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Volume 62 Number 47 | November 27, 2017

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## Fundraising opportunities in support of NDWCC

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Tuesday Nov. 28  
 Dockyard Main Gate, 7 a.m.  
 Nellies Block, 11:30 a.m.

### Shoe shine at N92 Lobby

PO2 Justin Pike is buffing up boots for a donation to the campaign. Every Wednesday morning until the campaign ends. 7-8 a.m.

### Operation PowerFit - CPAC

Tuesdays and Thursdays until Nov. 30  
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 \$10 per session

### No Shave Chit

Now until Jan. 7, 2018. For \$20 donation get a no shave, ponytail, or nail polish chit from your NDWCC rep  
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Jody Wilson-Raybould, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, toured HMCS Victoria and HMCS Vancouver Nov.18 to see first-hand and meet the sailors of Canada's Royal Canadian Navy. She also received a brief on the navy's Leadership, Respect and Honour Program.

Photo by Cpl Andre Maillet, MARPAC Imaging Services



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# MILITARY MEMBERS SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES AT UN CONFERENCE

**Katelyn Moores**  
MARPAAC PA Office

When more than 550 international delegates arrived in Vancouver for the United Nations Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial earlier this month, they were greeted at the airport by Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members from across the country.

Tasked as Liaison Officers, these CAF members provided one-on-one support to their assigned delegations, showcasing Canadian hospitality and helping to facilitate the successful execution of this high-profile international conference.

Since August, a small team from Joint Task Force Pacific, led by Commander Blair Saltel, has been working in support of the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial, creating a detailed Liaison Officer program that included two-days of training, a transportation plan to and from the airport for delegates, and the development of a Joint Communications Operations Centre that provided 24-hour support to the Liaison Officers and their delegations.

It required significant planning and effort, he says, but this behind-the-scenes support proved to be an essential part of making sure the conference ran smoothly.

## Meet A/SLt Song

One of the Liaison Officers was Acting Sub-Lieutenant Melinda Song, a Naval Warfare Officer with Naval Fleet School Pacific. A/SLt Song had volunteered for similar roles in the past, acting as a personal translator for Rear-Admiral Art McDonald during the Chinese Navy visit to Victoria last year, and assisting with the Pacific Command Chiefs of Defence Conference this fall. When she learned of the opportunity to assist with the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial, she jumped at the chance to once again be a Liaison Officer.

"I consider it to be a great honour and privilege to have the opportunity to represent Canada, and showcase to other nations the professionalism and hospitality of the Canadian Armed Forces," said A/SLt Song.

## How it worked

After arriving in Vancouver, the Liaison Officers were assigned to their delegations and provided detailed information on their

role and what to expect during the conference, as well as briefs from a Maritime Forces Pacific Gender Focal Point and the RCMP. They were also assigned temporary cell phones that would allow them to easily contact the Joint Communications Operations Centre through an instant messaging platform, facilitating the simultaneous transfer of information between the operators and the Liaison Officers.

"I was very impressed with the JCOC [Joint Communications Operations Centre]," said A/SLt Song. "Imagine you are hosting a big multi-day party, with more than 80 diverse families invited to attend. You, as the host, are to be attentive and cater to the various requests of all these different people. The Joint Communications Operations Centre did an excellent job of managing everything that was expected, as well as everything that was simply unexpected."

## The assignment

A/SLt Song was assigned to the delegation from Bhutan, a relatively small country in the Himalayas bordered by China and India. Bhutan is known for its commitment to environmental conservation, with 60 per cent of its land under protection by law, and for measuring their success by Gross National Happiness instead of Gross Domestic Product.

During her time with the delegation, SLt Song's role was to communicate their needs, helping to alleviate any minor concerns so that the delegation could concentrate on the important issues at hand.

"I envision myself to be the Staples 'That was Easy' button for the Bhutan delegation, from the moment they arrived at the airport, to the moment they departed," she explained.

For many of the Liaison Officers their job was no easy task, as many delegations had ambitious schedules for their short time in Vancouver. Liaison Officers had to think

quickly on their feet, often making last-minute adjustments due to unexpected delays, meeting requests and schedule changes.

Although it was stressful at times, A/SLt Song tried her best to anticipate the needs of the delegation in advance, even finding time to act as their tour guide upon discovering that it was her delegation's first time in Canada.

"The best part for me personally, as a Liaison Officer, I was able to play a big part in their West Coast experience. Whenever time allowed, I would put on my tour guide hat and tell them interesting facts about Canada, pointing out

Stanley Park, Lions Gate Bridge, and North Vancouver. We went on the Sea Bus, took the Sky Train and went on a tour of *HMCS Winnipeg*. They even tried raw oysters because of me."

## The end result

In total, more than 150 CAF members, along with the crew of *Winnipeg*, were in Vancouver to support the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial. The conference concluded with a number of achievements including 48 new peacekeeping pledges, 13 reaffirmed and advanced past pledges, and the endorsement of

the Vancouver Principles on the prevention of the recruitment and use of child soldiers in peacekeeping operations by 54 countries.

Although it wasn't always easy, A/SLt Song said she's glad she volunteered. Her time as a Liaison Officer allowed her to foster a mutual friendship with her delegation, and a better understanding of the culture and values of the people of Bhutan. She also developed friendships with many of the other Liaison Officers over the week they spent together – something she will cherish forever.

"This experience will definitely be one of the highlights of my career," said SLt Song. "If anyone is offered a similar opportunity, I highly recommend they seize it."



