



September 2026



BASE COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone had the opportunity to rest and recharge last month as we prepare to transition from summer to fall. As Active Posting Season ends, I would like to welcome all newly posted members to CFB Halifax and the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). We are thrilled to have you here, whether it is your first military posting or if you're returning home.

August was another busy period for CFB Halifax, especially along His Majesty's Canadian (HMC) Dockyard, as we welcomed home the ship's company of HMCS *Charlottetown* after six months at sea supporting Operations HORIZON and NEON and said farewell to HMCS *Robert Hampton Gray* as it departed for its coastal transfer to CFB Esquimalt. Throughout the month, our members also supported ship visits from the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force, the United States Navy, and the Royal Danish Navy. I know the security requirements of these visits can be extensive, and I want to thank you for working together and representing our Base, the Royal Canadian Navy, and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) well.



I would also like to express my deep gratitude for all members involved in the Halifax-Dartmouth Natal Day Parade, the National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign (NDWCC) Dragon Boat Regatta, the Highway of Heroes Tribute Ride Nova Scotia, Public Service Pride Week, the CAF Atlantic Region Women's and Men's Soccer Championships, the Halifax Mooseheads visit to the dockyard firehall, and multiple Change of Command and Change of Appointment ceremonies. Bravo Zulu to all military and civilian Defence Team members—including some fantastic Naval Experience Program members—who have been tirelessly supporting these Base and community events this summer.

September marks the launch of the [2026 Halifax Region NDWCC](#), our annual charitable giving campaign that will run from September 8 to December 11. Be sure to mark September 17 in your calendars for our official NDWCC Kick-off BBQ, taking place at the Base Logistics main warehouse at HMC Dockyard. The theme of this year's national campaign is *Together, Building Stronger Communities!* and aims to spark more engagement within the National Defence and Coast Guard communities, raising funds and awareness for Canadian charities, many of which have strong ties to Canada's military and veterans. As the Halifax Region NDWCC Champion, I invite you to participate in the campaign in whatever way you can, whether by donating through [ePledge](#), planning or attending an event, supporting a volunteer opportunity, or all of the above. Every contribution matters, and together we can help build stronger communities for everyone.

Speaking of stronger communities, CAF members are reminded that the Halifax & Region Military Family Resource Centre (H&R MFRC) is an important local resource that exists to help you and your loved ones navigate the unique journey of military life. On September 12, the H&R MFRC will host its annual [Bluenose Bienvenue](#) event to welcome newly posted families and bring together local military and veteran families. Whether you're new to the area or have been here for years, I encourage you to experience this fun community event! It's also important to note that Friday, September 18, marks Military Family Appreciation Day. This day is an opportunity to honour those who play an integral part in keeping our CAF members strong and supported. Thank you to the loved ones of military members; we truly couldn't do this without you!

As always, September reminds us of our collective journey toward reconciliation. As such, I encourage you to participate in activities related to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation / Orange Shirt Day (September 30), Treaty Day (October 1), and Mi'kmaq History Month (October). To learn more and to get involved, reach out to the Atlantic Defence Indigenous Advisory Group (ADIAG) at Halifax.DIAG@forces.gc.ca.

As we welcome a new season, remember that your continued efforts here at home contribute to our mission success, allowing our Defence community to protect Canada and Canadians while contributing to international peace and security.

- Capt(N) Annick Fortin

BASE CHIEF'S MESSAGE



As members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and personnel serving at the country's largest military base, how we present ourselves to the public and to each other matters. Our uniform is a direct reflection of our personal discipline, our proud history, and our respect for the CAF. With changing seasons and upcoming Base events, I want to remind all personnel of the importance of maintaining high standards of dress and deportment.

Please take the time to review current [CAF Dress Instructions](#). Ensure your operational and ceremonial dress is clean, properly fitted, and worn with pride. Pay attention to the small details; from the correct placement of rank insignia and the executive curl to authorized grooming and jewelry policies.

I would also like to remind members that electric kick scooter operators must wear helmets and not use sidewalks when operating e-scooters on CFB Halifax property. Please refer to [Dress Instructions chapter 7 Health, safety and occupational dress](#) for full regulations.

Let's continue to look out for one another and lead by example. If you see a deficiency, correct it respectfully at the lowest level. Thank you for your continued dedication, your professionalism, and for proudly representing CFB Halifax every day. As always, any inquiries about dress, deportment, or ceremonial activities can be directed to my office at 902-721-8322 (Assistant Base Chief) or 902-721-8349 (Base Chief).

Look sharp, stay safe, and let's keep setting the standard.

- CPO1 Carlos Esquivel

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CFB HALIFAX?



