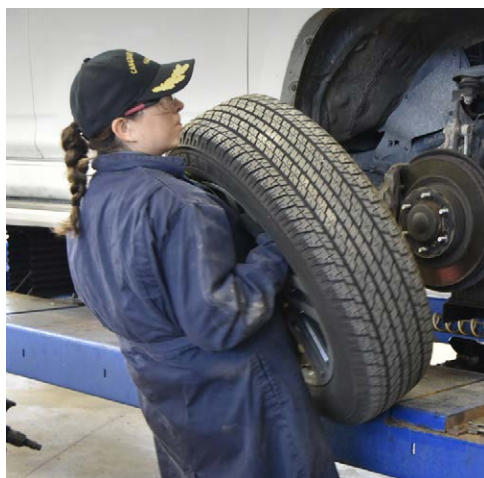
Plusieurs voix – Une espérance est une série de messages vidéo de votre équipe d'aumôniers multiconfessionnelle qui vise à vous aider à trouver de l'espoir à la fin d'une année difficile; à vous aider à voir la lumière même si tout en apparence semble être dans la noirceur. Tout au long du mois de décembre, ces vidéos seront disponibles comme une source d'inspira-

tion et de joie.

Si vous avez besoin d'une aide supplémentaire, si vous voulez parler de ce qui vous trouble, vos aumôniers sont à votre disposition.

Pendant les heures de travail régulières, vous pouvez téléphoner au 902-721-8660 pour entrer en communication avec un aumônier. Pendant les heures creuses et pendant la période du congé des Fêtes, vous pouvez communiquer avec l'aumônier en service en téléphonant à l'équipe de soutien administratif au 902-427-7788.

Si vous avez besoin d'aide, appelez. Nous sommes là pour vous.



Getting hands dirty for a good cause

On November 19, Base Commander Capt(N) Williams brought his vehicle in for a Dirty Hands appointment at TEME. Cdr Aral, our Base Logistics Commanding Officer, even stopped in to help out on the shop floor. The Dirty Hands initiative was created with the goal of raising funds for the National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign (NDWCC). So far this month, TEME has raised \$3500 between its Halifax and Shearwater locations. Thank you, TEME, for supporting this year's campaign.

SYDNEY MACLEOD, BASE PUBLIC AFFAIRS INTERN



From left:
Brian Lapierre, Field Knight Dinger Bell,
Jim Northup and Jim's brother Mark.

SUBMITTED

Naval Museum of Halifax Volunteers Receive the Order of St. George Medal

By Jennifer Gamble
Curator Naval Museum of Halifax

On Wednesday November 18, 2020, two volunteers, Brian Lapierre and James (Jim) Northup, of the Naval Museum of Halifax were honoured and presented Field Knight medals for their endless dedication and support to veterans and to the museum. The medals are from a foundation called The Order of St. George. The foundation supports the military, those personnel who serve within it and their families. Members of The Order give their time and resources to the community, providing leadership and support in many areas. Every year, members can nominate people from the community who have

supported veterans in many different ways. Normally, this presentation occurs at Camp Hill Veterans' Memorial in Halifax. However, this year due to COVID-19 restrictions the ceremony was held at Hammond Plains Community Centre. Field Knight Dinger Bell nominated Brian and Jim for the award in recognition for not only supporting veterans, but also for their endless work in the development, research and construction of an exhibit that highlights and honors the history of submarines in the Royal Canadian Navy. Both Brian and Jim spent countless hours at the museum working with staff mem-

bers and other volunteers to ensure that the exhibit was a true reflection of submarine culture and of the people who have served in RCN submarines over the past 110 years. Brian and Jim's dedication to the museum, their knowledge and wonderful personalities, reminds all of us at the Naval Museum of Halifax of how much we value our volunteers. It is their contributions of time and knowledge that give the museum meaning and value. To learn more about The Order of St George please visits their website at:

www.orderstgeorge.ca

Chanukah and the miracle of the oil

By Rabbi Capt Arnold Glogauer
Fleet Chaplain



King Solomon, in the Book of Proverbs, teaches us "The soul of man is the candle of God."

Within each of us is the power to illuminate this world, to transform darkness into light. Just as a candle requires lighting before it can perform its function, so too, our souls must be kindled before they can brighten up our lives. In turn, we are charged with the mission of illuminating the lives of others. We must all become 'lamp-lighters': igniting the sparks that lie dormant in one another's hearts.