A/SLt Melinda Song poses with the Head of Delegation for Bhutan, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Damcho Dorji, at the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial Conference in Vancouver on Nov 15.

*"This experience will definitely be one of the highlights of my career. If anyone is offered a similar opportunity, I highly recommend they seize it."*

A/SLt Melinda Song



Photo by Peter Mallett, Lookout Newspaper

Naden Band composer and saxophonist Petty Officer Second Class Robyn Jutras (centre) is joined by fellow band members as she is presented an honorary membership in the Submariners Association of Canada (SAOC) by SAOC Canada West President, Lloyd Barnes (right) and past president Paul Hansen. The two former RCN submariners dropped by the band headquarters Nov. 21 to show their appreciation to PO2 Jutras for composing an official SAOC march entitled The Dolphin March.

## Direct hit: Naden Band member pens new march

**Peter Mallett**  
Staff Writer

Submariners old and young are going “Ahooga-Ahooga” for a new tune created in their honour by a Naden Band member.

The *Dolphin March* was composed by Petty Officer Second Class Robyn Jutras, the band’s bassoonist, for the Submariners Association of Canada. PO2 Jutras, 35, says her creation was written with the traditional modern military march in mind. It employs an upbeat or rapid tempo meant to match those of military members marching in step.

“Ahooga is not only the sound the diving alarm (klaxon) that older submarines made but also an old submariners saying and the Association wanted that along with ‘Dive, Dive, Dive’ to be highly recognizable in the piece. So I decided to open with it in the first section,” says PO2 Jutras.

The march opens with two non-traditional, classic submarine sound effects at the beginning of the piece: a ‘ping, ping’ of a sonar before transitioning to two blasts of an old submarine’s klaxon, which sounds phonetically like “Ahooga, Ahooga.”

Paul Hansen, who spent nine years in the navy start-

ing in the mid-1960s, including several years on both the HMCS Grilse and HMCS Rainbow, is past president of the Submariners Association of Canada West and the initiator of the project. He worked closely with PO2 Jutras to explain what his group wanted for the piece when she began writing it back in July 2016.

The completed composition was introduced to Submariners Association of Canada members along with its composer during a June 2017 dinner held by the group celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the commissioning of the HMCS Onondaga.

“Both she and the march got a standing ovation from a crowd that included many old seamen like me who haven’t sailed in a submarine for nearly 50 years,” says Hansen. “And also the fairly recently retired, like Vice-Admiral (Retired) Bob Davidson, himself a former submarine Commanding Officer.”

Hansen says the march is meant to appeal to submariners “the world over.”

“It wasn’t the applause, but rather seeing how happy everyone was with the march,” says PO2 Jutras of the accolades. “It seemed to give them an added sense of pride about being a submariner, and I’m glad the

music had done a good job in characterizing the spirit and musical meaning of the work they do and maybe a bit of their sense of humour.”

The Submariners Association of Canada liked the song so much they presented her with an honorary membership in all three regional branches.

Commander (Retired) Lloyd Barnes, SAOC Canada West President, was on hand at the Naden Band headquarters Nov. 21 to present PO2 Jutras with a commemorative plaque and give words of appreciation as her fellow band members looked on.

Barnes, who once commanded HMCS Rainbow, said he knew instantly after hearing the march that it fit the bill for his group.

“It was just the sound we were looking for, short, concise, and to the point,” he said. “It’s almost like the music helps the listener experience exactly the feeling of being in a sub with it’s up and down tempo, mimicking the feeling you get from diving and ascending in a submarine.”

The Naden Band’s Commanding Officer, Lieutenant (Navy) Vincent Roy has been equally impressed with PO2 Jutras’s work.

“PO2 Jutras has shown great dedication to working on this project and has a great talent at writing music. A song like this not only helps celebrate the impressive legacy of submariners of the Royal Canadian Navy, but also has outreach power too, promoting our band, while engaging and interacting with past and present military members.”

It’s not the first time the Petty Officer has written a march for a military organization. In 2013 she was the winner of a national contest to write a Centennial march for Princess Patricia’s Canadian Light Infantry, which was performed at the regiment’s centenary celebrations held in Ottawa in September of 2014.

*Both she and the march got a standing ovation from a crowd that included many old seamen like me who haven’t sailed in a submarine for nearly 50 years.*

Paul Hansen

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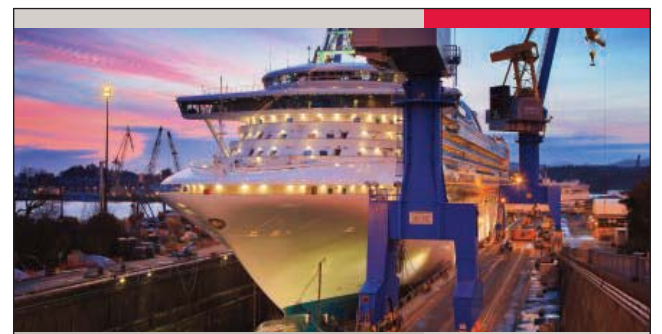
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# matters of OPINION

## WHO WE ARE

### MANAGING EDITOR

Melissa Atkinson 250-363-3372  
melissa.atkinson@forces.gc.ca

### STAFF WRITERS

Peter Mallett 250-363-3130  
peter.mallett@forces.gc.ca

### PRODUCTION

Teresa Laird 250-363-8033  
production@lookoutnewspaper.com  
Bill Cochrane 250-363-8033  
workstation3@lookoutnewspaper.com  
Shelley Fox 250-363-8033  
projects@lookoutnewspaper.com

