

March 2018 • Volume 33, Issue 2



DND photo

HMCS Whitehorse departs Esquimalt, B.C., for Operation Caribbe. Whitehorse and HMCS Edmonton will be patrolling the Eastern Pacific Ocean with U.S. Coast Guard law enforcement detachments on board. See page 7 for the whole story.

INSIDE

President's Message	2	In Brief.....	7
Veterans Corner.....	4	Navy working to recruit women	8
Federal government funds Sackville repairs.....	5	RCN hosts "Ideas hack-a-thon"	10
NRU Asterix receives ship's badge.....	6	New employment tool for veterans	12

CHARITABLE PROJECTS A SPRING PRIORITY

Welcome to spring, a time of renewal and optimism as we chart our course forward.

Last week we had an excellent luncheon and enjoyed a clear and informed briefing from Commander Michelle Tessier on construction progress and training underway with the AOPS program.

At our last board meeting, we agreed to develop a NAC-VI support program for Broadmead Lodge. We already provide support through our national Endowment Fund and by acting as a local sponsor (in a small way) for the Charity Golf Tournament. In addition to this, we are looking to fund needed improvements to resident rooms at the Lodge as a part of the "Make Room Campaign". This costs \$1,600 per room and there is currently a matching grant opportunity. If we raise enough for one room, we effectively do two, two become four, etc. Donations can be made online, by cheque, or in cash at our luncheons where our Treasurer

will be pleased to accept your support. Charitable receipts are given as a part of your annual contributions. Please make sure cheques are identified as being for the project and if you leave cash, have it in an envelope with your name on it so we can properly credit you. We will keep you posted on how we are doing as the spring unfolds. The goal is to have all funds in place for the May 10th Charity Golf Tournament.

NAC-VI Director David Cooper is well underway in his planning for a special dinner to be held—mess dinner style—on Oct. 20, 2018, Niobe Day. It will be held at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club with the theme being *HMCS Rainbow*, the light Cruiser, circa 1910. Mark your calendars as it is sure to be a great evening.

National Director, Ian Parker, our Director Naval Affairs, has launched our drive to develop resources in our area. To this end, he is looking to retain the services of a Naval



Bill Conconi

Affairs Coordinator as well as a Research Coordinator. Check out "Naval Affairs" on our website for details and up-to-date information on this. Look for more on this in the next issue when these coordinators will be in place and the program underway.

Our membership drive is ongoing. Thank you to all who have renewed. In addition to the services and information you receive, membership also provides an ideal opportunity to support our navy. Our local branch and national each play different roles and you are a member of both. Locally, we focus on comradeship, local

education opportunities and more social aspects of being a member, while nationally we focus on education about, and support for, our navy. The national NAC News, which is pulled together by Rod Hughes—who recently took over for the excellent job done by past National President Jim Carruthers—is a valued part of that process. NAC is well positioned to support our navy and we look forward to that challenge.

Finally, for now, our next Luncheon speaker will be Joe O'Rourke, Vice-President and General Manager of Seaspan, who will be reporting on their program here on the West Coast and their progress on the National Shipbuilding Strategy. It is our hope to follow this later with a tour of their operations, here and in Vancouver. The luncheon is scheduled for March 22 at Royal Victoria Yacht Club (details below). I look forward to seeing you there.

*Yours Aye,
Bill*



UPCOMING LUNCHEONS

March 22 - \$30

Joe O'Rourke, Vice President and General Manager Seaspan, will present on the Naval Shipbuilding Strategy here on the West Coast.

April 26 - \$30

Captain (retired) Alex Reuben, Executive Director, Association of British Columbia Marine Industries (ABCMI).

All luncheons are at the **Royal Victoria Yacht Club, 3475 Ripon Road (Cadboro Bay)**

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is served at 12:15 p.m. Confirm your attendance and convey any dietary concerns to Diana Dewar, 250-655-6788 or treasurervina@gmail.com.



SPECIAL VISITOR

NAC VI's February luncheon had a special guest: Commander Michelle Tessier, Commanding Officer designate for *HMCS Margaret Brooke*, the second AOPS due to roll out this year. She leaves this summer for Halifax to continue her arctic training and to help with the completion of the vessel.