Today's modern Chanukah Menorah (candelabra) is a symbol of igniting Holy sparks. The Chanukah Menorah beautifully fulfills the function of spreading supernal light. But the question must be asked, "What is Chanukah?" The answer focuses on the miracle of the oil. We kindle a Menorah to commemorate the miracle of this lighted oil.

Chanukah, in its simplest form is a celebration of the miraculous victory of the few over the many, the weak Judean Maccabee army against the

mighty Greeks, and the miracle of finding one pure jug of oil. The miracle of the oil seems minor in comparison to those experienced in battle, yet it is the miracle of the oil that we commemorate until this day. Let us look at how the miracle of the oil is the most significant.

The Greek's style of rule was not to eradicate indigenous culture, but to incorporate it. They were willing to accept the Torah (Holy Bible) as a work of wisdom or philosophy, and the mitzvot (Jewish laws) as cultural. They just took issue with the assertion that Torah is divinely authored, and that the Jewish people follow its laws not because they are logical or ethical, but because God has told them so.

The core element of belief and commitment in Judaism is that God, through the teachings of the Torah, commands the Jewish people. It is not a matter of whether the commandments seem logical, or are beyond reason. The Torah does not change to meet whichever philosophy is 'au courant'. The Maccabean family knew that it would be precisely the Greek's removal of the divine element of Judaism which would be fatal to Jewish continuity. With the famous battle cry, "Whoever is for God, with me!" they commenced a rebellion which had little chance of victory. Many miracles later, when the Maccabees regained control of the Holy Temple, they found the Sanctuary invaded and all the oil for the Menorah had been tampered with.

To the Greek way of thinking, why couldn't the Menorah be lit from oil that had been defiled?

The only difference would have been the seal designating it for use in the Temple. But of course, the Menorah, which shone its spiritual light to every one wherever they might be, needed to

be lit with pure, consecrated oil. This, after all, is what the Maccabees had been fighting for all along!

Miraculously, they found one small jug of oil, with the seal intact. Exactly enough oil for just one day. They re-kindled the Menorah, and yet another miracle occurred – the oil lasted for eight whole days.

These are the miracles that we commemorate with Chanukah every year, which means there are messages which are relevant to us today.

Under the assault of environmental influences, any individual may find their inner

"Sanctuary" — one's attachment to and identification with God, invaded and contaminated by ideas alien to a moral, spiritual way of life. But deep inside each person, there is a "cruse of pure oil", a tiny part of ourselves that remains pure and holy - a spark of the Divine which is indestructible and beyond defilement.

The Menorah, Hebrew for "lamp", is one of the oldest and well known symbols of Judaism. For thousands of years, images of Menorahs have been prevalent in Jewish art, architecture, and culture. Over time, the Menorah has become an icon for Jewish culture and faith.

But it was a seven branched Menorah that was lit in Jerusalem's Holy Temple. A seven branched Menorah that was the Menorah of the original miracle of Chanukah. If the Menorah of the Temple bore only seven branches, why do most popular depictions have eight? The simple answer is that the popular Menorah is not a depiction of the Jewish Temple Menorah, but of the Chanukah Menorah which commemorates the miracle of the Temple's Menorah burning for eight days. But there is always more to a Jewish story...spiri-

tually, there is an additional reason to celebrate eight lights over seven.

Kabbalah, Jewish mystical wisdom, teaches that the number seven symbolizes the natural order of the universe, as in the seven days of the weekly cycle. Eight, being the next number beyond seven, symbolizes transcending nature and embracing the supernatural and miraculous. Since the miracle of Chanukah occurred in 140 BCE, the Menorah of Chanukah has continued to inspire in every time and place. Amid the horrors of the Holocaust, the gloom of the Soviet gulag, the Chanukah Menorah burned. Even today, when the world stumbles in darkness, the Chanukah Menorah shines bright, its light giving us the strength to persevere. Perhaps the eight-branched Menorah is so popular as a symbol of our eternal optimism that God will make things work out for us, even when it seems unlikely. The Chanukah Menorah proclaims God's involvement in our lives, past and present.

