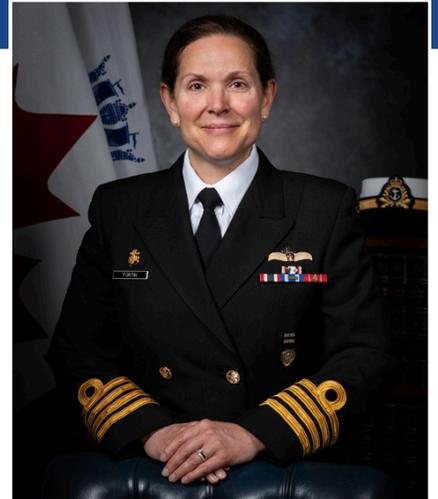




BASE COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Thank you for an engaging and lively February at CFB Halifax. First, I want to express my gratitude to the Snow and Ice Control crews for their tireless efforts in keeping our people and properties safe throughout an especially stormy month. I also want to commend my fellow Defence Racialized Persons Advisory Group members and local community leaders for organizing and leading an insightful event on Africville in honour of Black History Month and African Heritage Month. Further, thank you to Base Auxiliary Security Force for coordinating Security Awareness Week exercises aimed at practicing and refining Base security procedures while advancing new security capabilities; special thanks to all Defence personnel who celebrated kindness on Pink Shirt Day; and Bravo Zulu to our many CFB Halifax Mariners athletes for their performances at different



Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Atlantic Region Championships! February was a short but incredibly productive month and these are only a few examples of everything that was accomplished, so please know that your hard work did not go unnoticed. Your efforts fuel our operational success and elevate our organizational culture – so thank you for being the best team members and ambassadors.

Speaking of teamwork, the 2025 Halifax Region National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign (NDWCC) raised \$126,983. These funds will benefit local charities, programs, and services directly supporting vulnerable communities. I am humbled at how many Defence Team members gave their time, energy, and money to the campaign, so Bravo Zulu to you all! Special thanks to the NDWCC coordination team, canvassers, and unit representatives for leading the way and helping us fulfill our duty to serve and be good neighbours.

Last week, I had the honour of speaking before and learning from Gulf War Veterans at the Naval Museum of Halifax in commemoration of the 35th Anniversary of the end of the Gulf War. While our country did not suffer loss of life during this historic conflict, its impacts took an immense toll on the health of the thousands of CAF members who served in air, naval, and medical operations. We are forever indebted to Gulf War Veterans for their service and sacrifices to protect Canadians and secure our future.

The end of February also saw the Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS) and the CAF Command Chief visit CFB Halifax/Maritime Forces Atlantic for a town hall with local members and some quick tours of units and properties across the Base. Many thanks to everyone who made this visit possible! During the town hall, the CDS led an inspiring conversation that covered many topics including (but not limited to) our personnel, infrastructure, and future capabilities.

Continued on page 2...

Here at CFB Halifax, our members will witness major growth and changes to our infrastructure and capabilities for years to come, with many projects already underway. As an example, on February 27, the Department of National Defence [announced](#) the acceptance of Canadian Forces Auxiliary Vessel *Canso*, a Naval Large Tug (NLT) that will become a key component of our auxiliary fleet here at CFB Halifax. *Canso* is the third NLT to be delivered but only the first here on the East Coast, so we're very excited for this milestone. We look forward to receiving a second NLT in late 2026 and a third and final tug closer to 2027/28.

Looking forward to March, I urge everyone to keep up the good work, and if time allows, to participate in Base activities connected to the following: International Women's Day (March 8), the Two-Spirit & Indigenous LGBTQQIA+ Celebration and Awareness Day (March 20), the International Day of La Francophonie (March 20), the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (March 21), the International Transgender Day of Visibility, and National Indigenous Languages Day (both on March 31).

Because we are closing in on the end of the fiscal year, we expect CFB Halifax to be extra busy in March. This is also a time of change for many military members and their loved ones, with posting season fast approaching. I encourage everyone to be extra patient and kind with their colleagues, teammates, and employees during this transitional period.