To her right is Rear Admiral (retired) Nigel Greenwood, who is currently working on his Ice Navigation credentials and has spent the last few summers in the arctic as well. On the left is Commander (retired) Rod Hughes, Vice-President NAC-VI.

NAC-VI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Bill Conconi	billconconi@me.com	250-652-1634
Past President	Michael Morres	mfmorres@shaw.ca	250-592-8897
Vice President	Rod Hughes	rhughes@shaw.ca	250-472-8905
Secretary	Mike Brossard	mbrossard1@shaw.ca	250-544-1425
Treasurer	Peter Bey	peternbey@yahoo.ca	250-652-2225
Membership Services	Bill Macdonald	becalmed1@shaw.ca	250-661-3731
Director at Large	Diana Dewar	dianad.email@gmail.com	
Director at Large	David Cooper	drecooper@shaw.ca	250-472-8905
Director at Large	Patrick Hunt	patrick@patrickhunt.ca	
Director at Large	Steve White	solsken@shaw.ca	250-652-8215

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

Editor	Carmel Ecker	leadandlineeditor@gmail.com	250-661-1269
Photography	John Webber	pacifcsafety@shaw.ca	250-920-4159
Historian	Stan Parker	esparker@shaw.ca	250-734-3360
Webmaster	Eric Griffiths	eric.griffiths2012@gmail.com	250-537-0608

Naval Association of Canada – Vancouver Island (NAC-VI) mailing address: P.O. Box 5221, Victoria, BC, Canada V8R 6N4

POSITIVE CHANGE: PENSION FOR LIFE FOR VETERANS

By Rod Hughes

A sea change has happened with VAC pensions and hardly anyone seems to have noticed!

On Dec. 20, 2017, the Federal Government announced that VAC pensions would go back to the way they were for so many years with the reintroduction of a monthly pension. A key element of the reintroduction is the retroactive offer for those veterans who were given a payout under the old plan. This is very good news.

Additionally, the term “re-introduction” is an oversimplification of the changes the government has enacted. So it's worthwhile for both older and more recent veterans to take a look at what the changes mean as well as what the new elements of the pension plan cover.

Please note that many of our ex-service members are “grandfathered” to even earlier programs and these changes don't apply to them.

That said, the Pension for Life has consolidated six benefits by introducing the Income Replacement Benefit, Pain & Suffering Compensation, and Additional Pain & Suffering Compensation. The VAC website explains the changes: www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/services/pension-for-life

In order to better get the Pension for Life word out to CAF veterans, Minister of Veterans Affairs, Seamus O'Regan, undertook a cross-country trip in January to explain the changes and to address any issues veterans may have. The local VAC office invited Bill Conconi and me, along with representatives of other stakeholder organizations, to attend the round table discussion held at the VAC office in Victoria. The Minister explained that the late year announcement happened in order to meet a deadline from a federal election promise the Liberal party made.

I was impressed by the

Minister's personable, frank, and knowledgeable explanation of the changes...doubly so, given that he has no military service and is relatively new to the Veterans portfolio.

What I hadn't realized was that accompanying him on his travels was his Deputy Minister (DM), General (retired) Walter Natynczyk. What a bonus his involvement is! It was evident that the DM hasn't lost any of his positive leadership style or zeal for doing the right thing, which he exhibited while he was in uniform.

It was clear during the discussion that the General had been intimately involved in the veterans consultation process that took place before the policy development. His steady hand was also on the formulation and details of the new policies.

Time will tell, but there seems to have been a positive change in the institutional attitude of VAC. I was heart-



Rod Hughes

ened by both the Minister's and Deputy Minister's genuine commitment to getting support for veterans back onto an even keel.

I know there are issues when implementing new policies and that there are veterans who the policies may not support properly. If you are one of those people, I encourage you to contact local VAC staff to work through the issue.

The new policies seem to be a step in the right direction. BZ to the Minister and VAC staff for listening.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

- Renew quickly and easily online at www.nac-vi.ca. Go to “Membership” and select “Membership Sign Up and Renewals” and complete the form. The online payment process is simple and secure.
- Mail in a cheque. Printable membership forms are available on the website under “Membership”.