### ACCOUNTS/CLASSIFIEDS/RECEPTION

Mary Lou Climenhaga 250-363-3127  
Mary.Climenhaga@forces.gc.ca

### SALES REPRESENTATIVES

Ivan Groth 250-363-3133  
ivan.groth@forces.gc.ca

Joshua Buck 250-363-8602  
joshua.buck@forces.gc.ca

### EDITORIAL ADVISOR

James Vassallo 250-363-7060  
Capt Jenn Jackson 250-363-4006

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## WHAT SAY YOU

### People Talk

Lookout asked volunteers of the NDWCC You're the Boss fundraiser:

*What job would you most like to do?*

*What job do you feel you are least qualified to perform?*



**Most:** I really enjoy meeting people! Maybe a Quartermaster on the brow during the morning watch would be a good fit?

**Least:** Any job that doesn't allow me to talk to people or I have to tell people to be quiet. An exam invigilator at the Naval Fleet School Pacific - or enforcing the Ultra Quiet State in a sub!

**Rear-Admiral  
Art McDonald**



**Most:** Drive the Zamboni!  
**Least:** I am least qualified to do most of the work the team does, but more than happy to learn!

**Captain (Navy)  
Jason Boyd,  
CFB Esquimalt Base  
Commander**



**Most:** I am a former gunner so maintenance of any kind would work for me. Also, as a good sailor, I'm very good at cleaning and painting.

**Least:** Paper work, I hate it!  
**Chief Petty Officer  
First Class Gilles Gregoire,  
Formation Chief  
Petty Officer**



**Most:** There are so many interesting jobs throughout the Formation that it's hard to choose just one! Whatever I do, I'm really looking forward to trying something new and giving someone else a bit of a break.

**Least:** There are so many diverse skills and trades represented throughout MARPAC. I'm sure there are several jobs that I would find incredibly challenging!  
**Captain (Navy)  
Ed Hooper**



**Most:** I have always admired the hard work, dedication and expertise of front-line staff in all environments (Navy, Army and Air Force). They are the backbone of our organization and keep us operational. On the West Coast, I would like to experience a day in the life of a Boatswain, I'm not sure if I could keep up, but I'd love to try!

**Least:** If you ask my wife, she would tell you that I am not very handy around the house or anywhere else for that matter. Admittedly, I feel the least qualified to perform the duties of a Hull Tech. Again, they are extremely hard-working and have a vast skill-set!

**Lieutenant-Colonel  
Peckham,  
Commanding Officer  
Canadian Forces Health  
Services Centre**



**Most:** I'd like to be a tester of vacation hot spots, cruise ships and the like. That, and I've always thought it would be cool to be the person who thought up names for paint colours!

**Least:** Professional Wrestler.  
**Melanie Fugard,  
Base Financial Officer**



**Most:** Drive the fire truck.  
**Least:** Washing dishes.  
**CPO1 Gino Spinelli,  
Base Chief Petty Officer**

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Buy a leader and have them do your work!

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**Auction opens from Nov. 14 - Dec. 1**

- Units to collect auction bid money.
- Highest bid gets first pick.
- Work week is between Dec. 4 and 15.

For more details click the NDWCC link on the MARPAC Notice Board



## REMEMBERING THE HALIFAX EXPLOSION

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Nearly a century ago, an explosion of a munitions ship in Halifax harbour followed by a tsunami took the lives of 2,000 people and injured 9,000.

Traumatized survivors struggled to explain what they had experienced. The task of telling their stories fell to journalists who rushed to get the word out of the devastated city.

On Saturday Dec. 2 local author and historian Michael Dupuis will use material from his new book *Bearing Witness: Journalists, Record Keepers and the 1917 Halifax Explosion* to explain how the explosion happened, and how journalists "got the story out."

The talk will take place at the Main Branch of the Greater Victoria Public Library.

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# BUY A BOSS

**THE FOLLOWING LEADERS ARE UP FOR AUCTION:**

**CFB Esquimalt Public Affairs**

Members of the Defence Team have a unique opportunity to show their leaders who is really in charge.

The "You're the Boss" campaign, an initiative to support the National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign, allows units the opportunity to hire some of the most prominent personalities from around the base and the formation for a forenoon.

The initiative began with CFB Esquimalt's Base Commander, Captain (Navy) Jason Boyd, who is also the co-chair of the National Defence Workplace Charitable Campaign. Capt(N) Boyd wanted to inject an extra element of fun into the campaign, while also building morale and increasing connections across ranks and roles throughout the Defence Team.

"I understand how much work is done by the unit reps and so many others during the campaign, and one of the messages

I've really tried to share is that giving of yourself is as important as the financial donations," he said. "Volunteering, being a part of your community both inside and outside the base's gates, has an incredible impact. As leaders we need to live that message, even if that means running whatever gauntlet the Defence Team has cooked up for us."

In that vein, there have already been some creative suggestions from units looking to put their leaders to work.

"So far I've seen a lot of gleeful looks as people consider telling their boss that he or she will be cleaning the heads," says James Vassallo, Base Public Affairs and OPI for the event. "But my favourite suggestion comes from the Dental Unit who would like the Base Commander or the Admiral to call everyone who hasn't scheduled their annual check-up. I think having a frank discussion about your dental health with the Admiral might be a little jarring at first, but it's also very funny and very positive if it gets you to take better care of yourself."

