1. Welcome by National President – National President
2. Moment of Silence for Departed Comrades (Annex A) - Secretary
3. Quorum Confirmation - Secretary
4. Approve Agenda - Secretary
5. Approve Minutes of the 71st AGM held 21 October 2016 - Secretary
6. Business Arising from 71st AGM minutes - Secretary
7. Report by the National President – National President
8. Treasurer's Report:
   a. Acceptance of Financial Statement 2016 - Treasurer
   b. Appointment of Reviewer - Treasurer
9. Election of Directors - President
10. Reports
    a. Membership – Ed Williams
    b. Naval Affairs – Daniel Sing

New Business
11. HMCS Sackville Update - President
12. Starshell Update – President/Secretary
13. AGM 2018 - President

14. Concluding Remarks - President
15. Adjournment – President

Annex A – NAC in Memorium
Annex B – 2017 NAC Awards
Annex C – 2017 Endowment Fund Grants
Annex D – Membership Survey Report
NAC IN MEMORIUM

MEMBERS

Muriel “Max” BROWN
Lt Robert George BUNDY, RCNVR(Ret’d)
Lt(SB) David Hugh CASTLEMAN, RCN
Lt Richard John DAYCOCK, RCN(Ret’d)
Capt Ralph William EDWARDS, CD**, RCN(Ret’d)
Surg Cdr John Alexander FOREMAN, CD, RCN(Ret’d)
Cdr(A/E) John Frederick FRANK, CD, RCN(Ret’d)
LCdr(L)(P) Seth Walter GROSSMITH, CD, RCN(Ret’d)
Cdr James Bernard GROVER, CD**, RCN(Ret’d)
Felicity HANNINGTON
Cdr James Chapman Walter HESELTINE, CD*, RCN(Ret’d)
Lt(NR)(Ret’d) Lynne HIGGINS, CD
Cdr George Oscar HURFORD, CD*, RCN(Ret’d)
Andrew Aubry IRWIN, RCNVR(Ret’d)
Capt John William MASON, CD*, RCN(Ret’d)
LCdr Richard Frank MATHEWS, CD, RCN(Ret’d)
LCdr David MOLLIET, CD, RCN(Ret’d)
Capt Helen Frieda OTT, OstJ, CD*, RCN(Ret’d)
Cdr Harry PALMER, CD*, RCN(Ret’d)
Orville J. PARKER
Capt Robert Claude Kenwick PEERS, CD*, RCN(Ret’d)
Cdr Richard William Astley ROBERTS, CD*, RCN(Ret’d)
A/Lt the Hon William Hubert ROMKEY, PC, RCN(Ret’d)
Lt Paul E. ROQUET, CD***, RCN(Ret’d)
Capt Henry William Schaumburg, CD**, RCN(Ret’d)
Cdr [LCol(PLT)] James William STEGEN, CD**, RCN(Ret’d)
Lt the Rev Edward Patrick Alfred TIMMONS, CD*, RCN(Ret’d)
Cdr(S) Thomas Claude TREHERNE, CD*, RCN(Ret’d)
Cdr Gordon Floyd VAREN, CD**, RCN(Ret’d)
Capt(NR)(Ret’d) Herbert Frederick WALLACE, CD**
LCdr Sidney Robert WALLACE, KStJ, CD, RCN(Ret’d)
Inst LCdr Eugene Ross WEBER, CD*, RCN(Ret’d)
Cdr Andrew GW WILLS, RN(Ret’d)
LCdr Malcolm David WILSON, CD*, RCN(Ret’d)

FORMER MEMBERS

LCdr Joseph Stephen HECIMOVICH, CD**, RCN(Ret’d)
Keith MACDONALD
A/S/Lt(S) Adam Hartley ZIMMERMAN, RCN(Ret’d)
NAC Awards 2017

Bronze

Nick Leak OMM CD – NAC-O
Steve King OMM SSM CD MSM(US) – NAC-O
Becky Haydon-Batte CD – NAC London
Rob Kamphuis CD – NAC London
Robert J Jenkins LVO – NLNAC
DL Bourne CD – NOAC Calgary
Rod Hughes CD – NAC-VI

Silver

Robin Allen OMM CD – NAC-VI
Barry Walker – NAC-O
Tim Addison Gulf/Kuwait CD – NAC-O
Robert Lancashire CD - NSNAC

Gold

Ernest Reid QC – NLNAC
Dr RH Gimblett Gulf/Kuwait CD – NAC-O
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NAC Endowment Fund - 2017 Grant Applications Approved by National Board
Membership Survey Report to NAC AGM, October 21, 2017

For several years, our AGM has noticed two membership trends: increasing membership in the Ottawa Branch, and declining membership everywhere else. Consequently, the membership committee was tasked with conducting a survey to gather information that might shed some light on these trends, and to recommend some actions that might encourage more widespread increases in membership. In the first quarter of 2017 a survey was sent to all 14 Branches of the Naval Association of Canada, of whom 11 replied. The only Branches who did not reply, even after reminders, were Edmonton, Windsor, and Montreal. In March, all responses received were sent to all branches, together with a two page summary identifying common and noteworthy trends and suggestions. This report expands on that summary by identifying and recommending specific actions at both the branch and national levels, that will hopefully increase interest, and assist in recruiting new members.

