

LEAD AND LINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA-VANCOUVER ISLAND

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HMCS Montreal off the eastern seaboard. Photo by Sgt Roxanne Clowe, Canadian Forces Combat Camera



NAC-VI 26 Jan Luncheon

*Lunch at the Fireside Grill at 1130 for 1215
4509 West Saanich Road, Royal Oak, Saanich.
Guests - spouses, friends, family are most
welcome*

Luncheon Speaker:

Terry Costain, "In the Footsteps of the Pilgrims", walking the El Camino. Terry, over the last three years, has hiked over 2000 kilometres in France and Spain on the famed trail of the Pilgrims. She has many stories to tell and pictures to share.

Cost will be \$25 per person.

*Please contact Bud Rocheleau bhrocheleau@shaw.ca or
250-386-3209 prior to noon on Thursday 22 Jan.
Please advise of any allergies or food sensitivities*

LEAD & LINE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



President's Column January 2015

New Years is often the time for people to look back and review the year just past – hence all the retrospectives on TV and in the paper. I however would rather look forward to the year to come!

I am hoping to see an increase in our membership following the change in our name and expansion of the membership criteria. It's off to a slow start, but it is a start – and it's up to all of us to bring in new people who have Canada's maritime interests at heart.

This year we will continue to diversify and expand our luncheon speakers program, bringing in a wide range of speakers hopefully of interest to all. Suggestions in this regard should be forwarded to Bill Conconi, likewise suggestions or proposals for other activities are most welcome! It would even more be helpful if such suggestions were accompanied by a volunteer offer!

Speaking of volunteers, we often see problem finding leaders in not for profit organizations, and once in a position it is sometimes difficult to move out and move on. That's why most NFP organizations have term limits. We do not. You may remember that Bud served as our Secretary for well over 20 years. I, however, have no intention of following his example, no matter how laudable it is!

I will complete my term as an NAC National Director at the 2015 national AGM in Calgary this year, and thus

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NOAVI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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LEAD & LINE-

Halifax frigates complete modernization program



HMCS Halifax, Fredericton, Calgary and Winnipeg have completed modernization and life extension projects as part of a \$4.3 billion plan to upgrade the entire fleet. As is usually the case with naval projects, the program is on budget and scheduled to meet its completion date for the entire fleet in 2018.

HMCS Fredericton recently completed sea trials with successful testing of a refurbished radar system, upgraded communications and a new generation of missile.

Fredericton deployed on Tuesday (dec 30) to meet up with *HMCS Toronto* in Spain and to replace her on patrol in the Mediterranean as part of NATO's response to the tensions in the Ukraine.

Toronto has been deployed for 6 months and *Fredericton* is expected to be away for a similar amount of time.

Halifax-class Modernization/Frigate Life Extension

- ☒ A new Combat Management System;
- ☒ New radar suite;
- ☒ IFF Mode S/5 – Interrogator Friend or Foe Mode S/5;
- ☒ Internal communications system upgrade;
- ☒ Harpoon Missile system upgrade (surface to surface); and
- ☒ Electronic warfare system upgrade;

Other HCM projects

- ☒ Long-range infrared search and track system (SIRIUS);
- ☒ Modification to the BOFORS 57mm Naval Gun;
- ☒ Replacement of the Shield II Missile Decoy Countermeasures System;
- ☒ Replacement of the Integrated Machinery Control System; and
- ☒ Replacement of the Navigation Radars.

LEAD & LINE

President's Column

Continued from page 1

this year would be an appropriate time also for me to step down as President of NAC-VI. By the time our June AGM rolls around I will have been the President of NAC-VI for 5 years – and that is long enough. Every organization's leadership needs regular infusions of new people if it is to remain vibrant and move ahead. So this is my six-month Notice!

Yours aye

Nike

Support our cadets

The Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Education Foundation (RCSCEF) supports Sea Cadets entering post-secondary education. In 2015 RCSCEF will award 35 scholarships ranging from \$1000 to \$5000. Our partner, the Royal Canadian Naval Benevolence Fund, will award another 29 scholarships. RCSCEF relies mostly on individual donors. Post-secondary education helps Sea Cadets who do not choose a military career realize their potential as tomorrow's leaders. Learn more about us at <http://www.canadianseacadetscholarships.ca/>. Please consider donating through the website or through United Way using Business Number 82761 4413 RR 0001.