The winners will be ranked based on their bids and then be allowed to pick from the volunteer leader list with the highest bid picking first from the list, the second highest bid picking second and so on. In order to ensure smaller units still have an opportunity to win, numerous leaders were brought on board to improve the chances of bidders being successful, and several will also be given away through a random draw to those units who aren't among the top bidders.

"There's a lot of activities going on and not all units will end up participating, so I think there is potential for any unit to walk away with a leader," says Vassallo. "Also, people may think they're competing against a large unit like the Fleet School but the school is subdivided into about 10 different smaller groups which helps even things out a bit."


If you're interested in participating let your NDWCC Unit

OPI know and make a donation to the "You're the Boss" Campaign. They'll collect the information on your preferred leader and any job recommendations you have for them. This will help them pick the right leader for your unit if it wins, and assign them the jobs people would most like to see performed.

Unit OPIs need to submit their bids by end of day Dec 1 to james.vassallo@forces.gc.ca.

Winners will be announced on Dec. 4 with most leaders heading out to their new jobs between Dec. 4-15. Units should also choose what charity they want their donations directed to.

- Rear-Admiral Art McDonald, Commander, Maritime Forces Pacific
- Captain (Navy) Jason Boyd, Base Commander, CFB Esquimalt
- Captain (Navy) Ed Hooper, Commanding Officer, Fleet Maintenance Facility
- Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon Peckham, Commanding Officer, Canadian Forces Health Services Centre (Pacific)
- Major Lisa Clark, Commanding Officer, Military Police Unit (Esquimalt)
- CPO1 Gilles Gregoire, MARPAC Chief
- CPO1 Gino Spinelli, Base Chief
- Captain (Navy) Christopher Robinson, Commander, Canadian Submarine Force
- Melanie Fugard, Base Financial Officer
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The surviving crew members of HMCS Kootenay pose for a group photo during the Commemorative Ceremony held at Damage Control Training Facility Kootenay on Oct. 23.

# HMCS Kootenay, 48 years after the explosion

**Ryan Melanson**  
Trident Staff

Former crewmembers of HMCS Kootenay, along with family, friends, and Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) personnel, gathered at Damage Control Training Facility (DCTF) Kootenay at CFB Halifax on Oct. 23 to mark 48 years to the day since the tragic explosion on the ship that killed nine sailors and wounded many more.

It was just after 8 a.m. on Oct. 23, 1969, as Kootenay was traversing the English Channel with a task group on the way back to Canada, when a full-speed engine trial led to the starboard gearbox overheating and exploding, filling the engine room and beyond with fire, oil and toxic smoke.

In addition to the nine who perished, seven instantly and two more as a result of smoke inhalation soon after, 53 crewmembers were injured, many developing lifelong chronic issues.

The explosion is considered the worst peacetime disaster in RCN history, and the story is well known both for the extraordinary

efforts and sacrifices of the crew, as well as for the myriad advancements in safety and damage control that were spawned in its aftermath.

For the surviving crew, many of whom attended the ceremony in Purcell's Cove, the weight of the tragedy is still felt, and some still have difficulty talking about the traumatic events that took place on the ship.

Patty Robichaud said her father Rob Robichaud, who died in 2014, never spoke about the events on board Kootenay when she was growing up. He didn't open up to his family about his role in the disaster until much later in life, when his granddaughter approached him for help with a school history project. It led to an emotional discovery of her father's harrowing story, she said, and a better understanding of things such as the strict upbringing she and her siblings had as children.

"As I now realize, he did not want us to ever be put in a situation like the one he survived. He had seen the worst, and he was willing to do anything he could

to protect us from harm and hurt in our lives," she wrote in an address prepared for the ceremony.

Robichaud wasn't able to attend due to medical reasons, and her words were read by Cyril Johnston, whose father was a Sub-Lieutenant in Kootenay in 1969. The two were together with other officers Clark Reiffenstein and John Montague when the gearbox blew, and all of them courageously ventured back into the black smoke after escaping to safety to look for other shipmates.

The trauma of the incident has caused some of the crew to suffer through the effects of PTSD, and while some now receive therapy and other forms of support, the impacts weren't widely understood in the 1970s and 80s.

"At 19 years old, my father had to endure a pain and suffering that most of society hopefully never has to endure," she wrote.

Capt(N) Paul Forget, Base Commander CFB Halifax, said the officers and non-commission members who serve today have all been shaped by the damage control instructions that

were formed from lessons learned in the Kootenay explosion, and that sailors should feel a direct link between their training and the experiences of the former sailors who filled the room at the damage control facility on Oct. 23.

"We're all mesmerized by the stories of tragedy below decks, and the ingenuity and courage that was required to minimize loss of life and save the ship," Capt(N) Forget said.

Cdr Pete Lebel, the Commandant of Naval Fleet School Atlantic, which includes DCTF Kootenay, said the 1969 explosion led to better training, more thorough inspection schedules, and more firefighting equipment on board ships, which is housed in multiple strategic locations. Ship designs have also been modified to better plan for similar incidents, including the engine-room escape hatch on some ships, known as the "Kootenay Hatch".

"You can rest assured that we've learned from Kootenay and we continue to learn from it, and we're making our environments better and safer as we move forward," Cdr Lebel said.