When we light the Menorah this Chanukah, we can be grateful for the private miracles woven into every part of our natural lives.

The laws and customs observed on Chanukah, especially the lighting of the Menorah, are designed to publicize the fact that the Creator performed miracles then, and continues to perform wonders in our personal lives.

The Menorah lives on as a powerful symbol of transforming darkness into light and peace for the entire world.

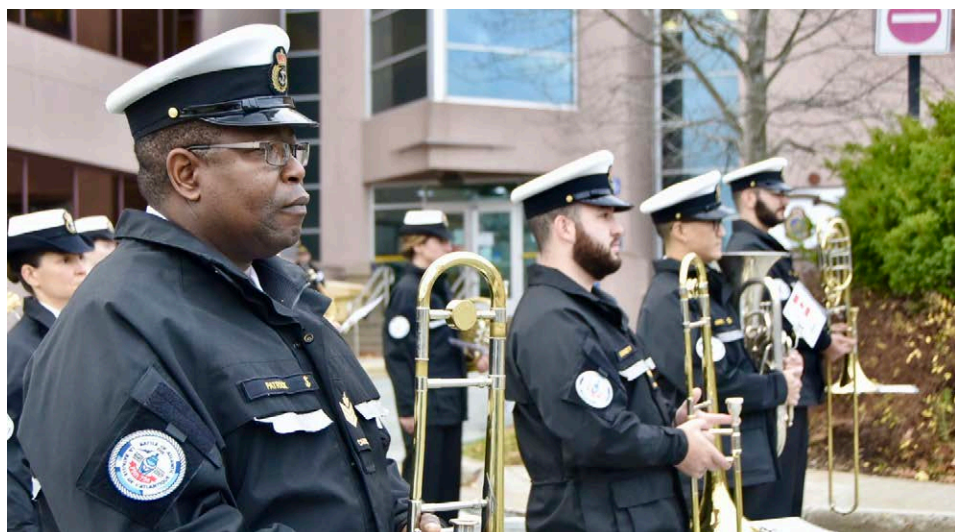
As a true expression of unity and fellowship, a Menorah will be lit at Shearwater on Thursday December 10, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. in a ceremony led by 12 Wing Commander Col Hawthorne, Wing Chief Poirier, Cdr Gosse, Rabbi Glogauer and members of the MAR-LANT Chaplain team.



Stadacona Band participates in morning Colours ceremony

On November 17, the Stadacona Band of the Royal Canadian Navy performed *O Canada* during morning colours at CFB Halifax. The Base ceremonial team at Stadacona has been getting extra creative these days to make this daily ceremony look and sound a little bit different, especially given the ongoing challenges tied to operating in a COVID-19 environment. Bravo Zulu to the Base Ceremonial Team and Stadacona Band!

ARIANE GUAY-JADAH,
BASE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER



Hot and sour soup

By **Ferdinand Niduaza**
Cook Supervisor, Juno Catering

Keep colds at bay with this flavourful soup.

INGREDIENTS:

1 liter water	90g Spanish onions
60g tamarind paste	60ml fish sauce
120g Roma tomato	45g fresh jalapeno

GARNISH

8 pcs mushroom dumplings	100 g red radish
180 g diced tofu	45g fresh jalapeno
85 g Chinese bok choy	

DIRECTIONS:

To make the tamarind broth, bring the water, tamarind paste, tomatoes, onions, jalapeno to a boil. Season to taste and garnish with the rest of the ingredients.



The crew of NRU Asterix while on Exercise JOINT WARRIOR 20-2.
SUBMITTED

NRU Asterix continuing the Walk for Autism

By **S1 Chris Richards**
NRU Asterix

Last year, I got the chance to host the first-ever Walk the Walk for Autism for a deployed Royal Canadian Navy ship. This year, I asked my current unit, NRU Asterix to continue the campaign.

And then, COVID-19 hit the world. Everything was shut down. We weren't allowed to gather. Although this would be cause for concern, Autism Nova Scotia decided that it would NOT cancel their

of the Autism Nova Scotia flags being flown from our mast. Due to some unforeseen circumstances, I ended up having to be landed from the sail, and participated on September 26, with my landed crewmates.