Note that the opportunity to donate online to one of the groups we support is not completed as part of the online renewal form. Instead, under “Membership”, click on “Donate” and follow the prompts.

If you have questions, call Membership Director, Bill Macdonald, at 250-661-3731.

**Did you serve in the
Canadian Armed Forces or the
Royal Canadian Mounted Police?**

**Are you also part of the
LGBTQ2 community?**

**Do you have a service-related injury
and previously did not apply for or were
unaware of benefits for which you may
have been entitled?**

**Please contact VAC toll-free at
1-800-487-7797 for more information.**



FUNDING FOR REPAIRS TO HMCS SACKVILLE

By Ryan Melanson

Canada's last Flower-class corvette will receive extensive repairs this summer with the federal government announcing a contribution of up to \$3.5 million to the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust (CNMT) and *HMCS Sackville*.

Work on the ship will mainly be completed at Fleet Maintenance Facility Cape Scott, and the RCN will be responsible for managing the contribution agreement to cover the repair costs including labour, materials and subcontracting.

Brison spoke about the importance of maintaining the ship, which served during the Battle of the Atlantic and famously engaged three German U-boats in a 24-hour period during the summer of 1942.

Sackville was designated Canada's Naval Memorial in 1985, and is berthed next to the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic during summer months, where it hosts tours and supports different naval and community functions.

"Being able to board a ship that actually served in these battles, and now exists as a living memorial and treasured museum, is very valuable. People walk along

her decks, hold artifacts in their hands, and learn about an important chapter in Canadian history," said Brison, who was joined at the jetty by Dartmouth Cole Harbour MP Darren Fisher; members of the CNMT; RAdm Craig Baines, Commander MARLANT and JTFA; and Capt(N) Stéphane Lafond, CO of FMF Cape Scott.

"But as a vessel commissioned in 1941, and one that served through fierce battles, she is weathered and she needs a lot of repair," he said, while crediting the work of the CNMT since 1983, along with the navy, in keeping the ship maintained and open for visitors up until this point.

"*HMCS Sackville* gives veterans, their families, and the rest of us a place to pay tribute to those who fought for the freedoms we enjoy today. This an investment we are proud to make," he said.

Sackville is currently at its winter berth near Jetty NC at the dockyard. Tours and visits to the ship will now be discontinued while assessments begin ahead of the repair work.

Article courtesy of *Trident Newspaper*

PACIFIC FLEET CLUB SET TO RELOCATE

The Pacific Fleet Club, home to the Junior Ranks Mess, will be closing its doors later this year due to structural concerns.

The iconic seaside building has served as the primary social hub and gathering spot for non-commissioned sailors, soldiers and aviators for the past 40 years.

The decision to close the facility was based on an engineering report that revealed flaws in beams that support the ocean-side portion of the building. It's estimated repairs would cost upwards of \$8.5 million.

The decision to move the club was announced in a base-wide email by Base Commander, Captain (Navy) Jason Boyd, just ahead of the holiday break.

Naden Building 40 will become the temporary home of the Pacific Fleet Club late this year while options for a permanent replacement home are considered.

President of the Mess Committee, Master Seaman Daniel Clarke says they are no longer booking large events such as weddings and other private ceremonies due to uncertainty over the timeline of the move.

Naden Building 40, located behind the CFB Esquimalt Naval and Military Museum, currently serves as headquarters for three units including Joint Personnel Support Unit. MS Clarke says the temporary home will be slightly smaller and more intimate than its predecessor.

The building will be re-worked to include a patio area, media room and lower bar. Several items from the Lyall St. location, such as the Fleet Club's quartz-top bar and furnishings, artwork and historical artifacts will be moved to the location.



ASTERIX WON'T ENTER THREAT ENVIRONMENTS

With weapons and other sensitive equipment now being installed on *NRU Asterix*, the navy is nearly ready to put the vessel into use, but there will be limitations on what the ship can do, says Commodore Craig Skjerpen, Commander of Canada's Atlantic Fleet.

Because the ship isn't a true military vessel, he says, it won't be allowed to operate in dangerous environments. Canada will continue to rely on its allies in those situations until two new Protecteur class military resupply vessels are built, with a projected delivery date of 2022.