## Members of HMCS Kootenay who died Oct. 23, 1969

- CPO1 Vaino 'Ski' Partanen
- CPO2 William Alfred 'Billy' Boudreau
- PO Eric George Harman
- PO Lewis John Stringer
- LS Pierre 'Pete' Bourrett
- LS Thomas Gordon Crabbe
- LS Gary Wayne Hutton
- OS Michael Allen Hardy
- OS Nelson Murray Galloway

Bryan Hughes rings the bell signifying "roll call" honouring deceased members of the ship's company of HMCS Kootenay.



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# SMUGGLERS BLUES

**Peter Mallett**  
Staff Writer

*Editor's Note: For operational security reasons, military members deployed on Operation Caribe cannot be identified.*

When HMCS Nanaimo contributed to the seizure of approximately 480 kilograms of cocaine last month in the eastern Pacific it marked a successful operational moment that was months in the making.

While the high-profile drug bust went down in a matter of hours and got most of the attention, it was the coordinated international effort and several weeks of training that is the real achievement, says the ship's commanding officer.

"Successful boardings and interdictions are rarely the actions of a single unit or ship; instead, there are aircraft, shore agencies, and other sea consorts that are all critical to the successful capture of illicit product," he says. "The operation stands as an excellent example of international cooperation and coordination."

The Kingston-class warship and its crew are participating in Operation Caribe, Canada's component in a United States-led, anti-drug trafficking operation known as Operation Martillo.

Also embarked in *Nanaimo* are members of United States Coast Guard (USCG) law enforcement detachment (LEDET).

## How it all went down

Just before midnight on Oct. 30, *Nanaimo* received a dispatch from a Maritime Patrol Aircraft that directed them to their target, a small Panga-style fishing boat. The minor warship then pursued and brought the Panga to a halt. The two vessels remained stopped in the water until the U.S. Coast Guard's law enforcement detachment received permission to board the vessel.

"Many people think an event like this plays out like a Tom Clancy novel and it's a kinetic thing done very quickly, but it is not," says the Commanding Officer. "Once you identify a vessel you move in on it and then stop the vessel, but the coast guard still needs to go through the process and build a case that there is a reason to board the ship."

The evidence found offered validation that the information received from government intelligence agencies about the shipment was correct. Law enforcement detachment members embarked on the ship's Rigid-Hulled Inflatable Boat and boarded the

Panga to complete the seizure.

What they found was approximately \$33,000 (U.S.) worth of cocaine packaged in one-kilogram bricks that were layered in a false deck within the vessel. The suspected smugglers were then transported to a USCG cutter on patrol in the region, and *Nanaimo* resumed operations.

The ship's commanding officer, who has participated in similar deployments including one aboard HMCS *Whitehorse* in 2015, says it is common for most vessels to jettison their cargo or evade capture once they identify a government vessel in the vicinity. He says this situation late last month was unique because the vessel in question was observed in a nearly stationary position for several hours.

"It is unclear whether these smugglers were experiencing engine trouble or had failed to spot *Nanaimo* and were waiting for another contact or transfer vessel to arrive on the scene," he says, while noting the seizure was made difficult because it occurred in the darkness of night, which hampered visibility.

## Readiness Dependent

The nature of the deployment - thwarting the movement of illicit drugs

and organized criminal activity - and performing it in an ocean environment presents an "elevated risk," says *Nanaimo's* Commanding Officer.

It is the preparation and mission readiness of his crew, a mix of Reservist and Regular Force members, that is crucial to mission success.

"The point of making sure we practice and have everyone familiar with the processes of living and working on a ship is a big component of making things work," he explains.

After leaving Esquimalt Harbour Sept. 28 *Nanaimo's* crew performed work-ups without the assistance of another minor warship, only the second time that has happened. Embarked Sea Trainers worked the crew through tasks such as damage control and force protection before arriving in San Diego Oct. 10.

They performed a PASS Exercise, where *Nanaimo* and ships and aircraft from the United States and Mexico sailed in formation, and conducted an exchange of personnel, an effort of cross-decking that gives navies an understanding of what life is like on the other nation's warship.

Readiness also involves mining the internet and other sources for informa-

tion about the drug cartels.

"It's important to gain a geopolitical understanding, and an understanding of the drug cartels themselves and the types of people you are dealing with," he adds.

## Meanwhile on the East Coast

On the East Coast, Halifax-based HMCS *Moncton* is also deployed on Operation Caribe in the Caribbean Sea. It has also had a triumphant win on thwarting illicit drugs.

On Nov. 11, the Kingston-Class warship worked with a USCG law enforcement detachment to seize approximately 835 kilograms of cocaine and apprehend three suspected smugglers.

Lieutenant-General Steven Bowes, Commander of Canadian Joint Operations Command, praised the sailors and law enforcement officials for their work.

"The Royal Canadian Navy's sailors continue to demonstrate excellence in operations around the world," he said. "Operation Caribe's successes are a result of the partnership between allied forces and our collective dedication to keeping our sea lanes safe from illicit activity while also preventing illegal drugs from entering North America."



Members of HMCS Nanaimo stand look-out while boarding a vessel during Operation Caribe on Nov. 14.



MARPAC Imaging Services  
Members of a United States Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment embarked aboard HMCS Nanaimo transfer seized narcotics to a United States Coast Guard interceptor boat during Operation Caribe on Nov. 4.

*Many people think an event like this plays out like a Tom Clancy novel and it's a kinetic thing done very quickly, but it is not. Once you identify a vessel you move in on it and then stop the vessel, but the coast guard still needs to go through the process and build a case that there is a reason to board the ship.*

Commanding Officer,  
HMCS Nanaimo



Photo by 12 Wing Imaging Services  
Crewmembers from Her Majesty's Canadian Ship *Moncton* mark the drug bundles seized by US Coast Guard members on Nov. 11 during Operation Caribe.