NRU Asterix had planned to be able to hold our walk in either Scotland or Ireland during Exercise JOINT WARRIOR 20-2 this fall, but due to COVID-19 restrictions we were informed that we would likely not be allowed ashore, so we had to come up with a back-up plan. We had discussed setting up a course throughout the ship while we were alongside, but MCpl Jason Mullins took on the initiative to lead the team, and by making 50 laps of the flight deck on Asterix, our crew was able to walk over 4 kilometers to raise awareness and funds for Autism Nova Scotia.

Our final fundraising total this year was \$1,500.00, which put us as the second-highest corporate fundraising team in the Halifax-area, coming in behind Autism Nova Scotia's own team.

Although we had the trials and troubles of participating in the Walk during a worldwide pandemic, I am proud to belong to an organization that will lend its voice and support to those in need, and I can't wait for next year's walk. I just wonder if we can beat our total next year.



PO1 Brian Whyte and his daughters, Emma and Kayla
SUBMITTED

event, but we could hold the first-ever virtual Walk for Autism. So this year, teams participated in the Walk Your Way for Autism, and were able to walk within their neighbourhood, allowing the event to take place online, and keep us all safe.

Some of our crewmates wanted to participate, but were being landed and wouldn't be able to join the ship on the Walk overseas. However, because of the nature of the Walk being virtual this year, they could still participate by walking on September 26 – the date of the Autism Nova Scotia Halifax Chapter's walk, and posting pictures online. Our crew onboard showed their support and team spirit by sending us pictures



NRU Asterix flying the flags of Autism Nova Scotia from their mast while on patrol in the North Atlantic.
SUBMITTED



Wanted: Youth Reporter

Apply now to participate in this scholarship competition organized by the Canadian Forces Newspapers.

Youth interested in this endeavor should submit an application with their story pitch by 31 December, 2020.

CAFCONNECTION.CA/YOUTHREPORTER



Jeunes journalistes recherchés

Soumettez votre candidature dès maintenant et courez la chance de remporter une bourse d'études!

Date limite de candidature: le 31 décembre 2020

Ce concours est organisé par les journaux des Forces armées canadiennes.

WWW.CONNEXIONFAC.CA/JEUNEJOURNALISTE



Faces of the Base: CPO2 Joe Abando



We are proud to present this week's #FaceofBaseHFX, CPO2 Joe Abando. All employees at Base Information Services #BIS know that if anyone has the answer to a pressing question, it's CPO2 Abando. Currently the BIS Client Services Chief, he is the go-to guy for

all Client Services staff, especially the Heads of Department. He has been the stable presence in an ever-changing organization, his professional and gentle nature helping guide many Defence Team members over the years. CPO2 Abando joined the Reserves in 1978,

transferring to the Regular Force in 1983. Throughout his Navy career, Chief Abando has sailed in many HMC Ships including *Margaree*, *Preserver*, *Ottawa*, *Saguenay*, *Gatineau*, *Charlottetown*, *Montreal*, *St. John's*, *Halifax*, and *Fredericton*.

A decorated member of the CAF, CPO2 Abando has been awarded the Special Service Medal (NATO), Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal for the former Yugoslavia, both the Queen's Golden and Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medals and – just weeks ago on October 16 – the Canadian Forces Decoration Third Clasp, a major milestone signifying 42 years of good conduct in the CAF. These are only some of the many awards, medals, commendations and Bravo Zulus he has received throughout his career. From 2012-2017, CPO2 Abando served as the Regional Military Co-Chair for MARLANT's Defence Visible Minority Advisory Group (DVMAG). During his time as co-chair, he increased exposure and credibility of the group and its role through education and awareness. He

also planned and organized the first National International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination event held outside of Ottawa in 2015, bringing together eight visible minority communities with the military and the Halifax area Defence team to help commemorate this UN event.

What's more, you ask? CPO2 Abando has also participated in five Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoos since 1985. During those years, he participated in the Naval Gun Run, was Tattoo staff and – most recently in 2019 – acted as Tattoo Coxn, a role that awarded him the Base Commander's Bravo Zulu. With his 42 years of service (and counting), CPO2 Abando remains a true leader and all-around wonderful human being, passing on his experiences and knowledge to help inspire and encourage other members to pursue their aspirations. Thank you, CPO2 Abando, for your many years of service!