Davie Shipbuilding, which completed the ship's conversion from a container ship late last year, took issue with the navy's claim, saying it was the navy's choice of guns for the vessel that prevents it from being capable in a threat situation.

Davie says the ship has been outfitted with navigation and other systems that will be installed on future vessels and the company has insurance coverage for Asterix to operate in high risk environments.

It's expected *Asterix* will be ready later this month and undergo some final sea trials before sailing to the Pacific for a deployment of up to six months.

ASTERIX RECEIVES UNIT PATCH

By PO1 Stephan Handerek, Naval Replenishment Unit ASTERIX

In late July, the crew of NRU Asterix was encouraged to create an original piece of art that would become the unit patch for Canada's newest asset. NRU Asterix's CO, LCdr Jason Walsh, received multiple submissions from the crew, each accompanied with an explanation for their significance.

Of the designs submitted, one stood out amongst all others, not only for its detailed artwork, but for the thought that went into how the design related to the operational capability Asterix will afford the RCN and CAF.

Asterix is a converted commercial container ship owned and operated by Federal Fleet Services. It will serve as an interim AOR for the Royal Canadian Navy. Canadian Armed Forces Mission Specialist (CAF MS) will embark Asterix, which may be tasked to fulfil multiple roles on behalf of the Government of Canada, from replenishments at sea to humanitarian assistance.

On Nov. 16, VAdm Ron Lloyd, Commander RCN, officially approved the design submitted by LS Patey, LS Williams and AB Williams as the unit patch for the NRU. The three boatswains worked on the concept together.

The patch depicts an ancient Germanic warrior with two swords and a horn on a background of blue and white waves. The two swords represent the ability to support



naval operations during peacetime and wartime sailing. The sheathed sword specifically represents the ship's ability to support in times of crisis and the unsheathed sword represents the fact that Asterix can support Canada and its allies while deployed. The horn symbolizes the call for support that Asterix will answer when supporting all three elements of the CAF while the gold shield represents a symbol of light in the darkness, and the protection given to Canadians and its allies by Asterix's mixed crew of CAF MS and civilian staff.

The unit patch will be worn by all CAF MS posted to NRU Asterix in place of a traditional ship's crest. As NRU Asterix is not a commissioned navy ship, the unit patch does not have the distinctive shape associated with commissioned ships' crests.

Article courtesy of the Trident Newspaper



The reconfigured Asterix conducts RAS trials off Nova Scotia.

DEPARTURE MARKS 12TH YEAR OF OP CARIBBE

By Sub-Lieutenant M.X. Déry

Year 12 of Operation CARIBBE is set to begin with *Her Majesty's Canadian Ships Edmonton* and *Whitehorse* leading the charge. The two ships left their home port of Esquimalt, B.C., in mid February.

Last year, the Canadian Armed Forces contributed to the United States Coast Guard's (USCG) seizing or disrupting approximately 11.5 metric tonnes of illicit drugs.

The Commanding Officer of *Edmonton*, Lieutenant-Commander Brian Henwood, is looking forward to heading south to conduct interdiction operations.

"This is a great opportunity to get over the horizon and to effect things down range," he says.

LCdr Collin Forsberg, Commanding Officer of *Whitehorse*, agrees with him, saying the operation has a real impact on the people back home.

"It is very rewarding working with the USCG. This is a mission that makes life better for Canadians."

LCdr Forsberg has deployed twice before on this operation.

Recently, Rear-Admiral Art McDonald, Commander, Maritime Forces Pacific, spoke to media in San Diego, Calif., during the offload of cocaine seized in the last two months of operations in 2017.

"Just as today's offload represents a



Photo by MARPAC Imaging Services

The Executive Officer on board HMCS *Edmonton* salutes as the ship exits the harbour to participate in Operation Caribbe.

part of the record almost 500,000 pounds that was interdicted in 2017, worth about \$6.6 billion U.S., a part of today's offload is also a direct involvement of Canadian participation."

At the end of a ship's deployment, the USCG tallies up the amount of drugs seized or disrupted by each ship and awards them with crossed out snowflakes to add to their bridge wings. The snowflakes serve to recognize hard work and instill a sense of pride in the ship's company.

With a fresh paint job, *Whitehorse* departs home port with a bare bridge wing, while *Edmonton* proudly wears seven snowflakes earned on previous deployments.