CFB HALIFAX KEY LEADERSHIP/POSITION CHANGES

We would like to welcome RAdm Pascal Belhumeur as the new Commander Maritime Forces Atlantic (MARLANT), Joint Task Force Atlantic (JTFA), and Maritime Component Commander (MCC), effective August 11, 2026. Thank you to RAdm Josée Kurtz, outgoing Commander MARLANT, JTFA, and MCC for your leadership while in these roles and congratulations on your retirement. Fair winds and following seas!

We would like to welcome CPO1 Patrick Mackey as the new MARLANT Formation Chief, effective August 11, 2026. Thank you to CPO1 Derek Godin, outgoing Formation Chief, for your efforts while in this role.

We would like to welcome CPO1 Paul Greene as the new Canadian Fleet Atlantic Chief, effective July 24, 2026. Thank you to CPO1 Patrick Mackey, outgoing Fleet Chief, for his efforts while in this role.



HMC Dockyard temporary parking disruptions

Site preparations and work for curb, sidewalk, and paving upgrades along Valour Way at HMC Dockyard began the week of August 17. These upgrades mark the initial stage of the Hardstand Maintenance Project, a multi-property initiative to address deficiencies in roadways and sidewalks across CFB Halifax.

The project will result in a temporary loss of parking spots in non-operational parking zone H (opposite side of the road to the Identification Section and Rainbow Gate) and will impact the bus shelter and stop across from Rainbow Gate.

- The bus stop will temporarily be relocated south, to the sidewalk in front of non-operational parking zone I.
- Identification Section and Parking Office/Dockyard Security Office customer parking will be temporarily relocated north, to non-operational parking zone G.
- Impacted accessible parking spaces and visitor parking spaces will be temporarily relocated south, to non-operational parking zone I.

The initial phase of the project is anticipated to take approximately three weeks to complete. Any inconvenience is regretted.

Infrastructure removal work in Eastern Passage

Four large fuel tanks are being deconstructed and removed from Department of National Defence (DND) property at 1350 Main Road in Eastern Passage, Nova Scotia, until late October 2026.

In March 2026, DND acquired 1350 and 1356 Main Road from the former owner and operator, Valero Energy Corporation. Prior to Valero's acquisition of the Texaco Refinery site, it operated as an oil refinery from 1964 to 1997 and later operated as a fuel and petroleum distribution and storage facility until 2017. The site has undergone remediation activities; however, some infrastructure remains from the site's previous distribution and storage activities.

As part of DND's Land Purchase Agreement, removal of the remaining fuel tanks and smaller support structures is being coordinated through the previous owner with oversight from DND infrastructure specialists.

This property was acquired to provide additional flexibility to support future Royal Canadian Navy and DND infrastructure and operational requirements in the Halifax region such as warehousing and refueling. Planning for the long-term use of the site is ongoing.

Windsor Park and Shearwater Residential Housing Unit construction

On July 29, Canadian Forces Housing Agency (CFHA) provided an update on the construction of new Residential Housing Units at CFB Halifax's Windsor Park and Shearwater properties. At each site, CFHA is building four, six-unit apartment buildings, bringing a total of 48 new residential housing units for Canadian Armed Forces members and their families. The project is expected to be completed in 2027.

[Read more here.](#)

Government of Canada Commemorative Dates

September 7: Labour Day (public holiday)

September 8: Halifax Region National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign Launch

Monitor the MARLANT splash page, Base-wide emails, CFB Halifax social media channels, and the [Trident Newspaper website](#) for all the campaign details.

September 10: Official Languages Day

September 12: Halifax & Region Military Family Resource Centre Bluenose Bienvenue Event

10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Sea King Club (242 Warrior Ave, Shearwater) and Shearwater Fitness, Sports and Recreation Centre (30 Boundary Road, Shearwater). Bluenose Bienvenue is an event for all military and veteran families to connect and welcome newly posted families to the area. [Details](#).

September 12-13: Maritime Heritage Festival

The Maritime Heritage Festival is taking place September 12-13 (10 a.m. to 3 p.m.) on the Halifax Waterfront. Our local Defence community is excited to be part of this festival dedicated to Nova Scotia and Halifax's unique naval history and deep connection to the sea.

September 17: NDWCC Kick-off BBQ

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside building D206 (Base Logistics main warehouse) at HMC Dockyard. Enjoy a BBQ, dunk tank, band/entertainment, games, prizes and more! If you are a local Defence Team member who is interested in volunteering to support this event, [please contact LCdr O'Brien](#).

September 17: Fleet Walk/Run

9 a.m. starting at HMC Dockyard building D201. Monitor PSP Weekly emails for details.

September 18: PO2 Craig Blake Memorial Fitness Challenge

10 a.m. at MacDonald Beach. Register [here](#).