HMCS Chicoutimi completes sea trials and is ready for duty

HMCS Chicoutimi was handed over to the RCN in December after completing sea trials and a four-year long Docking Work Period.

This boat has not been to sea since a disastrous fire in 2004 which killed one sailor and injured eight.

HMCS Corner Brook which struck bottom in Nootka Sound is scheduled for her own extended docking period next year

Naval trials are expected to last seven to eight weeks and will test the *Victoria*-class submarine's crew, engineering systems and capabilities, to ensure that all are performing up to par. The diesel boats are very quiet and comparatively inexpensive vessels to operate.

Chicoutimi is expected to return to sea shortly and will make a formidable "enemy" because of the aforementioned quietness.

When this happens, Canada will have three submarines operating at sea, with the fourth in deep maintenance.

For 100 years, submarines – and submariners – have been our navy's special forces. Those who operate these superb platforms are unique in maritime service.

It's not called "Perishers" for nothing. Ed





REMEMBERING IN NZ

Ever wonder what Remembrance Day looks like Down Under?

Well first of all it is not called Remembrance Day - it is Armistice Day - and our intrepid reporter Dave Freeman was there in November and sent us this report Ed

While travelling around New Zealand November last, Marion and I found ourselves in the city of Napier on the east coast of the North Island on Monday 10 November. Once settled into our hotel, I walked to the local equivalent to our Legion, the Napier branch of the Returned and Services Association (RSA). There I was told that the service next day would take place in the municipality of Taradale, about a 20 minute drive to the north-west.

We arrived the next day in time to join several hundred folk, including all the children from the nearby elementary school, veterans, family members and cadets. The ceremony was similar to ours but different enough to merit a description.

In New Zealand, 11 November is called Armistice Day and is neither a national nor local holiday. The day's purpose is simply to recall the end of the First World War and those who fell. Other conflicts are remembered on ANZAC Day, 25 April.

At 1035 the service started with the signing of *God Save The Queen*. No band was present. The local air cadets then marched on eight sentries for the cenotaph, which is a clock tower located at one end of a grass triangle at the junction of two roads.

Miss Sylvia Frame, the Taradale RSA presi-



dent, gave an introduction to the service. This was followed by a prayer from the RSA Padre, who spoke both in Maori and English.

The local MP followed with a fine historical speech on the significance of this day. Since his speech finished at 1055, we then had a bit of a stand-easy.

At 1100, a distant siren sounded to mark the beginning of one minute of silence. Traffic did not stop.

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ARMISTICE DOWN UNDER



After the siren sounded a second time to mark the end of the minute silence, two high school students – one boy and one girl - took turns reading aloud the names of 61 local lads who died during The First World War.

After a brief historical introduction, the High School Principal gave an inspired reading of *In Flanders Fields*, one of the best readings I have ever heard.

Next, the choir from the Taradale RSA sang the hymn *Let There Be Peace On Earth*.

A trumpet player then sounded the Last Post. This was immediately followed by a reading of *The Ode for the Fallen* or the *Act of Remembrance* as we know it by here, by the Napier RSA president. Then we heard Reveille.

Two official wreaths were laid by the two presidents. Everyone present sang The National Anthem, first in Maori and then in English.

The finale consisted of a single piper in full Highland rig. He played a long lament. This was not *The Flowers of the Forest* played here but another tune I did not recognize.

The RSA President invited the audience to place their poppies on the cenotaph and most complied. The New Zealand poppy - shown here - is somewhat different from ours and is given away on Armistice Day in lieu of being sold.

The Taradale RSA president issued a general invitation to the audience to repair to the RSA building some four blocks to the west for drinks and food. We accepted. There was lots of very good food: hot pies, sandwiches, cookies, pie and other goodies, and cold drinks. Needless to say, the bar was open.

The first person I met was a Second World War navy vet whose son lives near Seattle. Brian had

both the Atlantic and the Pacific star. His close friend was a former Royal Marine.