# Crowning achievement for reserve force training

## Second Lieutenant Cameron Park

The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's)

The waters near Nanoose Bay at the Canadian Forces Maritime Experimental and Test Ranges (CFMETR) on Vancouver Island were the site of Exercise Scottish Crown over the Nov. 4 to 5 weekend.

Soldiers from the Canadian Army Reserve and the Naval Reserve of the Royal Canadian

Navy practiced a variety of skills, including assault boat landings, familiarization rides in a Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB), and the conduct of a patrol.

With rehearsals complete, a tactical exercise saw a land force use assault boats, crewed by 39 Combat Engineer Regiment, to land and secure a beach head. RHIBs from Naval Reserve Division Malahat monitored the movement of the boats for safety.

After the landing, foot patrols were conducted throughout

the night by soldiers from the Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's), supported by medics from 11 (Victoria) Field Ambulance.

In the morning, with patrols completed, the land force was extracted from the beach by the assault boats to conclude the exercise. To ensure effective radio communications were in place, soldiers from 39 Signals Regiment operated a command post and a radio rebroadcast station throughout the exercise.



Members of the Canadian Army Reserve on Vancouver Island disembark from assault boats operated by members of 39 Combat Engineer Regiment (39 CER) near Nanoose. Accompanied by medics from 11 (Victoria) Field Ambulance, infantry soldiers of The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) practiced their soldier skills during the exercise.



Master Corporal Sam Udahl of The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) maintains a watchful eye on his soldiers after disembarking from assault boats near Nanoose Bay.



Members of The Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) and Naval Reserve Division Malahat listen to a safety brief prior to an amphibious landing.

Photos by Second Lieutenant Cameron Park

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## Fire Department offers up pre-parade cheer

**Peter Mallett**  
Staff Writer

CFB Esquimalt Fire and Rescue are opening their garage doors to provide holiday cheer and free refreshments to members of the DND community ahead of next weekend's Celebration of Lights Parade.

Firefighters will serve up hot chocolate, apple cider, and shortbread cookies at the fire hall on Esquimalt Road Sunday, Dec. 3, between 5 and 7 p.m., in conjunction with Esquimalt's annual Celebration of Lights Christmas Parade.

The parade begins at 5 p.m. and will proceed easterly along Esquimalt Rd., from Canteen Rd. to the Archie Browning Sports centre.

Organized by the Township of Esquimalt, the parade features dozens of trucks and vehicles from area businesses and community organizations that are all adorned with festive lights and decorations.

Fire and Rescue staff will be busy this week decorating one of their bright red fire trucks to take part in the parade. The parade also includes a contest for Best Decorated Vehicle, which

the base firefighters won in 2015 after adorning their vehicle with over 1,000 Christmas lights.

This year's event will also include musical performances by jazz and blues singer Maureen Washington and the Rock Heights Middle School Choir, and a special appearance by Santa Clause.

Those attending the parade are asked to bring a non-perishable food item as a donation to local food banks.

For further details about the parade visit the event webpage <http://esquimalt-lights.ca>

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## Tasty showcase at Parkside Hotel

One of Victoria's most beloved holiday traditions, the Gingerbread Showcase in support of Habitat for Humanity Victoria, opened Saturday, Nov. 18, and runs daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the beautiful atrium at the Parkside Hotel and Spa at 810 Humboldt Street, right up until Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Bakers have been designing, baking and – most nerve-wracking of all – transporting their

delicate creations to the Parkside Hotel and Spa.

This year's theme is all about "Celebrating Canada". Expect to see Mounties and beavers, Nanaimo bars and poutine, Hudson Bay blankets and many other iconic Canadian creatures, buildings and items.

All entries are made of entirely edible products. They reside on a base that is 61cm x 61cm (24 inches x 24 inches) and are a minimum of 45 cm

(18 inches) in height.

Members of the public are encouraged to vote for their favourite creation while making a donation to Habitat for Humanity Victoria. Last year, thanks to the generosity of more than 20,000 visitors who made a visit to the Showcase part of their holiday tradition, a record \$50,000 was raised to help bring strength, stability and independence to local families.



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## Tickets available for holiday concert

**Peter Mallett**  
Staff Writer

Tickets are still available, but going fast for the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy's 39th Annual Christmas Concert.

The band will perform three holiday themed concerts at the Royal Theatre on Dec. 11, 12 and 13 beginning at 7:30 p.m. The band will also perform two matinees on Dec. 12 and 13, which are closed to the public and specifically designed for the enjoyment of area school children.

This year's concert features two local

guest musicians: keyboardist and composer Thomas Kinzel and his fiancé, vocalist Kristina Helene. It will also feature the choreographic stylings of performers from Victoria's O'Brien School of Irish Dance and enhanced lighting provided by professional lighting director Dan Pedlow.

Admission to the event is \$10 plus an unwrapped children's toy.

Toys and proceeds from ticket sales go to the concert's main beneficiary the Salvation Army Toy Drive. Tickets for the event are available at the Royal and MacPherson Theatre Society box office or online at their website <http://www.rmts.bc.ca>



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## Divers return from multinational exercise

**Lt(N) Justin Campbell**  
Fleet Diving Unit (Pacific)

A 12-member Royal Canadian Navy Clearance Diving Team recently returned from participating in the Multinational Mine Countermeasures Exercise (MNMIWEX), held in the Republic of Korea (ROK) Oct. 10 to 23.