From left: MWO R.M. Boucher, Maj R.D. Bailey, LCol E.M. Hatt, WO L.T. Hampden Lt(N) A.S. Vaters, PO1 D.A. Collicutt.

SUBMITTED

Ex NOBLE SKYWAVE – amplifying the Global Communications Network

By Captain Mark Bailey
36 Signal Regiment

Communications and Electronics Branch members from 36 Signal Regiment, 12 Operational Support System Telecommunication Flight, and Joint Deployable Communications Section (JCDS) came together for the annual Exercise NOBLE SKYWAVE competition held October 28-29, 2020. The exercise is a Canadian-led international civilian and military High Frequency (HF) radio skill competition. The first iteration was organized by Capt R.D. Clow of Assistant Deputy Minister (Materiel) Group in Ottawa and held during Communication and Electronics [Branch] week in October 2013, during Princess Anne's Visit to Canada. Since then it has become the most prestigious military led HF radio competition in the world with a total of 119 teams who competed this year.

Cpl Caleb Hasteley from 36 Signal Regiment, had this to say. "With most radio like Very High Frequency Radio it just goes in a straight line and you can't make contact over the horizon. With HF radio, also known as High Frequency Radio, will bounce off the water or ground in the atmosphere allowing us to reach places like Florida, Arizona and the United Kingdom. The Regular Force Navy members, work with HF a lot more than we do. So, our ability to learn from them, on HF as well as on the actual radios, is great."

HF radio is a reliable and cost effective means of passing voice communications and limited data around the globe due to the unique way

that HF radio signals interact with our ionosphere. It is for this reason that HF is an indispensable capability for the Canadian Armed Forces during military operations and domestic emergencies. HF communication networks can be quickly created between civilian and domestic partners to establish vital command and control, and for coordination with partner agencies.

For this reason 36 Signal Regiment, who is the Signal Support for this year's Immediate Response Unit in the Atlantic Area, reached out to Maj R.D. Bailey, Officer Commanding 12 Operational Support Squadron Telecommunications Flight, and PO1 D.A. Collicutt, Senior Naval Communicator for JCDS to establish key partnerships and share HF radio expertise within the Atlantic Area.

Each organization provided key planning staff in the weeks leading up to the event to establish the lines of effort, secure facilities, and test equipment. These are the crucial activities which must be performed during domestic operation, such as Operation LENTUS for Hurricane Dorian, and enhancing these partnerships was the primary goal for the joint team during Ex NOBLE SKYWAVE 2020. While the teams were highly competitive during the event this combined team of Regular Force and Primary Reserve soldiers, sailors, and aviators demonstrated the Atlantic Area commitment to remaining strong, proud and ready.



Pte Elliot adjusts a High Frequency Near Vertical Incident Sky wave Antenna.