A. Recommendations Directed to Branches

The single most important factor in determining the future growth of the various Branch units is the way they choose to see themselves: as retired officers of the pre-unification navy and naval reserve, who gather together regularly and nostalgically as “officers and gentlemen”; or as persons of varied backgrounds interested in: educating Canadians on the importance of maintaining an effective navy; preserving an awareness of our Maritime heritage; supporting youth and activities encouraging them to consider careers in the navy or maritime enterprises; supporting those in such careers who by misfortune, health, or age, are no longer able to fully support themselves; and providing opportunities to foster camaraderie among those with an experience of service to Canada, and an affinity for the sea and nautical interests.

Those who choose the former identity will find the field for recruitment dwindles with every year, and is guaranteed to disappear entirely within the next 20 years. Those who choose the latter will find the more they expand their vision, the more recruits they will find.

1. **Offer value for your membership fee:** Annual Branch Fees range form a low of $5 (for serving or spouses) in Thunder Bay, to a high of $40.00 in Ottawa and Toronto. Membership categories such as those mentioned above can encourage recruitment, as well as the offering of free memberships for the first year, or part year (as does Toronto to anyone who signs up after June).

2. **Make full use of your National Website Branch Page:** It’s free, easy to use, can be used to receive membership payments, and brings your members into contact with the full range of services offered by the national body. Most importantly, free help is readily available to those taking on the responsibility of keeping your information updated. You do not need to be trained in web or computer software design to maintain your page.

3. **Meet regularly:** Preferably with food and drink. More importantly, with speakers from various fields in the community – you will become better informed, and they
and their acquaintances will learn more about all things naval. Some will even become members. Hold them at times the folks you’d like to recruit can get there.

4. **Use the Internet to communicate frequently:** Open a Facebook Page, take lots of pictures, and post them. Include humor and links to all things naval. Email information at least monthly to all members (you’ll be amazed how many do have an e-address) include humour – people will start to look for it and will contact you if they’re moving. Do a regular newsletter and email it (it’s almost free to do so).

5. **Develop as close a relationship with your Reserve Division as you can.** Whenever possible, meet in their facilities. Show up at all their special parades and events. ASK HOW YOU CAN HELP THEM – recruit, become better known in the community, etc... Offer scholarships or awards for outstanding performance and/or supportive behaviour. If possible, take out associate memberships in the wardroom and or messes, and use them to get to know the people, especially those nearing retirement. Always invite them to your special (and regular events).

6. **If you enjoy what your Branch does – tell everybody you meet.:** and invite them to come along and enjoy it with you. All of the research points to personal invitation and word-of-mouth as the most effective recruitment and marketing systems.

7. **Recruit directly from declining Veterans Associations in your local area:** especially if they’re considering closing (RCNA’s, NVA’s, RCL’s). Offer them hospitality as a place to continue to get together and indulge in nostalgia. Alternatively, actively support their fund-raising and special events (they may do it better than you do...)

**B. Recommendations directed to the Board of Directors & Executive.**

If it is to retain its national character beyond the centres of Ottawa, Esquimalt, and Halifax, NAC needs to focus as much of its attention on supporting activities in the inland urban areas as it does in the Naval Command Centres. The post-unification Navy seems to have lost sight of the critical importance of the Naval Reserves in educating Canadians on the importance of maintaining an effective Navy. As its founder Rear Adm Walter Hose observed, it would be “Reservists, who would help educate the public and create a sea-consciousness among Canadians. “ If the current RCN can’t or won’t see the vital importance of the Reserve Divisions, we become the only other agency in a position to alleviate “maritime blindness” on a continuing basis.

1. **Offer increased value for the membership fee:** By offering grants to Branches to conduct and promote events for public education in support of an effective navy, and/or our maritime heritage; by offering grants to develop local branch web pages and social media presence; by preparing more resources for outreach and recruitment of the quality of “Our Navy”.

2. **Planning for and training a successor to continue the distribution of the News Links** currently being provided by Jim Carruthers. It is our most regular and valued communication arriving regularly in our inboxes.
3. **Planning for and training a successor to continue the editing and distribution of Starshell.** And in particular, “pushing” it into member’s email inboxes, rather than simply making it available on the national Website. It provides both depth and history to augment the current affairs of the news Links.

4. **Planning for and training a successor to continue the editing of our National Web Site,** and to recruit and provide support to Branches who make use of their local page on the national site.

5. **Preparing a “Membership Benefits” brochure** template in digital form, to which local content can be added, including a “Narrative Budget” page with graphics, showing what is accomplished with each dollar of fees and donations.

6. **Encouraging all Branches to turn over the collecting of membership fees to the online process:** by maintaining and promoting that feature on the branch Web page, providing a monthly rebate of branch membership fees, and issuing an annual membership card.

7. **Using a standard form for on-line membership:** which includes a mandatory listing of all Branches (local fee stated) one or more of which must be checked off to complete the registration. (see attached sample)

8. **Initiating an annual reminder in December for renewal of membership** delivered in “push” form with attached on-line form to all member e-addresses.

9. **Developing a “Departure Kit”** promoting NAC membership to be delivered by Branches to their local Reserve Divisions and CF Bases as a gift to retiring members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wm. C. Thomas

September 27, 2017