The objectives of the upcoming mission are clear and there seems to be no hint of rivalry between the commanding officers.

"We are down there to support each other," says LCdr Henwood. "One ship's success is a success for the team."

Article courtesy of Lookout Newspaper

TWEETS WORTH SHARING

Western Approaches
@WestApproaches

Quit your whining about the #KFCCrisis - during the war, adults tried to convince kids that a carrot on a stick was just like a lolly ice.

Don't get us started on these two suspicious characters either....



NAVY TERMINOLOGY

A'COCK BILL

1. Out of alignment or awry.
2. May also refer to the anchor cleared of the hawse, up and down and ready for letting go.

CANYON

NATO codeword meaning to use electronic jamming on radar frequency indicated, or in accordance with previous orders.

From "Jackspeak of the Royal Canadian Navy" by Mark Nelson. Available in print and Kindle formats on Amazon.ca. New edition available October 2018.



Photo by Peter Mallett, Lookout Newspaper
Deborah Morrow makes a \$5,000 donation to Cockrell House, represented by Chairman Angus Stanfield.

TRIPLE DONATION TO COCKRELL HOUSE

Cockrell House, which provides transitional housing to homeless and at-risk veterans, has received a total of \$15,000 from three donors.

Deborah Morrow, Verity Health Resources Chief Executive Officer, donated her Canada's Volunteer Award cash prize to the charity, which was followed by matching donations from the West Shore Poppy Fund of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 91 and the Greater Victoria Afghanistan Memorial Project.

Morrow received her award in Ottawa Dec. 5 on UNESCO's International Day of the Volunteer for her 35 years championing the cause of youth and homeless veterans.

"This money will be put into use immediately to fund our program and assist veterans who need our help now," said Angus Stanfield, Cockrell House Chairman.

The 11-bed multiplex on Sooke Road has provided a place to live, food, counselling, social services and transportation to over 70 residents since it opened its doors in 2009.

For information about how to support Cockrell House with cash donations or non-perishable items contact Angus Stanfield at angusstanfield@shaw.ca.

HAIDA TO BE NAMED RCN FLAGSHIP

Minister of National Defence Harjit Sajjan announced in January that *HMCS Haida* will be named Flagship of the Royal Canadian Navy in 2018.

The announcement was in response to a petition started by Project Naval Distinction Founder and Executive Director, Patrick White.

"Recognition of *HMCS Haida*—the 'fightingest' ship in Canadian history—as the Royal Canadian Navy Flagship has been a prime objective of Project Naval Distinction and is a symbolic way of honouring her incredible story," White said.

Haida was paid off in 1963 and is currently a museum ship and National Historic Site alongside Hamilton, ON.

Project Naval Distinction is now petitioning for the Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy to be named the Honorary Captain of *Haida*. The organization would also like to have a ceremony during Veterans' Week in November.

Project Naval Distinction has also submitted two designs for circulation currency coins, which they hope will be produced in time for the Flagship ceremony.



Photo By Balcer~commonswiki - Own work, CC BY 2.5, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1425622>

ATHABASKAN DISPOSAL CONTRACT AWARDED

Procurement Canada has awarded Marine Recycling Corp. a \$5.7-million contract to dispose of *HMCS Athabaskan*.

The Ontario company will remove all hazardous waste and recycle the ship's remains at its Sydport Industrial Park facility.

It's expected the project will be complete by July 2019.

The company also has a \$12.6-million federal tender to dismantle the auxiliary oiler replacement ship *HMCS Preserver* and former research vessel CFAV *Quest*.

Marine Recycling Corp. was the first ISO-certified company doing this sort of work and is the oldest ship recycler in the world.

HMCS Athabaskan is currently docked at CFB Halifax, and is the last of



the four Iroquois-class destroyers.

The Iroquois-class will be replaced by up to 15 Canadian surface combatants. The delivery of the first vessel is expected in the mid-2020s.

RCN BUILDING NEW BRIDGES WITH WOMEN

By Peter Mallett

The Canadian Armed Forces' efforts to beef up the number of women in the military was greatly enhanced recently by the Achieve Anything Foundation.