- Captain(N) Annick Fortin

BASE CHIEF'S MESSAGE



Defence Team: As mentioned by the Base Commander, we are nearing the end of the fiscal year, which means Active Posting Season is fast approaching. This period can be challenging for military members and their loved ones. Although relocation can be an exciting and welcomed change, it can also be a stressful and demanding process, so I ask that everyone be extra patient with their colleagues and teams.

For military members, I encourage you to reach out to your Chain of Command for support and guidance, and to explore the different resources available to you to navigate this change.

Whether this year is your first or fourth posting, it is always good to (re)familiarize yourself with the [ABCs of military postings](#) and explore [Military Family Resource Centre](#) programming. Guidance on how best to prepare [before receiving your posting instruction](#) can be particularly helpful. And as always, remember that you are not alone and that peer supports and [mental health resources](#) are available to you 24/7. Don't be afraid to ask for help, be patient with the process, and take care of yourselves.

- CPO1 Troy Beazley



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CFB HALIFAX?



INFRASTRUCTURE

Site preparation activities to begin at CFB Halifax Stadacona (Porteous Field) for Combatant Training and Integration Centre Atlantic (CTIC-A)

Changes are coming to our Stadacona property as we welcome the construction of a new Defence infrastructure project in early March 2026.

Future construction of Combatant Training and Integration Centre Atlantic (CTIC-A), a new training facility at CFB Halifax, was [announced](#) in November 2023.

CTIC-A will be a collaborative training and operational support facility whose cutting-edge training systems will prepare Canadian sailors for the incoming fleet of [River-class destroyers](#), the Royal Canadian Navy's (RCN) next generation of warships. The facility will be a warfighting centre of excellence, enabling rapid technological change with agile capability development, and a secure training facility for classified individual and collective training, featuring advanced simulators for underwater, above water, and maritime air warfare.

CTIC-A will be constructed on Porteous Field. This site was chosen as it meets the facility's security requirements, presenting minimal disruption to operations as it is located near other RCN training facilities, and is suitable for future utility tie-ins.

For more information on what Defence Team members and visitors can expect during the site preparation phase of this project, click [here](#).

NEW CAPABILITY



Naval Large Tug Canadian Forces Auxiliary Vessel *Canso*:

On Friday, February 27, the Department of National Defence announced the acceptance of Canadian Forces Auxiliary Vessel *Canso*, the first of three Naval Large Tugs to be delivered to CFB Halifax. These powerful new tugs will provide essential harbour and coastal support, from harbour berthing, coastal towing to firefighting, and will eventually replace the older Glen-class and Fire-class vessels. With greater reliability, added backup, and expanded capabilities to support our ships, these tugs will play a key role while the Royal Canadian Navy grows its fleet. [Details](#).





EVENTS/COMMEMORATIONS

Government of Canada Commemorative Dates

March 8: International Women's Day (IWD)

- **March 5: IWD Film Screening of "Outstanding"**

The Defence Women's Advisory Organization invites local Defence Team members to the Juno Tower Ballroom from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. to view a feature film inspired by the trailblazing story of Canada's first female infantry officer.

- **March 9: 12 Wing Shearwater IWD Event**

12 Wing Shearwater is hosting an IWD event from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Ashley Lounge at the Sea King Club. The event will include guest speakers, a facilitated panel discussion, and guided group discussions recognizing the contributions of women in the CAF and the broader community. This initiative aims to foster dialogue and encourage collective action toward a more inclusive workplace. The event is open to all Defence Team members. Operational dress required for CAF members. Civilian members are encouraged to wear purple in recognition of IWD.