SUBMITTED

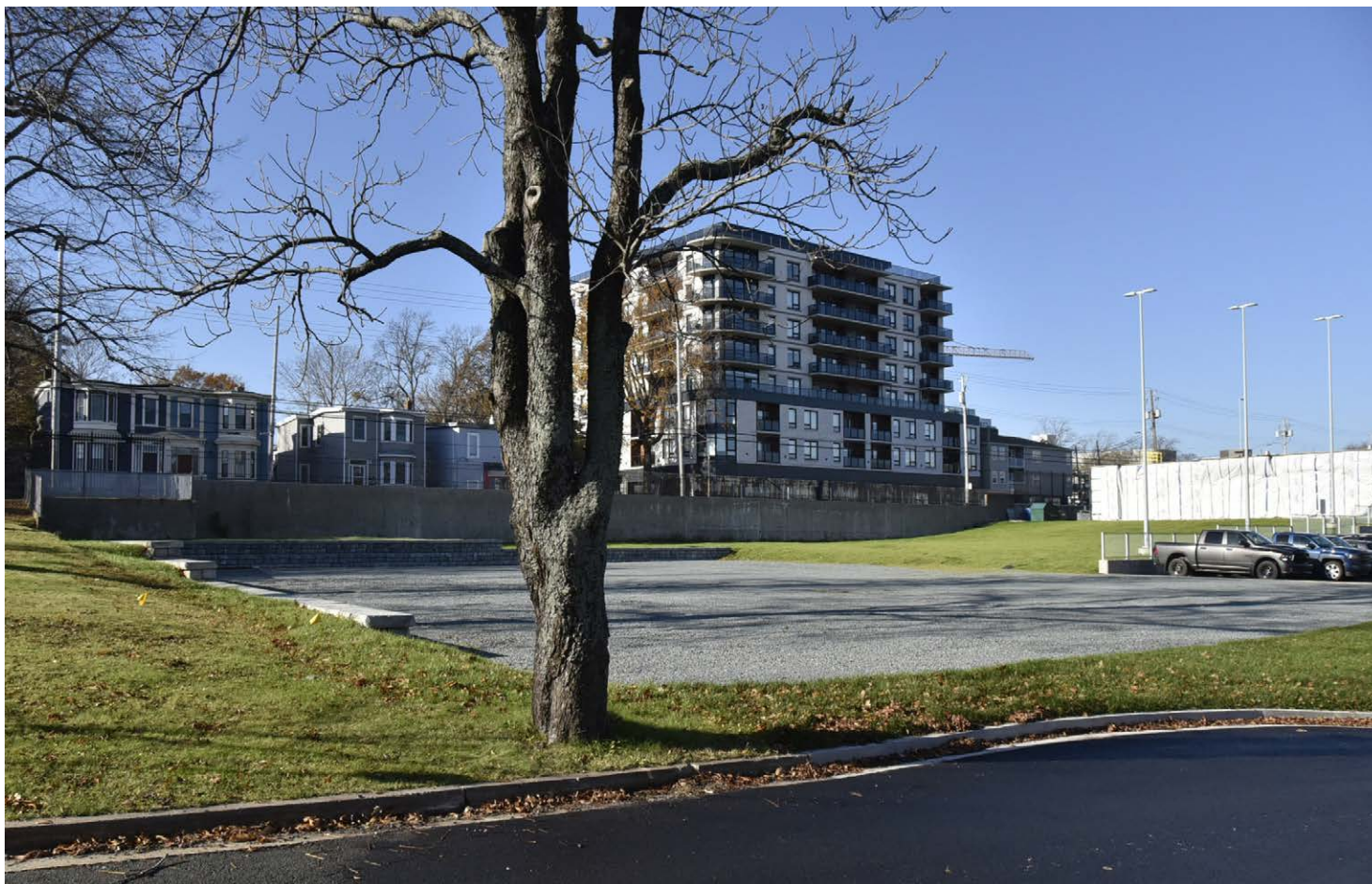


SPORTS & FITNESS



Design phase for temporary Stadacona fitness facility underway

By CFB Halifax Public Affairs



The STADPLEX property in November 2020. This will be the future home to the temporary Stadacona fitness facility.

SYDNEY MACLEOD, CFB HALIFAX PA INTERN

On October 31, 2018, CFB Halifax's Stadacona Fitness, Sports and Recreation Centre (STADPLEX) closed its doors for the last time after 75 years in operation. At that time, a comprehensive Real Property Operations (RPOS(H)) infrastructure plan was developed to address the short, medium and long-term fitness needs of the Base population.

Since then, local Defence Team members, visitors of the Base and neighbouring residents have likely noticed lots of activity taking place on the STADPLEX property. Following a

lengthy demolition period, the space that housed the 8,853 square meter facility is now neat and tidy, featuring a new parking area and sidewalk, a gravel pad and landscaping.

And there's more planned for this property. Where STADPLEX once stood will soon be a new gym hub for local Defence Team members.

"We are currently entering the design phase for a temporary, winterized fitness facility, to be constructed on this property," explains Maj Mandy Landolt, RPOS(H) Officer Commanding.

Modelled after a similar facility at CFB Borden, the 1,250 square metre fitness space at Stadacona will be heated and air-conditioned, and will include an open gymnasium area for basketball, volleyball, badminton and ball hockey; an area for cardio machines and weights; locker rooms with showers and washrooms; a reception office for fitness and sports instructors; and a storage room for equipment. Considerably more compact than the original STADPLEX gym, the facility will have a maximum capacity of approximately 134

members; this capacity will be reduced as required if physical distancing measures are still in effect upon final construction.

While PSP Halifax staff have been offering quality fitness services at both the Fleet and Shearwater gyms as well as online, they are looking forward to bringing some of these services back to Stadacona as the operators of this new facility.