Using *HMCS Ottawa* as an enticement platform, 120 girls and women of all ages crossed the ship's brow in January for a day sail around Vancouver's harbour and the Strait of Georgia.

For most, this was their first encounter with a Canadian warship and its crew.

Sailors were prepared for their guests with special displays laid out in the hangar and in the ship, and an itinerary of tours and spectacles to keep everyone wide-eyed and asking questions.

The Royal Canadian Air Force played a role by flying an Aurora maritime patrol aircraft overhead as part of a search and rescue demonstration.

"Promoting the navy to future generations is very important to everyone on the defence team," said Commander Alex Barlow, *Ottawa's* Commanding Officer. "Seeing the smiles on everyone's faces brought great pride to all of the sailors who work aboard *Ottawa*, and we are hoping those who joined us will share their experiences with friends and family."

The Achieve Anything Foundation was formed to create year-round projects and programs that inspire female future leaders in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), and STEM-based fields such as aviation, aerospace, marine and defence. It was founded by Kirsten Brazier, an aviation professional with over 25-years' experience in the commercial aviation industry as a fixed-wing aircraft and helicopter pilot. The 47-year-old founded the registered non-profit in 2016, but its roots go back to 2012 with its signature event The Sky's No Limit – Girls Fly Too! The annual event, held in conjunction with various agency, industry and education partners is expecting over 20,000 visitors in 2018.



Low numbers of women in senior management or command positions and highly skilled trades in organizations such as the Canadian Armed Forces is why Brazier pushes for change through positive actions instead of rhetoric. She is a big believer in hands-on experience and concentrates her work on this aspect of promotion.

For the *Ottawa* day sail, she marketed it with the slogan: "Ladies, come drive this ship."

"Women are a tough demographic

for defence, science and technology industries to crack," Brazier says. "If you want to get women fired up, you need to make them see there is a really awesome experience to be had on a warship."

She adds, "I don't want to hear women saying we need more women in the military or emergency services. I want to hear more men step up and, like [Chief of Defence Staff] General Jonathan Vance, say: 'We want to build a diverse team that includes more women.'"

Article courtesy of Lookout newspaper



RCN HOSTS “IDEAS HACK-A-THON” IN TORONTO

As Canadian academics, scientists and entrepreneurs continue to push the envelope in the research and commercialization of technologies associated with Artificial Intelligence (AI), the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) hosted its first-ever “Ideas Hack-a-thon” on Feb. 10 in partnership with Techstars Toronto.

The “Ideas Hack-a-thon” was facilitated by Sunil Sharma, Managing Director of Techstars Toronto, a local entrepreneurial accelerator. It engaged more than a dozen local entrepreneurs, all of whom are active in the AI sector. Sharma is a former Canadian Foreign Service Officer who cut his teeth in the Canadian start-up ecosystem as a Managing Partner of Extreme Venture Partners.

Also participating was Mark McQueen, an Honorary Captain of the RCN and President and Executive Managing Director of CIBC Innovation Banking.

The goal was to gather a diverse group of individuals in an effort to help the RCN introduce practical applications

of AI into the daily work of its sailors, whether at sea or at home.

A volunteer “crew” was drawn from an invited pool of Ontario-based academics, entrepreneurs, scientists and students with an expertise or affinity for various applications of AI. The “crew” included officers of the RCN’s Naval Reserve unit in Toronto, HMCS York, as well as key leaders of the RCN’s Ottawa-based information technology team.

The participation of Reserve and Regular Force members was invaluable to their fellow “crew” members as they shared personal experiences at sea in humanitarian, search and rescue, and NATO-led missions.

“If we are going to continue to be the most rapidly deployable and versatile instrument of national power, the RCN needs to ensure that we continue to adapt to the ever-changing landscape,” said Vice-Admiral Ron Lloyd, Commander, RCN. “Through this ‘Ideas Hack-a-thon,’ we are hoping to harness some of the energy and ingenuity in

Canada’s fast-growing AI sector. If we succeed in this effort, our sailors will be better prepared than ever to fulfill our mission on behalf of Canada, and we’ll have the pleasure of helping Canadian entrepreneurs take their companies to the next level.”