I also met a naval padre who had originally served his first five years as a rating. This chap possessed a Canadian Methodist hymn book, given to him several years back by one of our naval Padres during a visit of four of HMC Ships to Sydney, Australia. Before I got a chance to discuss his History Sheet, his wife took him off to another function.

Most of the other veterans were former army personnel, soldiers who had fought in Korea and Viet Nam.

We met the President herself, Sylvia Frame, a former Wren. She later qualified as a nurse and served in both the Army and Air Force. For her services with the RSA and several other volunteer organizations, she was recently awarded the Queen's Service Medal, a New Zealand decoration the equivalent of our Order of Canada.

Both of us were made very welcome here and towards the end, we were each presented with a pin. The 100th Anniversary of the RSA is next year and the 2,000 members got together and designed a pin consisting of a poppy and their second national symbol – after the Kiwi – of a silver fern.

Sylvia and Marion hit it off and after more wine and many a story, we went out to a former Catholic Mission, now a winery, for an excellent lunch. At The Mission, our waitress turned out to be a former New Zealand sea cadet who had spent a month in our area in 2010 for the 100th anniversary of the RCN. The world is certainly getting smaller.

We got back to our hotel about 1700, after a very satisfactory and fulfilling day.

Dave Freeman

OUT AND ABOUT

ANZAC frigates to do refit in Victoria



NZ frigate HMNZS Te Kaha approaches HMAS SIRIUS to conduct a Replenishment at Sea. (Photo: Australia DoD)

BY Dave Freeman

While in NZ last month, I learned that the two RNZN Anzac class frigates will be receiving their half life refit in Victoria, taking several months each. The New Zealand Navy will be setting up a Detachment in Esquimalt to oversee the project.

Ten ANZAC class frigates were built, eight for Australia and two for New Zealand and they are nearing their 20 year mark.

The two frigates for New Zealand, HMNZS Te Kaha (F77) and Te Mana (F111), were commissioned in July 1997 and December 1999.

The first frigate will arrive as soon as the last west coast CPF to be upgraded (*HMCS Regina*) exits the graving dock, date not certain but possibly 2015.

HMCS Ojibwa wins Travel Innovator of the Year Award

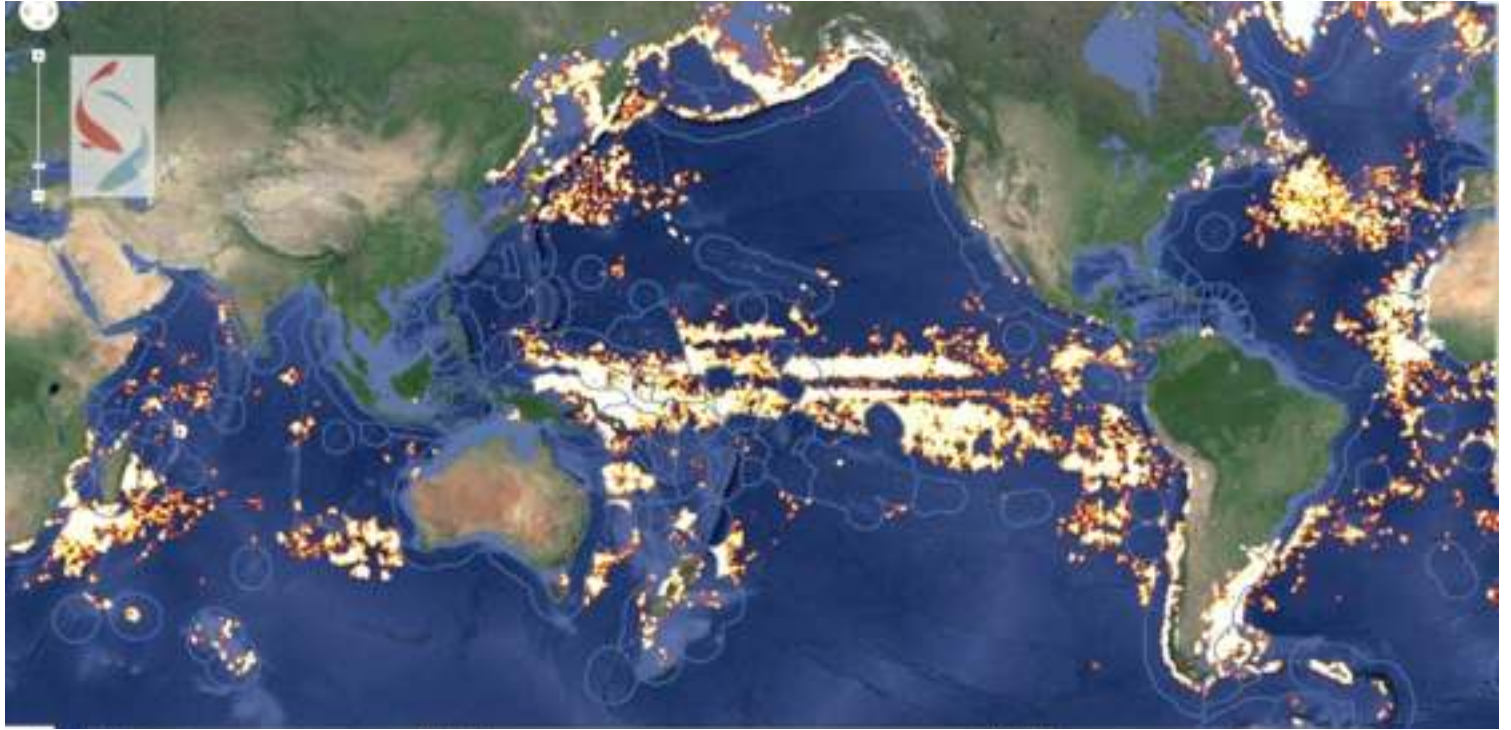
The Canadian Tourism Awards, presented by Deloitte, HLT Advisory Inc., and The Toronto Star, recognizes those people, places, organizations and events that have gone above and beyond to offer a superior tourism experience to travelers in Canada. The awards are ex-