"Between the closure of STADPLEX in 2018 and the current challenges of operating in a COVID-19 environment, we've certainly had our work cut out for us to ensure we can continue providing quality physical fitness programming to our local Defence community," explains Stacey Robichaud, the Fitness, Sports and Recreation Manager at PSP Halifax. "Having added space for fitness activities at Stadacona – even in a small area – will be a welcome addition. We will be ready to set up shop when construction is completed."

The facility design is scheduled for completion by May 2021, with the construction timeline to be confirmed. The structure will remain in place until a permanent replacement facility is approved, funded, and constructed.

Capt(N) Sean Williams, CFB Halifax Base Commander, has been tracking this project since he assumed command in August 2020. He is an advocate for healthy living, and knows that any additional space for fitness services will be important for the overall health and wellness of the Base community.

"We look forward to introducing this new capability at Stadacona, as it will allow us to bolster our existing fitness programming and services in order to meet the diverse fitness needs of the Base," explains Capt(N) Williams. "I want to thank our incredible PSP Halifax team and our colleagues at Real Property Operations Section (Halifax) and Defence Construction Canada for their ongoing efforts to ensure this project comes to fruition."



Members of HMCS Avalon hosted USN sailors for a boxing tournament on November 20, 1943. This photo was taken in the aftermath.

CROW'S NEST ARCHIVES

RCN sports history: HMCS Avalon prevails in boxing tournament

By Ryan Melanson
Trident Staff

Boxing matches on base or aboard ships might not fly in the modern day Royal Canadian Navy, but it was a popular sport during the RCN's early years, with a number of sailors making names for themselves in the ring against both military and civilian opponents.

Matches were often held just for the fun of it, as was the case on November 20, 1943, when members of HMCS Avalon hosted a group of US Navy counterparts for a short tournament at the base gym. The Canadian sailors came out on top, winning four of six matches. Winners for Avalon included veteran RCN boxer Leo "Tiger" Charbonneau, Davey Brown, and two sailors identified only as LS Campbell and LS Becket. The tournament was organized by Avalon Sports Officer Lt McCormick.

This month in RCN sports history:

1950 - The pages of RCN newspapers are generally reserved for highlighting the accomplishments of our athletes, but the November 1950 issue of the Crow's Nest instead pointed out the struggles of the East Coast Navy rugby squad. The team logged losses of 34-0 and 32-0 against Nova Scotia Tech, and then 27-0 against Acadia University, all in the month of November. The paper noted that Navy football teams were faring much better that year, largely dominating civilian and university teams across the country.

1963 - HMCS Skeena's ice hockey team, for the second consecutive year, won the Cayuga trophy prize for the Pacific Command Championship. They defeated a team representing

the Second Minesweeping Squadron in the final game by a score of 10-4. The star of the final game was OS J.R. Gregoire, with five goals and two assists, while other Skeena goals were scored by LS D. I. Irvine, LS K. Irvine, and LS G.M. Fisher. The players also gave much of the credit for their successful season to head coach Petty Officer E.W. Law.

1979 - The CFB Halifax Sailors hockey team kicked off their season with a friendly game against the local RCMP hockey club, notching a 10-5 victory in front of more than 300 fans. Goal scorers for the Sailors included Fred Rhode, Mike Considine, Harry McIntyre, Tony McDougall, Marty Warner, and Dan Cooper. To the delight of the fans, the game was a rough one, with referee Wayne Smith handing out 23

minor penalties, 2 majors, and one game misconduct.

1987 - The Mini Grey Cup football game between the Wardroom Officers and the Fleet Club Slackers has been a fall Navy tradition in Halifax for 50 years. An unusual installment of the game was held on Porteous Field on November 21, 1987. Rather than the regular high scoring affair, this Mini Grey Cup finished with a score of 6-0, and even more unusual, that score was in favour of the Wardroom. Lt(N) A. Lazorenko was credited with the game's lone touchdown, coming with only three minutes to go. The Fleet Club would avenge their loss in 1988, and have continued to do so over and over again, with the Officers claiming only a handful of victories over the last 30 years.