The “crew” was asked to generate practical applications of AI in four distinct areas of relevance to the RCN:

- Administration / database analysis
- Recruiting
- Training
- Defensive undersea warfare

“We appreciated the opportunity to work with Admiral Lloyd and his sailors in this unique setting,” said Sharma. “I know our Techstars entrepreneurs, as well as the Massey College family, were energized by the opportunity to work with Canada’s Navy on some interesting AI challenges. As an Angel investor and entrepreneur, the RCN could represent the perfect anchor client for many of Canada’s most promising early stage AI start-ups.”

NEW REMOTELY-OPERATED FIREBOATS FOR PORTS

Vancouver-based naval architects and marine engineers Robert Allan Ltd., and international marine technology specialist Kongsberg Maritime are developing an advanced fireboat that will allow humans to take on dangerous fire situations from a safe distance.

These situations could include fires involving containers, petrochemicals, shore-side structures or vessels, in which toxic smoke or explosions are a possibility.

The vessel, called the RALamander, can be manned or unmanned depending on the

situation.

In a press release about the new vessel, Kongsberg said its control and communications system will feature “a robust high-bandwidth, low latency wireless link to a semi-portable RALamander operator console that can be located on a manned fireboat, or other vessel of opportunity such as a tug or pilot boat. In common with other KONGSBERG autonomous control systems, the versatile architecture of RALamander’s control system will leave the door open to a range of autonomy levels, which are configurable



or future-upgradable to suit the operator or port’s evolving needs.”

The vessel’s low profile design will allow it to attack under-wharf and marina fires, and a retractable mast will enable it to attack shipboard or dock fires from a high point.

Additionally, RALamander has a towing capacity that will allow it to move a burning vessel if it’s a threat to its surroundings.

The first vessel in the series has a total pumping capacity of 2400 m³/hr with optional foam.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF A TSUNAMI HITS VICTORIA?

Following a January tsunami warning, it's worth looking at what the possibility of a tsunami means for the Greater Victoria area.

A tsunami is most often caused by an earthquake-induced movement of the ocean floor; however, rapid displacement of water, landslides, volcanic eruptions and meteorite impacts can also cause them. Tsunamis have greater force than a breaking wave or a swell.

Because its location is protected, Victoria does not face as high a risk of a damaging tsunami as other areas of Vancouver Island, though low lying areas such as the Gorge, James Bay and Fisherman's Wharf could experience a slow water level rise of 1.5 to 3 metres.

Tsunami modelling of our region after a magnitude 9.0 earthquake has shown that the maximum water level will be 3 metres with a maximum water flow speed of 1 metre per second. In comparison, the 2011 Tohoku tsunami in Japan had a maximum water level of 40 metres with a maximum water flow speed of 12 metres per second.

Victoria does not use a siren system for tsunami warnings because of this low risk. Instead, the city uses Vic-Alert, which notifies residents in potentially affected areas via text and email that a tsunami is on its way. That electronic system is backed up by a crew of emergency responders who will go door-to-door to make sure everyone gets to higher ground safely.

What to do during an earthquake

When an earthquake occurs, Drop, Cover and Hold On until the shaking stops. Count to 60 and then move away from beaches and low-lying areas to higher ground immediately. Higher ground means two blocks inland from beaches and waterways or to the third floor of a building. If an earthquake lasts for more than 60 seconds or makes it difficult to stand, move away from low-lying areas and beaches as a tsunami may follow.

Signs of a Tsunami

Signs of a tsunami may include the ocean receding, a sudden rise or fall in sea level, or a roaring sound coming from the ocean. Evacuate to higher ground immediately if you experience any of these signs.

To be alerted as soon as there is a serious risk of a tsunami, sign up for Vic-Alert, and receive alerts and updates by text, phone or email on emergencies that may impact you. Visit www.victoria.ca/EN/main/residents/public-safety/emergency-preparedness/vic-alert.html



What to do if there's an earthquake.

New phone app could save lives

A new smartphone app is set to turn B.C. bystanders into potential life-savers should a sudden cardiac arrest occur in a public place.

B.C. Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) has launched the free PulsePoint application throughout the province. It provides vital information in the case of cardiac arrest, where minutes count in reducing suffering and preventing death.