September 28: NDWCC Golf Tournament

Starting at 8:30 a.m. at Hartlen Point Golf Club. \$110 for non-club members and \$80 for club members. This event includes 18 holes of golf (four-person scramble), complimentary snacks, 50/50 draw and prizes. It is open to the first 32 teams of four to register. Open to local Defence Team members (military and civilian). To register or for more information, please call 902-721-7805. Registration is not complete until payment is made in full. Must pay for entire team all at once. No cash registration. Debit/credit can be done in person (Bldg S90, Suite 232) or by credit over the phone. Bookings for golf carts and clubs can be made by calling 902-465-3038.

September 28: Round Dance

Round Dance event from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. aboard HMCS *Harry DeWolf*. Monitor the upcoming National Day for Truth and Reconciliation MARLANTGEN for details.

September 29: Survivors' Flag Raising / Orange Shirt Day

The Survivors' Flag will be raised during morning colours (8 a.m.) at CFB Halifax headquarters (S90) and Shearwater main gate to commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. On September 29, military members are authorized to wear an orange shirt under No. 5 Operational Dress. Civilian attire is also permitted (\$2 Dress with a Difference (DWAD) fee). The DWAD fee does not apply to those wearing an orange shirt with Operational Dress. Any other article of orange clothing is also acceptable for those participating outside of No. 5 operational dress. Orange t-shirts are available at CANEX stores across Canada and online at CANEX.ca. [Details](#).

September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (public holiday)



SAVE THE DATE

October 1: Treaty Day/ Mi'kmaq History Month in Nova Scotia

The Mi'kmaq Grand Council Flag will be raised during morning colours (8 a.m.) at CFB Halifax headquarters (S90) and Shearwater main gate in recognition of Treaty Day.

October 8: Clash of the Titans Charity Hockey Game

October 12: Thanksgiving (public holiday)

October 24: Poppy campaign begins

October 28: NDWCC Bring Your Dog to Work Day

MISCELLANEOUS



Weekly Service of Remembrance begins August 28 at Stadacona Faith Centre

All members of the Defence community are welcome to attend a weekly Service of Remembrance, starting Friday, August 28, 2026. These brief, 30-minute services will be held every Friday at 12 p.m. (1200 hrs) Atlantic in the Chapel of Remembrance at the Stadacona Faith Centre (building S7, 2710 Admirals Way).

Please enter through the chapel doors located directly across from building S90. Each service will include the reading of names from the Book of Remembrance, followed by a brief period of readings, reflection, prayer, and quiet contemplation.

While these services are rooted in Christian tradition, they are open to everyone who wishes to gather, reflect, and honour our community. Come join us for a quiet moment of reflection to close out the week.

For more information, please contact the Chaplains' Office at 721-8660.

Call for nominations: Designated Assistant Training 23 – 24 September (MITE Code AJMK)

Transition Center Halifax will be hosting a Designated Assistant (DA) Course from 23-24 September at the Halifax & Region Military Family Resource Centre Multipurpose Room, Windsor Park (6393 Homefire Crescent). The DA course is a three-day, formal training session designed to prepare those personnel identified as potential DAs, preparing them to be appointed to the Next Of Kin (NOK) of deceased soldiers and to seriously ill or injured soldiers. The training will focus on the protocol and characteristics of a DA, procedural checklists, entitlements and benefits available to NOK and injured soldiers, and emotional support for families. Upon completion of the training, participants will be given the qualification AJMK – CAF Designated Assistant.

Units are to forward the names, service numbers, and email address of their nominees to the Transition Centre Casualty Administration Services Coordinator, Michael.MacLean2@forces.gc.ca or Wendy.Hopkins@forces.gc.ca NLT 8 September 2026.

Hurricane season reminder

Hurricane season runs from June 1 to the end of November in the Atlantic Ocean, however, September and October are typically the most active months for hurricanes in Atlantic Canada. In the event of a hurricane or tropical storm, integral and lodger units across CFB Halifax will be asked to survey for any loose outdoor materials (patio furniture, construction material, signs etc.) in their areas of operation and to properly secure these items to prevent any damage or displacement. Units will also be asked to check on equipment and exposed items to be secured or brought indoors. As always, units are to ensure all backup generators are fueled and prepared for use in the event of power outages. Any of these actions above can be done throughout the year to avoid the last-minute scramble, should a hurricane or tropical storm head our way! Stay prepared and stay safe both at work and home by reviewing these emergency preparedness resources.

DID YOU KNOW?

THE KING'S HARBOUR MASTER (KHM) TEAM AT CFB HALIFAX IS MAKING MAJOR STRIDES WITH ITS NEW NAVAL LARGE TUG

Training is heavily underway for the crew of Canadian Forces Auxiliary Vessel (CFAV) *Canso*, following a successful first cold move with His Majesty's Canadian Ship *Robert Hampton Gray* on July 23. While this milestone was completed under expert supervision, the inaugural crew is now finishing its final, KHM-specific transition checklists, with full training completion expected by early September 2026.