tremely competitive and feature nominees from all Canadian provinces and territories. The award finalists and recipients are selected by a jury of tourism industry professionals. HMCS OJIBWA, Canada's first

Oberon Class submarine, opened for tours in Port Burwell on June 29, 2013. Since that time, almost 50,000 people have taken guided tours of the Cold War submarine.



LEAD & LINE



Above is a map of fishing activity in 2012-2013 (yellow and orange patches). Users can zoom in and identify particular ships (of the 25,000 tracked) and see if they have crossed into country's exclusive economic zones (light blue boundary lines).

Mapping Illegal Fishing from Space

Two environmental groups have built the first global surveillance system that can track large fishing vessels anywhere in the world.

Global Fishing Watch uses Google mapping software to show the routes taken by 25,000 large commercial fishers in 2012 and 2013. The plan is to develop the project to produce real-time data to stop fishing in illegal areas, particularly marine protected areas.

The group has four satellites which pick up radio transmission which large vessels send out regularly. Next step is to open it up to the public and plug into a live stream of satellite data so that ship tracks are current to within a few days.

Global Fishing Watch is currently tracking vessels which have already been black-listed for fishing illegally.

US Navy tests Seaborne Lasers

The navy just completed a test of their new ship-based Laser Weapon system in the Persian Gulf. The 30 kilowatt system mounted on the *USS Ponce* amphibious transport ship is specifically designed to take out enemy drones or swarms of small arms vessels. The cost - a dollar a shot. The hope is to equip Navy ships with combat-ready lasers by 2016.

There is also a land based system designed to be put on Humvees. Ed



HERE THERE BE MONSTERS....



Mysteries of the Sea

One of the great gifts of the Internet is a wide and fascinating introduction to the miracles of the Seas. I have been particularly entranced by a seemingly endless series of articles on sea creatures I have never heard of, and it seemed to be me that your education as men and women of the Sea would be remiss if I didn't pass some of this on.

So we will start out with the Sarcastic Fringehead which although it is not my favourite little miracle of the sea, does have the best fish name ever. Anywhere. Period. Ed

The **Sarcastic fringehead**, *Neoclinus blanchardi*, is a small but ferocious fish which has a



large mouth and aggressive territorial behavior, for which it has been given its common name. When two fringeheads have a territorial battle, they wrestle by pressing their distended mouths against each other, as if they were kissing. This allows them to determine which is the larger fish, which establishes dominance.