Smartphone users with PulsePoint are connected to the BCEHS emergency dispatch system. When a sudden cardiac arrest is reported at a public location through 9-1-1, dispatchers can send the location to people with mobile devices within short walking distance. A user with training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) can then go to the patient and begin CPR while paramedics are en route.

The smartphone alert also shows users a map pinpointing the location of nearby portable public defibrillators, which is another tool the general public can use safely before paramedics arrive.

B.C. is the first to have a province-wide program for this public notification service. PulsePoint also operates in an Ontario municipality and in a number of U.S. counties and cities.

The effectiveness of PulsePoint will be studied in B.C. and other parts of Canada and the U.S. to determine whether the app increases public participation in cardiac arrest resuscitation. B.C. is expected to take part in this randomized, controlled research trial starting this year.

The PulsePoint app can be downloaded from the Apple Store for iOS and from Google Play Store for Android OS.

Quick Facts:

3 Minutes — The amount of time after a sudden cardiac arrest after which brain damage occurs if immediate help is not available. Sudden cardiac arrest occurs without notice and leaves patients unconscious.

7,101: The number of cardiac arrests BCEHS paramedics responded to in 2017

25%: Bystanders performed CPR in approximately 25 per cent of these cases.

10%: The approximate survival rate beyond 30 days for sudden cardiac arrest in B.C.



NEW ONLINE CAREER TOOL FOR VETERANS

Members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) have a new tool to help facilitate their transition into the civilian workforce.

MNET, which officially launched Oct. 16, 2017, is a free online career transition tool that matches military occupations with civilian occupations and job openings. MNET is short for Military Occupational Structure ID (MOSID) to National Occupational Classification (NOC) Equivalency Tool.

To use MNET, CAF members and veterans enter information about their military

career. The site will then produce a matching civilian occupation and job description, as well as a link to relevant civilian employment opportunities in the Government of Canada's Job Bank.

Employers can also use MNET, which can help them understand military occupations and lets them post forecasted job openings specifically for veterans.

MNET is the result of coordinated efforts by the CAF's Directorate of Casualty Support Management, the Military Personnel Generation Learning Support Centre, Veterans

Affairs Canada (VAC), and Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC).

The online tool, based on a United States Department of Labor application, was created and customized for Canadian military needs in large part using existing resources and therefore at a low cost of \$18,000.

In addition to MNET, veterans also have access to VAC's Veterans in the Public Service Unit, which was formed to help veterans navigate the federal public service hiring process. This new unit assists veterans by providing them

with possible public service opportunities that match their skills and education, and also works with managers from across the public service to promote the training and experiences of Canadian veterans for employment.

Other components for MNET, such as a military skills translator and a mobile app, will be introduced in the coming months to continue enhancing member readiness for a successful military to civilian transition.

Access to MNET is now available at <http://caface-rfaccine.forces.gc.ca/mnet-oesc/>

6th Annual

Battle of the Atlantic Gala Dinner

Thursday, May 3, 2018

Location: The Canadian War Museum

Reception: 1800 to 1900

Dinner: 1900 to 2200

Every year, we gather to commemorate the Battle of the Atlantic; Canada's longest military engagement of the Second World War.

Dress

Serving & Retired Military: Mess Dress

Civilian: Black tie

TICKETS: \$100 each

For more information please visit or email:

<https://nac-o.wildapricot.org/BOA2018>

CMP.RCNStrategicOutreach@forces.gc.ca

6^{eme}

Dîner de Gala de la Bataille de L'Atlantique

Le jeudi 3 mai 2018

Locale : Musée canadien de la guerre

Cocktail : 18h à 19h

Dîner : 19h à 22h

Chaque année, nous nous rassemblons pour commémorer la plus longue campagne de la Seconde Guerre mondiale – la Bataille de l'Atlantique

Tenue

Militaires et anciens combattants : Tenue de Mess

Civile : cravate noire

BILLETS : 100 \$ chacun

Pour de plus informations, consultez le site suivant (en anglais seulement) ou par courriel:

<https://nac-o.wildapricot.org/BOA2018>

CMP.RCNStrategicOutreach@forces.gc.ca





Hosted by The Naval Association of Canada
Organisé par L'Association navale du Canada



Supported by the Royal Canadian Navy
Soutenu par la Marine royale canadienne