La phase de conception du centre de conditionnement physique temporaire de Stadacona est en cours

Par Affaires publiques de la BFC Halifax

Le 31 octobre 2018, le centre de conditionnement physique, de sports et de loisirs de Stadacona (STADPLEX) de la BFC Halifax a fermé ses portes pour la dernière fois après 75 ans d'activité. À ce moment-là, un plan d'infrastructure complet de la Section des opérations immobilières (SOI(H)) a été élaboré pour répondre aux besoins de la population de la base en matière de conditionnement physique à court, moyen et long termes.

Depuis, les membres de l'Équipe de la Défense locale, les visiteurs de la base et les résidents de la région ont probablement remarqué que beaucoup d'activités se déroulaient sur la propriété du STADPLEX. Après une longue période de démolition, l'espace où se trouvait l'installation de 8 853 mètres carrés est maintenant propre et en ordre, avec un nouveau stationnement et un nouveau trottoir, une plateforme de gravier et de l'aménagement paysager.

Et d'autres travaux sont prévus sur cette propriété. Le site de l'ancien STADPLEX sera bientôt un nouveau gymnase pour les membres de l'Équipe de la Défense locale.

« Nous entreprenons actuellement la phase de conception d'un centre de conditionnement physique temporaire, adapté aux conditions hivernales, qui sera construit sur cette propriété », explique le Maj Mandy Landolt, commandant de la SOI(H).

Sur le modèle d'une installation similaire à la BFC Borden, l'espace de conditionnement physique de 1 250 mètres carrés à Stadacona sera chauffé et aura de l'air climatisé, et comprendra : un espace de gymnase ouvert pour le basket-ball, le volley-ball, le badminton et le hockey-balle; une zone pour les appareils d'entraînement cardiovasculaire et les haltères; des vestiaires avec douches et toilettes; un bureau de réception pour les instructeurs de conditionnement physique et de sport; et un local d'entreposage du matériel. Beaucoup plus compacte que le gymnase STADPLEX d'origine, l'installation aura une capacité maximale d'environ 134 membres; cette capacité sera réduite au besoin si des mesures d'éloignement physique sont encore en vigueur lors de l'achèvement des travaux de construction.

Bien que le personnel des PSP d'Halifax ait offert des services de conditionnement physique de qualité aux gymnases de la Flotte et de Shearwater ainsi qu'en ligne, il est impatient de ramener certains de ces services à Stadacona en tant qu'exploitant de cette nouvelle installation.

« Avec la fermeture de STADPLEX en 2018 et les défis actuels liés au fonctionnement dans un environnement de COVID-19, nous avons certainement eu du pain sur la planche pour nous assurer de pouvoir continuer d'offrir des programmes de conditionnement physique de qualité à notre communauté locale de la Défense », explique Stacey Robichaud, gestionnaire du conditionnement physique, des sports et des loisirs des PSP d'Halifax. L'ajout d'un espace pour les activités de conditionnement physique à Stadacona – même d'un petit espace – sera apprécié. Nous serons prêts à nous installer lorsque la construction sera terminée. »

La conception de l'installation devrait être terminée au plus tard en mai 2021, et le calendrier de construction doit être confirmé. La structure

restera en place jusqu'à ce qu'une installation de remplacement permanente soit approuvée, financée et construite.

Le Capv Sean Williams, commandant de la BFC Halifax, suit ce projet depuis qu'il a assumé le commandement en août 2020. Il fait la promotion de la vie saine et sait que tout espace supplémentaire pour les services de conditionnement physique sera important pour la santé et le bien-être de la communauté de la base en général.

« Nous sommes impatients de mettre en place cette nouvelle capacité à Stadacona, car elle nous permettra de renforcer nos programmes et services de conditionnement physique existants afin de répondre aux divers besoins de la base dans ce domaine, explique le Capv Williams. Je tiens à remercier notre incroyable équipe des PSP d'Halifax et nos collègues de la Section des opérations immobilières (Halifax) et de Construction de Défense Canada pour leurs efforts constants afin d'assurer la réalisation de ce projet. »



Army cadets accepting new members

By 3036 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps

The 3036 Sackville Lions RCME Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps will be accepting new youth between the ages of 12-18 to join the cadet corps. New cadets are welcome to email us to set up a registration and information phone call: cadets3036@gmail.com. There are no registration fees. For more information, email: cadets3036@gmail.com or go to [Face-book.com/cadets3036](https://book.com/cadets3036)