Operating CFAV *Canso* requires a highly skilled, four-person crew consisting of a Master, Chief Engineer, and two Deckhands, which expands to six members for coastal tows. Training has been a large, multi-phase effort including manufacturer indoctrination, hands-on contact training at CFB Esquimalt where the first two Naval Large Tugs were received in 2024, advanced simulation training, and at-sea mentorship.

Looking to the future, a second Naval Large Tug, CFAV *Stella Maris*, is on track to arrive in Halifax before the end of 2026. Until then, the KHM team will be exceptionally busy as it continues bringing *Canso* online while working to prepare *Stella Maris*' crew; the aspirational goal is for *Stella Maris*' immediate transition into operational service. To guarantee continuous operational capacity while navigating these new logistical complexities, KHM is looking to take a slow, deliberate approach to retiring the existing Glen-class tugs, but the final divestment plan has yet to be finalized.

For more information on the Naval Large Tug project, visit [this website](#).



Sports, recreation, athletics

- Bravo Zulu to the Halifax Mariners men's and women's soccer teams who both won gold at the CAF Atlantic Region Men's and Women's Soccer Championships (August 17-21) in Halifax!

Miscellaneous

- Bravo Zulu to all units involved in allied ship visits throughout August including—but not limited to—ship Liaison Officers and support staff from Canadian Fleet Atlantic, MARLANT Visits & Protocol, King's Harbour Master, and Base Operations, with special thanks to the Base Auxiliary Security Force.
- Bravo Zulu to the parade organizers, volunteers, float riders, and walkers who participated in the 2026 Halifax-Dartmouth Natal Day Parade on August 3, with special thanks to the Stadacona Band and 36 Canadian Brigade Group (NS) Band, CFB Halifax Fire & Emergency Services, the Naval Display Team, Naval Experience Program members, and the skilled folks at TEME who constructed and transported the float!
- Bravo Zulu to everyone involved in Bridgewalk 2026 on August 2, with special thanks to CFB Halifax Fire & Emergency Services, Fleet Maintenance Facility Cape Scott, HMCS *Halifax* and the Shearwater Aviation Museum!
- Bravo Zulu to the organizers and participants who supported the 2026 NDWCC Dragon Boat Regatta on August 12.
- Bravo Zulu to 12 Wing Shearwater for supporting the 9th annual Highway of Heroes Tribute Ride on August 15!
- Bravo Zulu to everyone who participated in National Public Service Pride Week activities including flag raisings, Positive Space Ambassador Training, and the Fleet Rainbow Run/Walk!
- Bravo Zulu to everyone involved in multiple Change of Command and Change of Appointment ceremonies in August.

BASE SERVICE SPOTLIGHT: TRANSPORTATION SERVICES - BASE LOGISTICS TRANSPORT, ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DIVISION



The Transportation Services team is broken down into multiple sections, each with their own unique role in support of CFB Halifax. These sections are Road and Vehicle Safety, Chief Dispatch, General Purpose Vehicles, Special Purpose Vehicles, Fleet Management, and Refueling. Read more [here](#).

TOP CFB HALIFAX SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS LAST MONTH



Facebook

[Halifax-Dartmouth Natal Day Parade](#)

[Public Service Pride Week Fleet Rainbow Walk/Run](#)

[Maritime Forces Atlantic and Joint Task Force Atlantic Change of Command Ceremony](#)

Instagram

[Bridgewalk 2026](#)

[Dragon Boat Regatta](#)

[CAF Atlantic Region Slo-pitch Championships](#)

Visit our CFB Halifax social media channels for content!



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National Defence
Workplace Charitable
Campaign



Campagne de charité en
milieu de travail de la
Défense nationale

NDWCC SPOTLIGHT: CAMPAIGN WEBSITE AND RESOURCES

The 2026 Halifax Region National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign (NDWCC) launches on September 8! Local campaign information can be found on the Trident Newspaper [website](#). This website will be updated with news, events, and resources as the campaign progresses. You can also look forward to weekly Base-wide NDWCC emails featuring consolidated news and updates and can follow the campaign on CFB Halifax's social media channels ([Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)).



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Photo of Marilyn Gurney, past Curator of the Naval Museum of Halifax, receiving a *Meet the Navy* cap in 1981. The cap was signed by all Royal Canadian Navy members who participated in *Meet the Navy*, a famous wartime travelling musical show created to entertain the troops and boost public morale. The donor in the photo is Alan Lud, who was one of *Meet the Navy*'s lead performers in 1943.

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.