They can be up to 30 centimetres (12 in) long, elongate and slender, and are mostly scaleless with great pectoral fins and



reduced pelvic fins. They tend to hide inside shells or crevices. After the female spawns under a rock or in clam burrows the male guards the eggs.

They are found in the Pacific, off the coast of North America, from San Francisco, California to to central Baja.

Their depth range is from 3 to 73 metres (9.8 to 239.5 ft).

Facts courtesy Wikipedia

LEAD & LINE

Largest Aussie ship ever

THE RAN's largest ship HMAS *Canberra* (L-02) entered the RAN fleet on 28 Nov in Sydney. *Canberra* and sister ship HMAS *Adelaide* are part of a \$2.5 billion (USD) shipbuilding program.

The ship's design is based on a Spanish amphibious assault ship *Juan Carlo I* and built and designed by Spanish shipbuilder Navantia and BAE Systems Australia.

The *Canberra* class vessels are 757.3 ft long with a max beam of 105 ft, and draught of 23.2 ft.

At full load, *Canberra* will displace 27,500 tonnes. Propulsion is provided by two Siemens 11-megawatt (15,000 hp) azimuth thrusters, driving two 15 ft propellers. The electricity is provided by a Combined diesel and gas system.

Maximum speed is over 20 knots, with a maximum sustainable full-load speed of 19 knots, and an economical cruising speed of 15 knots. Economical range is 9,000 nautical miles.

For self-defence, the LHDs will be fitted with four Rafael Typhoon 25 mm remote weapons systems (one in each corner of the flight deck), six 12.7 mm machine guns,

an AN/SLQ-25

Nixie towed torpedo decoy, and a Nulka missile decoy.

Defence against aircraft and larger targets

is to be provided by escort vessels and air support from the RAAF. The ships' companies will consist of 358 personnel; 293 RAN, 62 Australian Army, and 3 RAAF.



Royal Australian Navy MH60R 'Romeo' Seahawk, flies past HMAS *Canberra*. RAN Photo

The LHDs will transport 1,046 soldiers. Two vehicle decks (one for light vehicles, the other for heavy vehicles and tanks) have areas of 20,200 sq ft and 15,200 sq ft respectively, and can accommodate up to 110 vehicles. The well deck will carry up to four LHD Landing Craft (LLC), which can be launched in Sea State 4. The flight deck can operate six MRH-90-size helicopters or four Chinook-size helicopters simultaneously, in Sea State 5. A mix of MRH-90 transport helicopters and up to eight S-70B Seahawk helicopters will be carried and the light vehicle deck can fit another ten. The ski-jump ramp of *Juan Carlos I* has been retained.



NOAVI LEAD AND LINE

Two of three NAC Gold Awards earned locally

The Gold Award recognizes exceptional and outstanding service to NAC and to Canada. This service must be of a nationally-recognized nature that brings credit to NAC as a whole. Usually, but not always, the recipient will have already received the silver and the bronze awards



Three happy gold recipients – Mike Morres, Derek Greer and Ed Williams (from Newfoundland and Pres of NAC-NL and a member of the NAC Board.)