MNMIWEX aims to increase interoperability between ROK, United States, and core partner nations to counter the threat of North Korean mining capabilities. This is the second year Canadian Clearance Divers have been core

participants in the exercise.

The intensive two-week-long exercise had the Clearance Diving Team conduct joint Mine Countermeasures (MCM) operations with a focus on reacquisition and final disposal of subsurface threats.

The team conducted over 16 full-mission profiles in day and night operations. Additionally, the team advised and assisted the ROK's Underwater Demolition Team (UDT) / Sea Air Land in building MCM capacity and competency, particularly in optimizing their underwater search techniques and streamlining tac-

tics and procedures during final disposal.

MNMIWEX represents an essential opportunity to work and exercise with partner nations. The ongoing challenges on the Korean peninsula reinforce the importance of conducting real and challenging training in a potential area of concern.

Canadian Clearance Divers have built important contacts and gained a critical appreciation of the operating environment. The team looks forward to MNMIWEX 18 and another opportunity to work with its Asia-Pacific partners.



Underwater Demolition Team (UDT) / Sea Air Land and Partner Nations Clearance Diving Teams muster for the closing of Multinational Mine Countermeasures Exercise 17.

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Photo: submitted  
Capt Mike Evans' team competes on a Beneteau 40.7 sailboat during the China Cup International Regatta 2017.

## Sail boat racer competes at Hong Kong international regatta

**Ryan Melanson**  
Trident Staff

One of Formation Halifax's top sport sailors is back from testing his racing skills overseas against some of the best in the world.

Capt Mike Evans, a Weapons Tactics Analyst at Trinity, led a 12-person crew in a Beneteau 40.7 sailboat through the China Cup International Regatta 2017, a four-day racing event in and around Hong Kong from Oct. 26-29 that saw more than 1,500 sailors from 40 different countries compete in a series of inshore races.

This year was the event's 11th installment, and the fourth year for Capt Evans, who sails representing Sail Canada and the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Club.

The regatta has grown each year to the point where it now takes over a part of the city with a festival-like atmosphere, attracts sailing's top professionals and brings in plenty of big-money sponsors.

"It's truly a spectacle, and you pinch yourself that you get the chance to be there in the middle of it," said Capt Evans, who assembled a civilian team of eight Canadians from various yacht clubs, along with other sailors

from Germany, New Zealand and China, to take on the difficult races.

His team finished 17th in a field of 30 in the Beneteau 40.7 fleet category, in which each team competes in an identical sailboat to allow the sailors to race on equal terms.

Finishing 17th was far from a disappointment for the crew. In a field packed with professionals, including the winners of this year's America's Cup race in Bermuda, the team finished ahead of all the other non-professional crews in the fleet, earning a trophy for top amateur performance.

With only two days practice as a

team before the races began, with the sailors still adjusting to the time change and the challenges of working with an unfamiliar boat, the team started things off with the deck stacked against them.

"But you try to rise above all that and work as a team, and get on with the task at hand, and that's the most rewarding part of it. It's not unlike any operation we take on in the military," Capt Evans said. "My biggest advantage was probably the group of sailors I put together to do it. It's very tough to get people to go halfway across the world and take time out of their lives to do this, and they did great."

Capt Evans has also competed in a number of North American races, often with other Canadian Armed Forces members, including a recent third overall finish with his own Bavaria .38 cruiser, Sea Smoke, at the Marblehead to Halifax Ocean Race this past summer. Those previous successes earn him the chance to compete at larger races, and he's already earned his invite to represent Sail Canada once again at the China Cup Regatta in 2018.

"I'm going to work on mitigating mistakes, I'll have another look at how to fine-tune the boat, and we'll see if we can get an even better result next time," he said.

## Runners compete at world military event in Hungary

**Ryan Melanson**  
Trident Staff

Fifteen CAF members from across the country travelled to Balatonakarattya, Hungary, during the first of week November to compete at the CISM World Military Cross-Country Championship, and among them were Maritime Forces Atlantic representatives Lt(N) Michael Bergeron and Lt(N) Natalia Borszczow.

Teams raced across a 2.3-kilometre outdoor cross-country course, with different numbers of laps depending on the category.

Canada's long course male team (five laps for a total of 21.5km) placed 14th out of 19 teams, while the short course male team (two laps for a total of 4.6km) placed 12th out of 16 teams. The Canadian female team, which also raced the 4.6km short course, placed 12th out of 16 teams.

In total, 236 competitors from 25 countries competed in the CISM event, with 229 racers completing their respective courses.

Full results for the Canadian team are as follows:

### Long course male 11.5km

- Matt Setlack, 57th, 39:18
- James MacLellan, 72nd, 40:52
- Christopher Busset, 77th, 41:27
- Michael Bergeron, 80th, 41:38
- Alexandre Boule, 83rd, 42:23
- Samuel Serviss, 86th, 42:40

### Short course male 4.6km

- Craig Fettes, 36th, 15:23
- Logan Roots, 46th, 15:51
- Vincent Duguay, 53rd, 15:59
- Mark Brown, 54th, 16:03

### Short course female 4.6 km

- Celine Best, 33rd, 17:52
- Maria McGregor, 41st, 18:23
- Isabelle Turner, 45th, 19:03
- Lori Coady, 47th, 19:12
- Natalia Borszczow, 49th, 19:38



The Royal Canadian Navy representatives on Canada's CISM Cross-Country team, from left, Lt(N) Natalia Borszczow, Lt(N) Michael Bergeron, and LS Mark Brown.