March 8: Daylight Saving Time (Spring Forward)

March 19: Ramadan ends

March 20: International Day of La Francophonie

- **March 19: International Day of La Francophonie Flag Raising**

The Francophonie flag will be raised on March 19* during morning colours (8 a.m.) at CFB Halifax headquarters (S-90) in recognition of International Day of La Francophonie. All Defence Team members are welcome. **This flag raising is being held on March 19 (not March 20) due to a separate flag raising on March 20.*

March 20: Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQQIA+ Celebration and Awareness Day Flag Raising

The Intersex-Inclusive Pride Flag will be raised during morning colours (8 a.m.) at CFB Halifax headquarters (S-90) and Shearwater Main Gate in recognition of Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQQIA+ Celebration and Awareness Day. All Defence Team members are welcome.

March 21: International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (IDERD)

- **March 23: IDERD Flag Raising**

The Defence Racialized Persons Advisory Group (DRPAG) flag will be raised during morning colours (8 a.m.) at CFB Halifax headquarters (S-90) and Shearwater Main Gate in recognition of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. All Defence Team members are welcome. **This flag raising ceremony is being held on March 23 (not March 21) as IDERD falls on a Saturday. The DRPAG flag will be raised on March 21 as well but with no formal ceremony.*

Monitor the MARLANT splash page, MARLANTGENs, CFB Halifax social media, and Base-wide email for information on IDERD events/activities.

March 31: Transgender Day of Visibility Flag Raising

The Transgender Flag will be raised during morning colours (8 a.m.) at CFB Halifax headquarters (S-90) and Shearwater Main Gate in recognition of the Transgender Day of Visibility. All Defence Team members are welcome.



April: Month of the Military Child/Teal Up for Military Kids Campaign

April 3: Good Friday (Public Holiday)

April 6: Easter Monday (Public Holiday)

July 1-5: Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo

[Tickets.](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

CFB Halifax storm reminder: A reminder that the CFB Halifax storm line (902-721-8325) and 12 Wing Shearwater storm line* (902-720-1305) can be called for information on Base and Wing openings, closures, and delays. The storm lines as well as our CFB Halifax social media sites (Twitter (X), Facebook, and Instagram) will be updated by 6 a.m. (Atlantic) in the event of a Base closure or delayed opening.

Defence Team members are encouraged to speak with their respective Chains of Command or supervisors prior to any inclement weather event if there are concerns with safe or timely arrival to work. Personnel who are unable to report to work due to weather conditions are required to contact their supervisor.

For frequently asked questions regarding Base delayed openings and closures, please refer to our [CFB Halifax Base Closures & Delayed Openings FAQ](#) on the Trident website.

CAF Systemic Racism Class Action claim period is open: Current and former members of the CAF who have experienced racial discrimination and/or racial harassment in connection with their military service between April 17, 1985, and January 10, 2025, may now submit a claim for a monetary payment. To learn more about the settlement and to submit a claim, visit the [Claims Administrator website](#).

BASE SERVICE SPOTLIGHT: BASE AUXILIARY SECURITY FORCE

As per the Defence Controlled Access Area Regulations and Joint Force Protection doctrine, the purpose of the Base Auxiliary Security Force is to augment and complement the Base Security Force by executing physical security missions and tasks assigned by the Base Commander. Read more [here](#).

Sports, recreation, athletics

- Bravo Zulu to the CFB Halifax Mariners women's and men's hockey teams who both took home silver at the 2026 CAF Atlantic Region Women's and Men's Hockey Championships in Greenwood and Gagetown!
- Bravo Zulu to the CFB Halifax Mariners senior hockey team who placed third in the 2026 CAF Atlantic Region Senior Hockey Championship (February 9-13) at the Shearwater Arena and thank you to the participating athletes, coaches, tournament officials, PSP Halifax, and Shearwater Arena staff for making this tournament possible!
- Bravo Zulu to the CFB Halifax Mariners men's volleyball team who took home gold at the 2026 CAF Atlantic Region Men's Volleyball Championship (February 23-27) in Greenwood and will be advancing to nationals (April 12-26) in Borden!
- Bravo Zulu to the CFB Halifax Mariners women's volleyball team who took home gold at the CAF Atlantic Region Women's Volleyball Championship (February 23-27) in Greenwood and will be advancing to nationals (April 17-21) in Borden!
- Bravo Zulu to the CFB Halifax Mariners basketball team who took home gold at the CAF Atlantic Region Men's Basketball Championship (February 23-27) in Gagetown and will be advancing to Nationals (April 25-30) in Borden!
- Bravo Zulu to the Halifax Mooseheads Canadian Armed Forces Stars of the Game for February 2026: PO1 Sandy Miller, PO2 Katie Vallar, Cpl Trevor Lowe, MS Audrey Johnston, and Cpl Corey Auwaerter.