Service Officer's report

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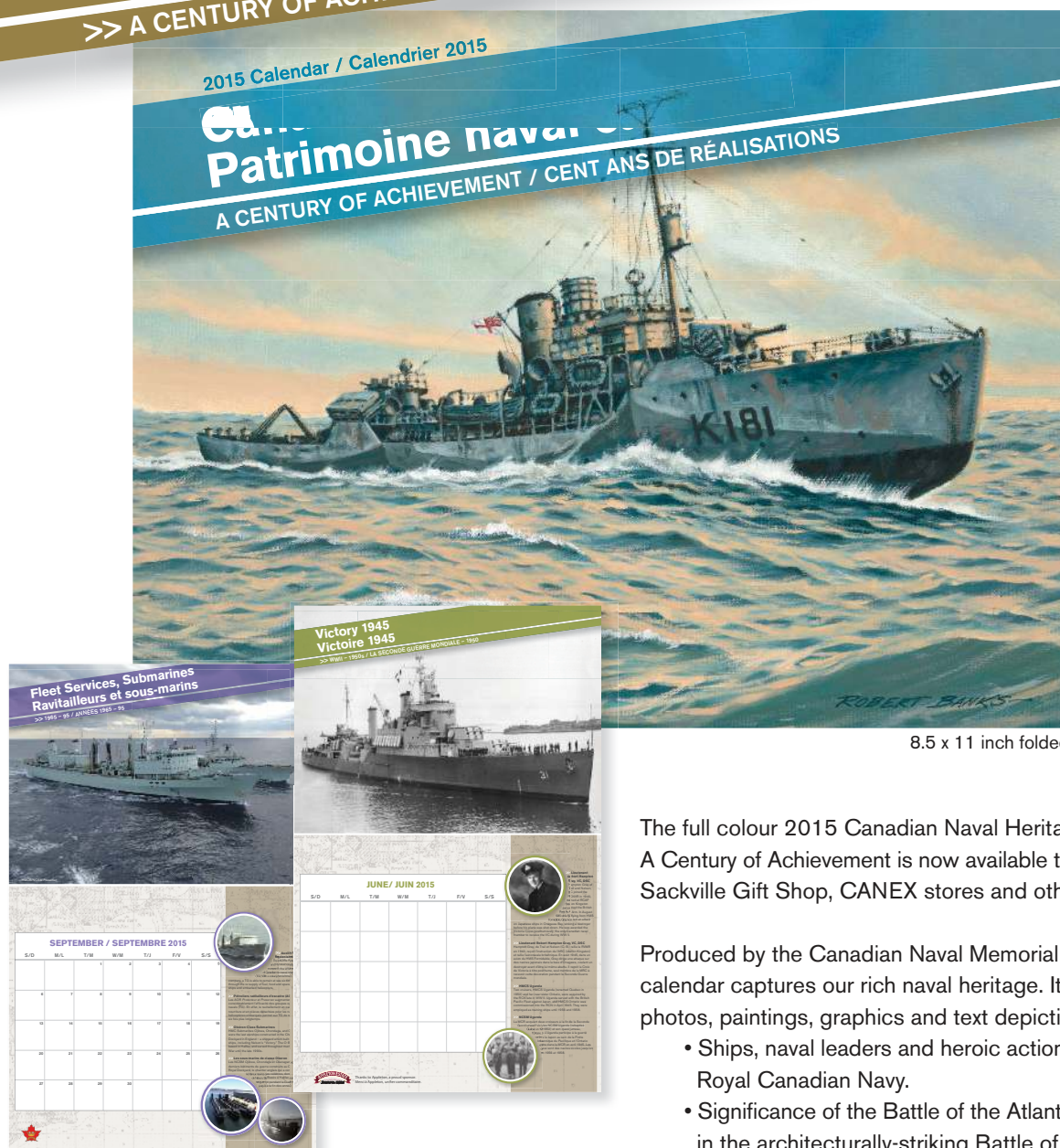
In Memoriam

19 Dec Gerry Underhill

An overhaul of the Service Officer's Report and Visitation Committee is underway. We would like to welcome Stan Brygadyr to our committee. If you would like to join us, phone Irvine Hare 250-853-5493 or Peter or Elizabeth Campbell at 250-478-7351

2015 Canadian Naval Heritage Calendar

>> A CENTURY OF ACHIEVEMENT



8.5 x 11 inch folded

The full colour 2015 Canadian Naval Heritage Calendar A Century of Achievement is now available through HMCS Sackville Gift Shop, CANEX stores and other outlets.

Produced by the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust, the calendar captures our rich naval heritage. It includes photos, paintings, graphics and text depicting

- Ships, naval leaders and heroic actions of the Royal Canadian Navy.
- Significance of the Battle of the Atlantic as embodied in the architecturally-striking Battle of the Atlantic Place to be developed on the Halifax waterfront.

The calendars have arrived – and are available for sale from Mike Morres at this week 250-592-8897 or email mfmorres@shaw.ca to arrange pick-up or to reserve or from Larry Dawe Larrydawe2@gmail.com

Cost is \$17.00 with all proceeds going to the CNMT (Sackville). There is no shipping charge nor tax.

CANADA'S
NAVAL MEMORIAL
HMCS SACKVILLE
MÉMORIAL NAVAL
CANADIEN