# MARPAC HQ awards, promotions and medals



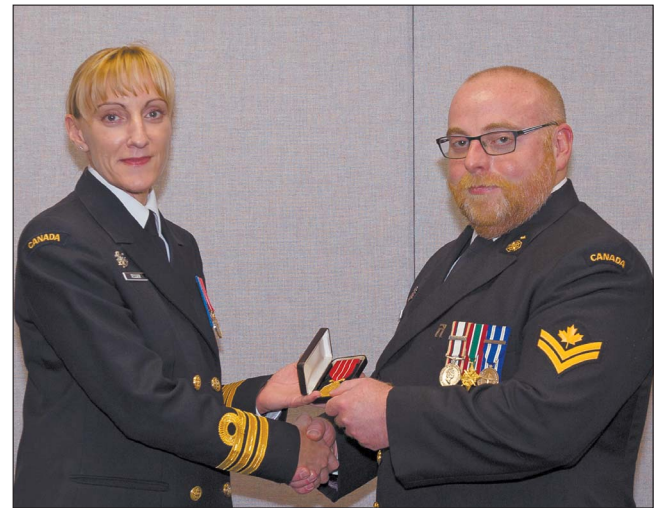
Master Corporal Brent Kenny, MARPAC Imaging Services



Cdr Michele Tessier presents LS Saigy Mayer with the Operational Service Medal – Expedition Op Caribbe.



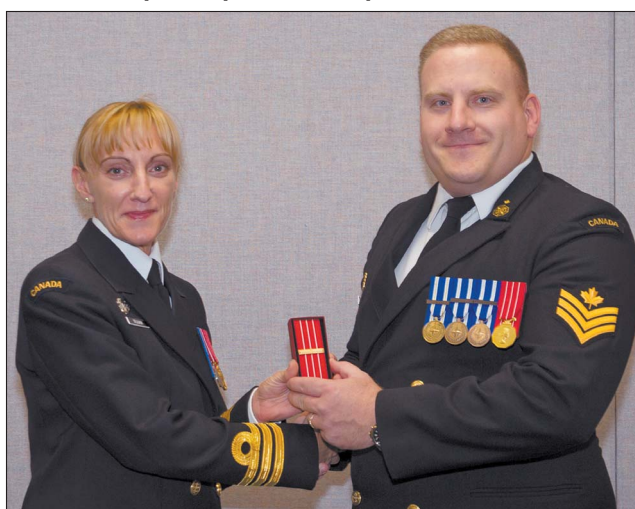
Cdr Michele Tessier presents Lt(N) Jerome Deschenes with the Special Service Medal – NATO Bar for his participation in Op Reassurance.



Cdr Michele Tessier presents MS Douglas Mansell with the Canadian Forces' Decoration for 12 years of dedicated service.



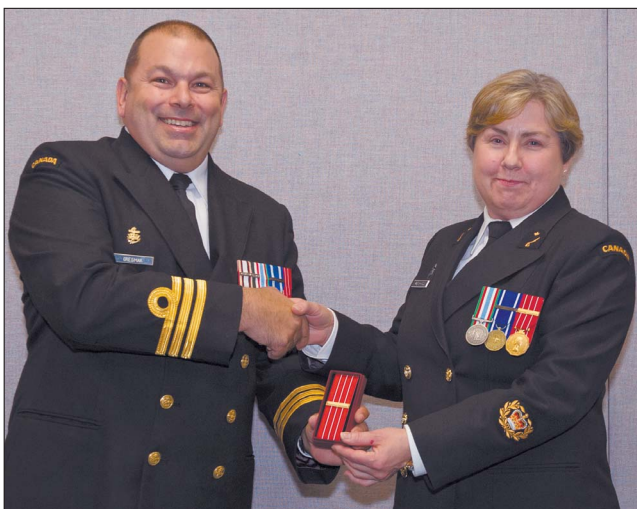
Cdr Michele Tessier presents MS Pierre Lacombe with the Canadian Forces' Decoration for 12 years of dedicated service.



Cdr Michele Tessier presents PO2 Ryan Kingston with the Canadian Forces' Decoration First Clasp for 22 years of dedicated service.



Cdr Michele Tessier presents MWO Ed Whitmore with the Canadian Forces' Decoration Second Clasp for 32 years of dedicated service.



Cdr Stephan Gresmak presents CPO2 Karen Weinhandl with the Canadian Forces' Decoration Second Clasp for 32 years of dedicated service.



Cdr Stephan Gresmak presents LCdr Andrew Berry with the Canadian Forces' Decoration for 12 years of dedicated service.



Cdr Lepinsy Chanthalansy presents PO2 Brian Hill with the Canadian Forces' Decoration for 12 years of dedicated service.



Cdr Stephan Gresmak presents Lt(N) Blake Zazula with a MARPAC Bravo Zulu Certificate.



Cdr Lepinsy Chanthalansy presents PO2 Brian Hill with a Commander of the RCN Bravo Zulu.



Cdr Stephan Gresmak presents Lt(N) Vincent Roy with his promotion to his present rank.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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# FAMILY CAROL SING

Date: Thursday, December 14th  
 Time: 6pm to 7pm  
 Place: St Peter's Chapel (Belmont Park)  
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