Miscellaneous

- Bravo Zulu to all involved in Black History Month/African Heritage Month events.
- Bravo Zulu to Base Operations, Base Auxiliary Security Force, and all units involved in 2026 Security Awareness Week exercises.
- Bravo Zulu to our local Defence community for raising \$126,983 during the 2025 National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign and to those involved in organizing the cheque presentation on February 11.
- Bravo Zulu to PSP Halifax Corporate Services Halifax and all involved in organizing the DND Snow Festival held on February 16 in Shearwater.
- Bravo Zulu to everyone who donated blood at the Canadian Blood Services Blood Donation Clinic on February 23.
- Bravo Zulu to everyone who participated in Pink Shirt Day on February 25.
- Bravo Zulu to members from the CFB Halifax Fire Department and 12 Wing Shearwater Fire and Emergency Services for competing in the 2025 annual Tactical Firefighter Games from February 16 to 27.
- Bravo Zulu to all units involved in the Chief of the Defence staff visit to CFB Halifax on February 23.
- Bravo Zulu to all units involved in the Naval Large Tug *Canso* announcement at Jetty NH on February 27.
- Bravo Zulu to all involved in events held at CFB Halifax marking the 35th Anniversary of the End of the Persian Gulf War.



TOP CFB HALIFAX
SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS
LAST MONTH



Facebook

[Black History Month/African Heritage Month](#)

[Pink Shirt Day](#)

[Stadacona Band of the Royal Canadian Navy Youth Outreach Concerts](#)

Instagram

[2025 NDWCC Cheque Presentation](#)

[CAF Atlantic Region Men's Hockey Championship](#)

[CAF Atlantic Region Women's Hockey Championship](#)

Visit our CFB Halifax social media channels for content!



[@CFB.BFC.HALIFAX](#)



[@cfb.bfc.halifax](#)



[@CFB_BFCHalifax](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Defence Team: Did you know that Designated Public Key Infrastructure (D-PKI) smart cards are being upgraded? D-PKI smart cards are used every day for encryption, digital signing, and secure remote access so they ensure a smooth operational framework. If you do not already have the new D-PKI card, your smart card will require replacement to the new Thales ID Prime version ("THALES" is indicated on the back your smart card along the top). To ensure an easy transition and prevent access issues, be sure to contact your Local Registration Authority ([link](#)) to request a new card **before April 1, 2026**.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Stadacona Band of the Royal Canadian Navy at HMC Dockyard in 1981. The band, which marked its 85th anniversary in 2025, is a full-time professional military band with a proud tradition of musical excellence.

Photo credit: Naval Museum of Halifax

RESOURCES

- [Base Services Directory](#)
- **Defence Advisory Groups**
 - [Defence Racialized Persons Advisory Group](#) (DWAN only)
 - [Defence Women's Advisory Organization](#) (DWAN only)
 - [Atlantic Defence Indigenous Advisory Group](#) (DWAN only)
 - [Defence Advisory Group for Persons with Disabilities](#) (DWAN only)
 - [Atlantic Defence Team Pride Advisory Organization](#) (DWAN only)
 - [Defence Advisory Groups - Trident Newspaper](#)
- [Mental Health & Wellness](#)
- [Base closures and delayed openings Q&A](#)
- [Lactation Spaces](#)
- [Base Student Services](#)
- [Base Executive Services Accessible via DWAN only](#)
- [Trident Newspaper](#)

QUESTIONS/SUBMISSIONS

If you have questions about this publication or would like to submit content for consideration, please email CFBHalifaxPublicAffairs@gmail.com.